

#116 Elevating Voices with Myisha T. Hill & Rebekah Borucki

Sun, 12/19 11:35AM 41:03

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

people, book, authors, world, life, humanity, voices, isha, stories, folks, black, white, roadhouse, privilege, work, publishing, whiteness, kids, excited, big

SPEAKERS

Michelle Glogovac, Rebekah Borucki, Myisha T. Hill

M Michelle Glogovac 00:01

You're listening to the mice simplified life podcast and this is episode number 116.

M Michelle Glogovac 00:12

Welcome to the my simplified life podcast, a place where you will learn that your past and even your present. Don't define your future. Regardless of what stage of life you're in, I want you to feel inspired and encouraged to pursue your dreams, simplify your life and start taking action today. I'm your host, Michelle Glogovac, and I'm excited to share my stories and life lessons with you will taking you on my own journey. This is my simplified life.

M Michelle Glogovac 00:46

Hello, friends and welcome to another episode. I'm your host, Michelle Glogovac. Every interview I do is what I consider a gift and a treat for me, and today is no exception. In fact, it feels like the cherry on top. I've been following row house publishing for a while now. And I've also become one of their investors. row house is a publishing house that is doing things differently. They aren't just amplifying the voices of black and brown people and sharing trauma and oppression. But they're sharing stories and making a difference in the lives of their authors. They have an incredible model they're using and are truly one of a kind. I reached out to rowhouses founder Rebecca Brookie. And asked if she and founder of check your privilege, my Isha T Hill would join me for a conversation. Friends, it was epic. And I am so excited to share it the laughs the tears and the hard truths that we discussed. Hello, Rebecca and my Isha. I am so excited to chat with both of you. This is gonna be fun, since I've never done more than one guest at a time.

R Rebekah Borucki 01:54

R REBEKAH BORUCKI 01:54

Well, thank you for having us. I'm very excited to be here.

M Myisha T. Hill 01:57

I'm really grateful to be here as well. Thank you so much.

M Michelle Glogovac 02:00

Now can you both take a moment to introduce yourself to anyone who has not heard of you and is living under a rock?

R Rebekah Borucki 02:06

Well, I'm gonna defer the opening spots who my so you go ahead.

M Myisha T. Hill 02:12

Thanks, Becca. I'm my utility Hill. I am an author and a speaker. I'm the founder of the movement check your privilege where we help folks heal from the interlocking systems of oppression. I've been in this work all my life as a black woman. But I started moving into a deeper about four years ago, after an interaction with a friend. And I really like to do this work looking at the whole person approach honoring one once humanity without the shame guilted and gaslighting of oneself that exists in the world. So I'm really called into this work to I think help folks really look at themselves and look at the patterns of their past and help them move forward to a reparative future no pun intended. Like that's kind of my life's motto. I've actually been living out my book, as well. So it's just been everything is just heal your way forward Repair, repair repair. So yeah, that's what I do. I help we help folks heal from intergenerational trauma and depression and I'm grateful to be here.

R Rebekah Borucki 03:16

Well, I am Rebecca buki. I am my etias Publisher, which is such an honor, I own row house publishing, and the Children's imprint under row house, we Penny press. I am a mother to five. I am an autistic biracial woman. I have not made racial justice, my life's work. But social justice is something that's absolutely in my blood. I was raised in the church, by pacifists, and I come at everything through the lens of the oneness of humanity and being here for our siblings on this planet and all being connected as God's children, something that's foundational for me. And I'm also an author, publisher, meditation guide and a mental health advocate. That's the work I've been doing for the past 12 years in addition to writing,

M Michelle Glogovac 04:08

you're both busy, busy women.


R Rebekah Borucki 04:11
I mean, we do what we love, right?

M Michelle Glogovac 04:12
Yes. How did you two come together?

R Rebekah Borucki 04:17
Oh, my Well, I was a fan and follower of my Isha. So I'll say that. And I'm following check your privilege and her work. And how do we come together was Did I ask you if you wanted to write a book? How did that work?

