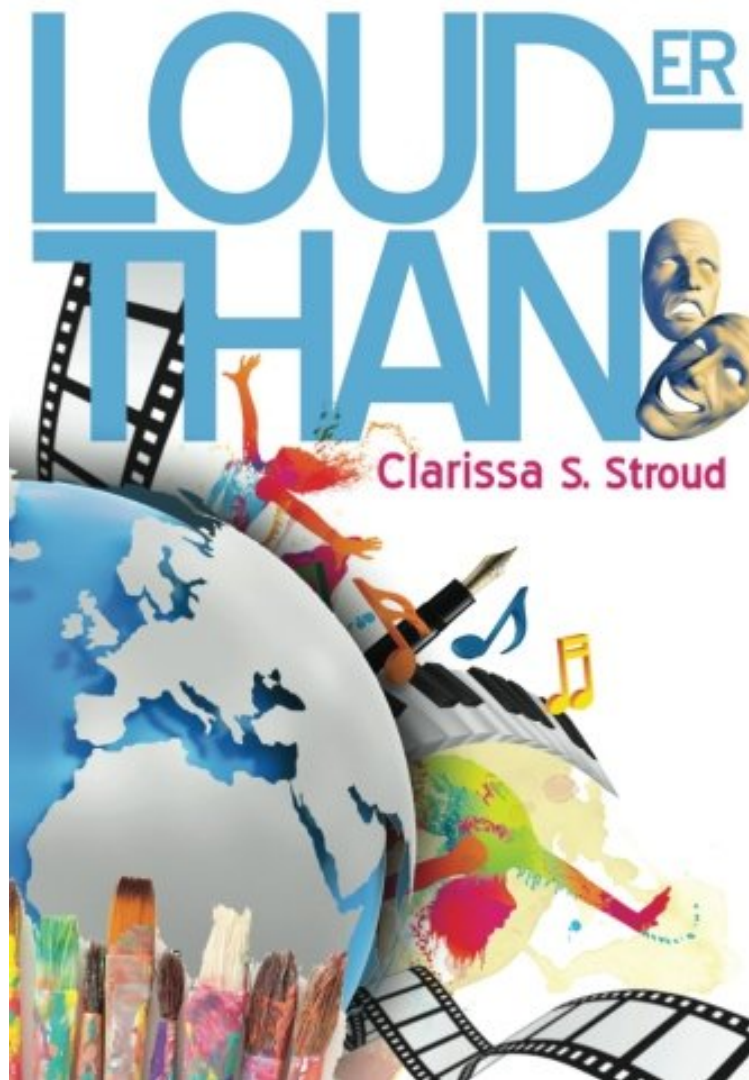


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## Louder Than

*Clarissa S. Stroud*

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**Clarissa S. Stroud : Louder Than** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Louder Than:

Worshipping God is not a task or a chore, it is an art that expresses creativity of the heart and mind. Worship art entails so much and reminds us its important to approach God with freshness, blessing Him with the creativity He gave us. We can tell Him this in our song, dance, design, tapestry and even photography! God is not limited, lets stop

limiting Him! Author Clarissa S. Stroud challenges true worshipers with her latest book, *Louder Than*. She reminds us that we have the tools, talent and creativity to give God what he deserves, which is undeniable worship from the creative chambers of our hearts. What is acceptable? How do we refresh our gifts? Stroud emphasizes that these questions cannot be answered or addressed without conversation. New ideas cannot be birthed, and understanding cannot take place without real conversation. The mind and heart must be used to their fullest potential and worship art provides that platform to make it happen. *Louder Than* provides unique insight into the many elements that are missing in today's worship, starting with healthy dialogue that should take place among worshipers. From those conversations can come direction, unity and most of all, a refreshed appreciation for God and all that He has done.

About the Author Clarissa Stroud knew at an early age that she had a mission. From the first time she stepped foot onstage as a child, dance has been her way of communication and the young artist has a lot to say. A professional dancer, speaker and author based in Maryland, Stroud has built her entire career around the Lord's word. And her main goal is to help others experience His power, and to show the world the authentic picture of God through her work. My mother recognized it was something I was gifted to do, explains Stroud. I literally would take dance classes and come and teach everything I learned to the dance ministry at church. Performing for the first time at a grade school Christmas play, her mother instantly recognized her daughter's God-given talent and enrolled her in dance class. Studying at prestigious studios such as Joy of Motion, Christian Dance Academy, Broadway Dance Center, and the Kennedy Center/Dance Theatre of Harlem Community Residence Program, Stroud honed her skills in ballet, modern, tap and jazz. As she gained more experience, her love for liturgical dance strengthened, and so did her relationship with God. Over the years, Stroud's faith hasn't only made her a master performer, but a savvy entrepreneur. Actively speaking at workshops, conferences, and residencies around the country, she's also taught internationally in places such as London, Bermuda, Trinidad, Bahamas, Jamaica and more. She started the Masters Movement Liturgical Dance Company, a program that encourages others to enter His presence through concerts and community outreach. She also hosts the *Live. Move. Be.* Worship Arts Podcast, which helps artists give voice to their work and provides a platform for them to share their expertise.