

# *Library Journal* recommends *Land Mines*, a novel, by Sheilah Vance

“PRESENTED AS A SERIES OF ENGROSSING JOURNAL ENTRIES, this is the story of Carolyn James, a wife and mother whose husband leaves her for another woman. Carolyn’s raw, honest entries chronicle her experiences in dealing with the loss of her marriage and the stable life she had known before. Sentences like “I’m carrying two children in my arms, and my arms ache with the effort of keeping them above water. I, on the other hand, am sinking” will ring true for anyone who has ever been in similar circumstances. The protagonist’s struggles and reliance on God will appeal to most female readers and those who have had to reinvent themselves after life-altering situations. Recommended for women’s fiction and African American fiction collections. Vance’s first novel, *Chasing the 400*, was the first selection of the African American Museum of Philadelphia Book Club.”

—*Library Journal*, November 1, 2008

Give your readers the pleasure of *Land Mines*. Place your order today.

**Back cover description:** Carolyn James’ life looked great—new job teaching writing at a law school, 11 year marriage to a doctor, mother of a preteen son and daughter, living in a McMansion in suburban Boston. But she is thrown onto the mine fields of separation and divorce when her husband leaves her for his yoga instructor, taking most of their money, stability, and what’s left of her self-esteem. Always a writer, for the next three years, Carolyn keeps a “divorce journal” to cope and rebuild. From optimism to fear, and humor to sadness, Carolyn writes about her experiences with separation, divorce and, eventually, dating again. Come inside her journal as she turns to self-reflection, self-help books, and the grace of God to navigate the ever-exploding land mines and get herself and her children safely through to the other side.

**Unique qualities:** Ushering in a new genre called “therapeutic fiction”, *Land Mines’* Reader’s Guide, called “Journaling Through the Land Mines”, consists of 77 questions that readers can use to help them write their way through their own land mines.

**Marketing plans:** Author publicity including Navigating the *Land Mines* workshops on separation, divorce and dating again. Vance handles divorces for her clients and went through her own divorce. National print advertising and publicity campaign targeting women’s and ethnic media.



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Author: Sheilah Vance

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Publisher: The Elevator Group • [www.TheElevatorGroup.com](http://www.TheElevatorGroup.com)

**About the Author:** Sheilah Vance lives in Paoli, Pennsylvania, and maintains a law practice in Philadelphia. Vance’s debut novel, *Chasing the 400*, was the first selection of the African American Museum of Philadelphia Book Club. A graduate of Howard University and Georgetown University Law Center, Sheilah is an Adjunct Professor at Villanova University School of Law, where she teaches Education Law, and Executive Director of the *Institute for Educational Equity and Opportunity* in Washington, DC.

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::ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE ELEVATOR GROUP::

# *Chasing the 400*

A novel by Sheilah Vance

The oldest of 10 plumber's children, sassy and sexy Vera Marshall wants to leave her working class Main Line neighborhood and secure a place in "the 400"—1950's Philadelphia's Black Bourgeoisie. When hired as a department store model, Vera thinks she's on her way. Her brother, Bobby, dreams of college and a life different than his father's. But will Ned Daniels, the snobby son of their town's only Negro doctor, ruin their plans? Join the Marshalls and a cast of characters as they chase "the 400" all over Philadelphia and the Main Line, hoping that the game is worth the chase.

*First selection of the African American Museum of Philadelphia Book Club.*

"If you are looking for an upbeat novel to relax with after a stressful week at the office, *Chasing the 400* is the book for you."

—www.aalbc.com,  
African American Literature Book Club



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