M Myisha T. Hill 04:31
I don't know what you're doing. But count me in it and you're like, Okay, so I didn't I you know, every time you say back says I'm a fan following like, I'm just an everyday person. Please don't do that.

R Rebekah Borucki 04:48
But I think we should be fans of write everyday people. I think those are the people that are really shifting the narrative and changing the way we move in the world. It's not, I mean, sometimes they become superstars but more often than not, and we No this from the civil rights movement, that, you know, it was really the unsung heroes that were the driving force the black women behind the black men, the white men that, you know, were signing the laws and leading the marches. So I'm a big fan of a lot of extraordinary regular

 05:16
people. Yeah,

M Michelle Glogovac 05:18
I like that. And I think that those are the ones that are changing the world, because we have to get down to the everyday people in order to make those big changes that we need to see happen.

R Rebekah Borucki 05:29

And I would go further and be more specific that we really have to be following black and brown women. Like my Isha said that she this is her life's work because of her identity, like she is black woman. And this is the work that she has to do in the world, whether she wants to or not, right, like a lot of us don't have a choice. So we have to look to the people that have been doing it for survival of themselves and their communities. Because, you know, they know how to get it done. It's why I'm here, right? Because of you know, I stand on the shoulders of giants. Yeah,

M

Myisha T. Hill 06:00

absolutely. I think it's important, but yeah, especially black and brown women, we don't, we don't get enough credit, you know, I'm saying for the work that we do do in the world. And, and oftentimes our work is CO opted and taken and normalized by, you know, whiteness and folks with a dominant culture, so we get erased. So I respect that. Thanks. Thanks for backing,

R

Rebekah Borucki 06:21

always good for the one liners.

M

Michelle Glogovac 06:25

A lot. That was more than a one liner. That was that was much deeper than one line.

R

Rebekah Borucki 06:32

Brevity is not my my virtue of mine. So

M

Michelle Glogovac 06:36

I'm glad to hear that, you know, share about what rowhouse says, for people who don't know because I think, you know, people are familiar with the big five publishers, and Simon and Schuster, and that kind of a thing. But you're doing something different and unique and beautiful. Yeah, well,

R

Rebekah Borucki 06:53

I mean, we're doing something that's never been done in the history of publishing, our contract model is one that is transparent and equitable, which is unheard of in publishing, it is the 4040 model, that is our concept. It offers a \$40,000 advance to all of our authors, regardless of the size of their platform, and a 40% royalty share, which is four times industry average, we live at the intersection of personal development and social justice. So while our authors, you know, from a range of experiences, writing about spirituality, and business and self help, and even have literary memoir, it's all through the lens of social justice and giving voice to the most marginalized among us. Even our white authors are writing from a place of advocacy and Ally ship. And we're really, really excited about that. And we just we want people that are not heard

from enough. And in the rights or I'll say the large venues, to be center stage to have that kind of wide mass distribution and not just talking about struggle and oppression and trauma, even though these things are very important to talk about, but also talking about joy, and thriving and love the things that aren't so marketable when it comes from black and brown disabling for folks. So we're really excited to be bringing that to the forefront and doing it on a in a big way. No, we're not just another indie, we have major partnerships, major distribution, and we are here to compete with all the big guys.

M Michelle Glogovac 08:28

I love it, and you're taking investments right now. And I really, I'm very excited about this, and I want to plug it because it's to me, it's a very big deal as someone who's been following you, as someone who wants to make a difference in the world. You know, I think that this is truly a way to make a difference. It's something I'm passionate about. I also love books. So it's kind of one of those things that goes hand in hand, you know, in order to make a change. So what are you doing to allow others like myself because I am an investor and I'm shouting it from the rooftops? How can we help you?

