



*Presents*

**Until The Wheels Fall Off**

# **MEDIA KIT**

A MEMOIR OF  
A POWERFUL JOURNEY OF LOSS, RESILIENCE, AND SELF-DISCOVERY

# **UNTIL THE WHEELS FALL OFF**



**GARY STEPHENS JR**



*What happens when your vow of “in sickness and in health” becomes your reality?*

*How do you keep standing when you’ve fought so hard — and still lose it all?*

*Can loss, grief, and gratitude truly coexist?*

**Until the Wheels Fall Off will make you cry, get angry, laugh, and feel something real.**

## Book Summary

“**Until the Wheels Fall Off**” is a memoir about what true commitment looks like—to yourself, to the people you love, and to the life you choose to pursue.

Through his storytelling, **Gary Stephens Jr.** takes readers on a journey through a 29-year relationship that began with the shared dreams of a young couple and evolved into a life defined by caregiving, sacrifice, and resilience. Together, they navigated women’s health challenges, infertility, and ultimately terminal illness, along with the strain those realities placed on their marriage. Yet, they remained committed to one another through every setback—until the end.

The title comes from his wife’s final words to him—and their relationship mantra that became a promise to stay committed “**Until the Wheels Fall Off.**” This memoir is the story of what happened when they did.

The memoir offers a rare and intimate look at grief from a man’s perspective—one shaped by the responsibilities of caretaking and the devastation of loss. Stephens reflects on losing his immediate family within six months, and going from a house full of life to being the only life left in the house. He describes how the grieving process became therapeutic—forcing him to look backward to understand his relationships, family dynamics, and life experiences as he learned how to move forward in his new life alone. Ultimately, this book is about endurance—what it means to keep going when life challenges everything you’ve built.

**Until the Wheels Fall Off** shows what commitment looks like when there is no clear path forward. Whether navigating loss, caregiving, or personal hardship, this memoir serves as a reminder that resilience is possible—and that commitment is not just something we promise, but something we live.

### WHO THIS MEMOIR SERVES

- **Couples** who want to see what “for better or worse” truly looks like.
- **Caregivers** balancing compassion and exhaustion.
  - **Those** seeking insight about women’s health.
  - **Families** divided when support is needed most.
  - **Widows and widowers** learning how to live again.
- **Anyone** navigating life’s challenges and questioning their resilience.
  - **Readers** seeking a good story.

# The Impact on Readers

**Until the Wheels Fall Off** reminds readers that, as human beings, we all experience pain in different forms—the pain of disappointment from family and friends, the pain of job loss or unexpected career changes, the pain of a breakup or divorce, and the pain of losing someone we love. In the game of life, pain is inevitable. What matters is how we respond to it—how we carry it, how we manage it, and ultimately, how we move forward.

While rooted in personal loss, this memoir is about much more than loss, making it relatable to readers whose struggles may stem from entirely different life experiences. Woven throughout the story are themes of love, commitment, faith, perseverance, gratitude, and ultimately, self-discovery.

Each chapter offers more than a story—it offers perspective, inviting readers to reflect on their own lives, relationships, commitments, and the ways they navigate life's most difficult moments.

Following its early release to a limited audience, more than 300 readers have already experienced the book, sharing a wide range of perspectives on how deeply the story resonated with them.

Based on that early feedback, readers consistently connected with themes including:

- **A true love story—one that puts “’til death do us part” to the test, and shows what it looks like to live it all the way through**
- **Resilience in the face of grief**
- **Personal accountability and self-reflection**
- **The realities of caregiving and family responsibility**
- **The importance of financial awareness and estate planning**
- **Insight for widows and widowers on what it means to learn how to live again**
- **Offering a perspective on male vulnerability, while shedding light on women's health challenges such as endometriosis and infertility**



Readers across the country have purchased **Until the Wheels Fall Off**. See how they've rated and reviewed the book on Goodreads.



# Professional Reviewers Respect it. Readers feel it.

## Professional Reviews

### Blue Ink Review

*"Until the Wheels Fall Off is the heartbreaking story of one man's struggle to support his wife through her cancer battle... Anyone who has had to contend with grief will find comfort and encouragement in the author's insight."*

### Clarion Review

*"A moving widower's memoir, Until the Wheels Fall Off is about love, loss, and ongoing commitment."*

### Kirkus Reviews

*"A chronicle of overcoming challenges, and moving on, rendered in unsparing and moving pros."*

## Readers Review Early Readers Reviews

### Denise H.

*"Captivating and brilliant storytelling!! This memoir will have you locked in as soon as you begin reading the first chapter. This book had me in tears and there are so many things you can get out of this book. A MUST READ!"*

