

# “A Place Where Even Dreams Believe”

By Danyelle Banks

*A profile of Tyler Perry, who's new movie, The Family that Preys, will be released on September 12*

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In light of the opening of his new movie, *The Family that Preys*, which hits theaters September 12, I recently had the chance to sit face-to-face with the man himself: producer, actor and playwright. Inspired by the loss of a close friend, Perry took the writings of his life experiences and presented them as plays. Perry's goal as an artist is to “bring balance within the community” and show the viewers that “faith is not a bad thing.” He is not ashamed to say that his faith in God is what brought him this far. In fact his favorite scripture in the Bible is Psalms 91, “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.”

Most know Perry as Madea, the funny over-the-top icon for grandmothers all over the world. But curiosity persists in knowing who is Tyler Perry? According to him, Perry is a “very serious business man who likes to have fun;” fun which does not include sports. Because of his height, Perry appears to be an athletic all-star, while on the contrary, sports elude him due to asthma. But through his words of inspiration, he dismisses that factor as a thorn on a rose. Perry believes in hard work, and “if the road to your dream is closed: build another

road.” If someone closes the door in your face, “go next door and build a house.” Perry believes that the existence of negativity is only the amount one lets in.

Although Perry is not bothered by much, struggles do subsist. He says that his worst struggles are being a man of God and being a “private man in a public place.” On the other hand, Perry says that his biggest success is “having his mother wake up in her mini mansion and be happy” in spite of her contentions with illnesses.

Perry is expanding rapidly in his talents. He is currently working on a book titled *Words to Dream About*, which is what he calls a “guide to faith.” Perry is also dipping his fingers into the world of animation with a cartoon series where Madea raises two foster kids. His hit TV show, *House of Payne*, returns September 22, 2008. Perry's studio opens October 3, 2008, with the motto: “A Place Where Even Dreams Believe.” With this motto, Perry explains that sometimes when we let our dream fade, it starts to believe for itself and begins to put you in places where that dream can become a reality. Perry is a thriving example of these words for his dreams are a tower, even over him!