R Rebekah Borucki 09:07

Well, thanks for loving books, I believe books, you know, start revolutions maintain revolutions. It was a book Solon is by Eldridge Cleaver, a black panther member of the Black Panther Party who that radicalized me when I was only 13 years old. So books are everything. To me, even our means of fundraising is through a lens of justice. We are partnered with a black and brown founded and funded equity crowdfunding portal close seat at the table. Really amazing folks over there. And what we were able to do with them is create a structure from the Jobs Act. It was a benefit of the Jobs Act, an Obama era policy that allows us to bring investors for as little as \$300 they don't have to be accredited, which means you don't have to be making 250 grand a year or like have a million dollars in assets and all that other nonsense. That gate keeps regular folks from building wealth. So for just 300 dollars or more, if you want up to \$99,900 You can go to rowhouse. publishing.com, click that invest button and do it online and do it before December 31 of 2021. Because we need you to start and maintain this revolution.

M Michelle Glogovac 10:15

And what will that do? What will happen with the money besides your bringing on more authors amplifying more voices? You know, is it just a continuation of that

R Rebekah Borucki 10:25

is a continuation, but it's, it's, um, you know, what I'd like to hear from Asia actually, like, what is it? What does it mean for you the kind of model that we're, we're offering?

M Myisha T. Hill 10:35

I think for me, this is a revolutionary model. I think there's never been anything done like this

I think, for me, this is a revolutionary model. I think there's never been anything done like this before. I think that money funds the future, right? It's support throw house, what they need, you know, future operations managers, future authors, it's something that they've never seen before, right. You know, like, I've never seen an author get a \$40,000 advance. It helps fund other initiatives that Roadhouse may offer in the future. I think for me, it normalizes the need, and the investment in voices that matter and voices that are the most marginalized, like I have multiple marginalization like I, I am, you know, I've never shared this openly. But you know, me Rebecca, talk about me and my autism and the way it manifests and me not naming that. Right. So it supports folks on the margins. And I think that's what's important about this work, and the work of rowhouse that. It's not about you know, signing another Robyn D'Angelo, someone who went to school, and doesn't necessarily have the lived experience. Like I'm not here to discredit you, Dr. D'Angelo, if you're listening or any of if you if you're a follower, but what I am telling you there's a difference between going to pursue higher education and getting a degree in doing research than it is to get that same degree and have the lived experience behind it. Right. So as someone who's participated in research studies, and got like a little \$100 Check so I can go buy groceries for my family. That's the part of the lived experience story that Dr. DeAngelo can't tell a wide audience. And I think the money that comes into rowhouse, you get more stories of Yes, I might look like a person with a blue check. And I'm, you know, living my best life, but you won't get the lived experience story. And I think investing in rowhouse, you don't just get expertise and degrees and all of those big fancy words, you get to hear the truth of someone's story and story is sacred. And so for rowhouse to I'm getting I feel it coming up for Roadhouse to invest in stories is what matters. And nothing that that's the benefit of the money because it changes someone's situation. And I don't have to worry about food stamps, because a company invested in me, I don't have to worry about paying my rent. I don't have to worry about the experiencing racism and everything that comes with that because some company believe that my voice matters.

R

Rebekah Borucki 13:09

So I love you, my and I'll tell you that it's so much more than your voice that matters. It is that experience. And it is the it is the connection and the energy that we feel that comes through your work. And like you said, we're not here to discredit someone else. That's, that's teaching something that they learned. But you know, there's something on an energetic level on a spiritual level. I'm someone of faith that believes that these are the stories of our ancestors. This is the work that's coming from our DNA from our history, that it can't just be learned and taught. It has to be felt and experienced. And, you know, for me as a light skinned biracial woman who navigates the white world with a certain amount of ease in comparison to my brothers and sisters who have darker skin than I do. I appreciate my privilege. And I appreciate my duty to step aside. And I think that that's what's missing. From this intellectual world. It's tackling racism and social justice. It's like we've compartmentalised it as an intellectual pursuit. When it's a soul pursuit, it's a pursuit for humanity, and that's what needs to come through. And that's why we need these other voices. These voices, we're living this work to have centerstage. So yeah, it's not like we don't want white people out here doing the work. Like, obviously, we need white people out here doing the work, right. It shouldn't be like the main voices, the ones that have the spotlight on them, and and I'll tell you like even further than our authors, because there is an objectification of black and brown bodies and black and brown stories that's being practiced by traditional publishers were like we saw in 2020, after we saw George Floyd murdered on video, we saw this reaction from publishers to grab up For all of these authors who are writing about anti racism, and a lot of them are my friends, so God bless them, I'm so happy that they got their workout and they made that money and they got those