### Sandra C.

*Gary's memoir touched my soul. Through these pages, I've learned what true commitment, devotion, and being selfless looks like. You keep pushing through and showing up even when it's not easy. I've learned being a man is not linear, Gary shows men can be vulnerable and strong, unsure and still capable of healing and growing at the same time. After reading this memoir, I am forever changed for the better and I know whoever reads this will be also.*

### Amir S.

*I told Gary that his story was compelling enough to share with the world. He delivered in this memoir on what I have seen up close and personal. He will be showing us all what dedication and commitment looks like.*

### Gary L.

*"This book hit me in a way I wasn't ready for. Gary's story felt like listening to a man open his chest and show what real love, loss, and manhood look like when life stops playing fair. By the time I finished, I wasn't reading his journey, I was reflecting on my own, and grateful for a story that reminded me what strength, loyalty, and commitment truly mean."*

### Natalie R.

*Until the Wheels Fall Off touched me in ways I didn't expect - leaving me inspired, reflective, and genuinely moved. From the very first page, I felt like Gary pulled me into his world and made it impossible to put the book down. This memoir isn't just powerful, it's unforgettable, and will stay with me long after I turned the last page.*

## About the Author

# Gary Stephens Jr.



**Gary Stephens Jr.** is an entrepreneur, author, and business and financial consultant with over 20 years of experience working with individuals, entrepreneurs, and high-end achievers. He is the founder of **SMG Consulting Group** where his work centers on financial literacy, strategic planning, and long-term personal development.

After experiencing profound personal loss, Stephens uses his memoir to share what the grieving process can look like when a life has been reshaped by tragedy. In **"Until the Wheels Fall Off"**, readers see how the same entrepreneurial discipline, problem-solving mindset, and financial awareness that shaped his professional life became critical tools in navigating the demands of caregiving, uncertainty, and emotional endurance.

His debut memoir represents a departure from his consulting work, offering an unfiltered look at love, commitment, resilience, and the realities of caretaking. Through his storytelling, Stephens presents healing as it truly unfolds — layered, nonlinear, and deeply personal — while emphasizing self-awareness, discipline, and the belief that growth can emerge even from life's most painful moments.

## Professional Summary

Over 20 years of experience in business and financial consulting

Extensive background in Financial Management, Entrepreneurial Coaching, Tax Strategy, and Business Development, and Operational Systems

Led strategic initiatives for individuals, entrepreneurs, athletes, and entertainers to achieve financial growth and independence

Known for delivering practical solutions that promote economic empowerment

Chairman of The Maleka C. Stephens Foundation, dedicated to advancing financial literacy and closing the racial wealth gap

Serves on the College of Business Advisory Board at SUNY Old Westbury, supporting curriculum development and entrepreneurial engagement

Speaker and coach specializing in resilience, financial freedom, and turning life challenges into success.

[www.garystephensjr.com](http://www.garystephensjr.com)

*Visit to learn more about the author and to download a free preview of the book.*

# DISCUSSION THEMES & AUDIENCE RELEVANCE

Below highlights the core themes and conversation angles supported by *Until the Wheels Fall Off*, centered on commitment, caregiving, grief, resilience, and personal development, and designed to support meaningful dialogue rather than scripted promotion.

## CORE THEMES

- Commitment — to yourself and your loved ones
- Caregiving and emotional labor
- Grief from a male perspective
- What “better and worse” truly looks like in a long-term marriage

## KEY TALKING POINTS

- Why commitment is tested most when life becomes unpredictable
- How caregiving quietly reshapes relationships
- The silence around men’s grief and emotional survival
- The role grief played as a therapeutic process in healing
- Using an entrepreneurial mindset during grief—problem-solving, adaptability, and execution under pressure—to rebuild life

## SPEAKING & DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Love, marriage, and long-term commitment
- Caregiving and family dynamics
- A man’s grief process and vulnerability
- Resilience and rebuilding
- Finding meaning after loss
- How entrepreneurship shaped rebuilding decision-making during grief and recovery
- Financial Awareness & Estate Planning
- Complex Family Dynamics

## IDEAL AUDIENCES

- Individuals seeking insight, healing, or personal growth through lived experience
- Podcast listeners (relationships, grief, men’s health, personal growth)
- Book clubs and libraries
- Faith-based and community groups
- Caregiver organizations
- Universities and discussion series

# About the Company



**2Gs Media** transforms lived experiences, professional expertise, and practical insights into books, podcasts, digital media, and original content designed to inspire personal growth, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, resilience, and meaningful conversations.

Through its partnership with **SMG Consulting Group**, a business and financial consulting firm founded by Gary Stephens Jr., the organizations combine business expertise with real-world perspectives to create content grounded in practical knowledge and meaningful storytelling.

Together, the organizations are committed to creating purposeful content that informs, inspires, and empowers people to navigate life, business, and personal growth with greater confidence and perspective, leaving a lasting impact.

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