New York Times bestseller spots. However, it was all about oppression, trauma and suffering. And we need those other stories. So we're not just objectifying black and brown bodies and stories to make \$1 or to make it look like we are. We're participating in some kind of justice, our accountants, our attorneys, our funding partners, our designers are the people you would never see, right. Like, we don't see any of these people behind the scenes, the people that make up the 80% of white folks in publishing, we are putting black, brown, queer and disabled folks in those spots. Like when you see the Roadhouse catalog, and you look at the illustrations, it's brown and disabled people that created those illustrations like our accountant trope and poke my goodness, he just drives me up the wall but because I am not a numbers person, but it's like this beautiful black man is benefiting from the the fundraising that we're doing. And then the future profits that we're doing. And we have someone who understands when we have authors come in that are like, you know, they have a certain financial situation, or they need, you know, their contracts, created or modified in a certain way to accommodate them and the way they need to work like he makes that happen for us, as do our attorney. So it just wants so much deeper than like the stories that we're putting out. This is a this is an institution's community. This is a value system that we hope creates, actually, no, I don't hope I'm, I'm going to use manifesting language as my as my black publicists, chemo Jones, we are creating a ripple effect in the industry right now. Like people are already looking at us. We're already in Forbes, we're already saying white supremacy on Bloomberg. Like, we're out there, and people see us and some people are scared of us and more people are rallying for us. And it's all day.

M

Michelle Glogovac 17:01

And I feel like you're putting humanity back into it to referencing one of your Instagram posts. That was the other day how one of your writers said, I need more time. And your response wasn't just okay, you know, have some more time. But you wanted to know what was going on in the writers life? What's the problem? How can you help us? And there's that element of humanity that I think whether we're talking in the publishing world, or anywhere else, it's missing. It's really lacking?

R

Rebekah Borucki 17:28

Oh, in business and capitalism. It's a soulless world that we're that we're trying to navigate. But the beautiful thing about our people is that we've never lost our humanity. And that's something that, you know, and this isn't about white people. This is about whiteness, and there's a huge difference. Whiteness lacks any humanity whatsoever. It actually is it the whole concept is predicated on there being a lack of humanity, because how can you be an oppressor, if you are in touch with yourself, but the beautiful thing about the people that we're dealing with, and I'll say, white people included, that are part of this organization is that we have not lost touch with our humanity. And this is the way we operate. Just because this is the way we operate. This is who we are. And it's been the most beautiful experience of my entire life. And I wake up every day, just completely blessed to be here and be in this position. And my Isha,

M

Michelle Glogovac 18:20

what's it done for you, I you shared part of it, I want to make you cry again. But that was absolutely beautiful love.

M

Myisha T. Hill 18:26

Love here is. First of all, let me just say this, like, growing up as a black highly sensitive person didn't know they were autistic. Crying is the most beautiful release that a person can do. So I cry a lot. And I cry on podcast all the time. So thank you. Good.

M

Michelle Glogovac 18:44

I love it because I cry at commercials. So you're in good company, I

M

Myisha T. Hill 18:48

can't show up and talk tell everyone else to normalize their humanity if I'm not normalizing my own. And so with that in mind, I need you to ask me the question again.

M

Michelle Glogovac 19:02

What is it what is all of this mean for you? Like, is this something that you ever conceived as potentially happening is, you know, was writing a book on your radar at all? You know, how is this changing your life besides just financially?

M

Myisha T. Hill 19:17

Oh, yeah, absolutely. So, you know, a few years ago, I've been in this entrepreneur journey for about 13 years, my oldest son is 16. I've done fashion. My background is in fashion marketing. So if you already Google My shoe Hill and fat plus size fashion, you'll see. But about five, six years ago, I was going down like an entrepreneurial slump. And Steve Harvey came out and said, make a list of 500 things you want in your life. And I'm gonna do this \$500 500 lists right with Steve Harvey. And I'll tell you something on this list was a best selling New York Times best selling book with a publishing company and always believed that a person can write their life into existence and everything else that I put on that list out of 500. I would say 200 of those things have happened in the last five years. And so, you know, for me, I've always wanted to write a book. So I've self published a lot. You know, you can buy a couple of them, I wouldn't recommend all of them. Wow, now, it's okay. Yeah, to be signed with rowhouse publishing, and to have a back end for my voice, and someone who struggles with dyslexia, and just overthinking and even a writing trauma to teach you tell me I was a horrible writer, but still wanting to manifest like a New York Times bestseller. Slash on Oprah Oprah's book club list has always been a dream of mine. And so grow house has helped me work through like a writing trauma. rowhouse has helped me like manifest my life into existence. And I think that's what Roadhouse is doing for folks like, it's helping folks think of themselves outside the binary of the system. Right? Because the system tells people like me, people who are disabled and marginalized, your your voice, your story, your life doesn't matter. You aren't perfect, perfect. You you have an issue, you're a broken thing. So because you're broken, you don't fit here. And I like to think of rowhouse as this, you know, there's the big school bus and I don't know if y'all remember that little small school bus that nobody wants to be on. Royal House is like the little

school bus, but out the way right now the popular bus, if that makes sense. So if I could give you that as a visual rowhouse is that bus that nobody wanted to be on, that's like plowing through the energy that's like pushing through, that's taken over that's like really showing that the system is collapsing. And rowhouse is like the small bus of power that's helping collapse and building up a new way of doing and being in business.

R

Rebekah Borucki 22:07

Oh my gosh, I love that so much. I love that.

R

Rebekah Borucki 22:10

I see the graphics so true. Because I'll say that you think about and let's talk about in a literal sense, you think about those kids on that bus. And you think about, you know, the quote, unquote, special ed classroom. And I look back I went to I lived in a diverse community. But you know, the special ed class was disproportionately black and brown. Right? So and I'm seeing now because of my own diagnosis, my own autism diagnosis. I wasn't even able to really read until I was 40 years old. And I was on top of medication, ADHD, OCD, autism, all of it. And that was a secret that I held Misha super shame that I held. But these are just the most underestimated, misunderstood, pushed aside, you know, unconsidered people. And it's were just the brilliance lit. It's, like I say, the all the most brilliant people I know from the hood. And it's just a fact of the matter. That's a fact of my life. And it there's all this this untapped potential, there's all this this gold, not necessarily to be mined, but just to just allow to shine, right? Like just it. This isn't charity work. This isn't like, Oh, I'm going to go help these poor unfortunate people. It's like a family, I see you. And this is why I need you, I see all your brilliance. And I need you to step up with your hair as it is your dress as it is your voice as it is your accent, your your all of it, I need all of it to come forward. Because this is what the world lacks. This is why we are in the disarray and the destruction that we are in. And if you are given an opportunity to fix this, like it's like land back doesn't mean just let's give this physical land back. It's like give the power back to the people let black brown indigenous people, the people that have been pushed to the margins, let them have the control the power back, and let's see how that even the idea of what power is shifts, and how we all benefit. And I don't know, I just have so much hope for the future. I really do. And it's it's I look at my authors and I'm like, God, I can't believe these people want to hang out with me. People planet like, really? But yeah, yeah.

M

Michelle Glogovac 24:29

You know, I have helped myself, but it's in talking to individuals like yourselves, that gives me even more hope that there is change happening, that my children have a brighter future because of people like you because of companies like rowhouse because we're still plugging away and working towards making a difference. You know, we're not we're not just standing around letting it be stagnant and being okay with the status quo, that you're really walking the talk and I appreciate that so much You'd have no idea. If we were on video, you'd see me my heads nodding like yes, yes, I love it.

R

Rebekah Borucki 25:06

Well, I'll tell you like, first of all, I'm always thinking of my ancestors, and not just my black ancestors from Africa, I think about my Scottish Irish ancestors. And, you know, their trials and tribulations and what they went through, we all all of us came from villages, all of us came from tribes, we've all been stripped of our humanity by virtue of taking on the name American, right, the label American. So I think about my ancestors, and I think about the ease in which I'm move in the world. And for me to say, I'm a radical for me to go out and march and protest, I am infinitely safer than anyone who's come before me. And this to me is like, no, Duh, of course, I do this work. Because it's easy, it's accessible. It's not as easy for everybody else and is for me, even my contemporaries. So that makes it even easier. And it's like, it's, I can't imagine another way. What else is there to do, but to make the world a better place? Right, like, really? Yeah. And also have lots of fun and read books and write books. And I mean, this is kind of a dope industry to be in. I know, it seems nerdy, but I think it's pretty cool.

M

Michelle Glogovac 26:17

You know, to me, it's like a dream come true. Are you kidding me? I

M

Myisha T. Hill 26:21

mean, it's as stressful as I was with this last book. I'm ready for the next thing.

R

Rebekah Borucki 26:25

I know. I have another proposal ready for you?

M

Michelle Glogovac 26:33

Oh, I love that. How can you how do you both see? And I'm going to tell me if I'm putting you on the spot. You don't you don't have to but you know, as a white female? What is it that I can do to support you both more? What is it that I can do to support? You know, more of you and and rowhouse and, you know, just to make sure that your voices aren't amplified more, you know,

M

Myisha T. Hill 26:57

I think it starts with not being a one and done right. So for the white folks and white women and men, and non binary and non gender, gender non conforming friends that I work with. It's this is not a one and done journey. So it's continued to shout out rowhouse publishing, check your privilege, when our books come out, like, you know, having the authors come on and, and talk about their books and centering our stories in our voices. Don't be a one and done donor, I'm sure that row house could use a Cash App. So if you're someone who's listening, you grew up in the traditional Christian church, and you give 10% of your time to a system that is still a precedent, you can give that 10% To rowhouse, you can give that 10% to an educator, you can give that 10% to a writer, it's time to reimagine where your dollars and your time goes like I

have or I have individuals who support check your privilege by donating their business skills. Right. So it's you showing up saying, hey, you know, I'm in copywriting. Hey, I noticed on this post for check and privilege, you need a little bit, you know, I can work swag your posts for you for like six months, it stopped being a one and done stop showing up one time and thinking that your work is done. This is an ongoing journey. And I think that's where a lot of white women get stuck. It's like, well, I took my issues workshop or I invested in rowhouse. So I'm, I'm a good white person. It's not about the good bad binary, it's really about consistently showing up with your time. And your talents, time, talents and dollars.

R

Rebekah Borucki 28:29

Mm hmm. I mean, that's that's it as an old church, adage, time, talent treasure, like, they all have some, we all have something to give. And I love it. And like, look, I talk about church and God and on faith a lot. That is, that is my one of my pillars. It doesn't have to be for yours. But I think what we're all connected in this, this idea of humanity, and I knew my issue was gonna say what she was gonna say, it's like, people in your work, like how can you help us do your work? You do that you step aside, you give up the the platform or the spotlight, you give whatever you can, you know, till it pushes you to that edge. So it pushes you to like, Oh, can I give more because that's the reality of the people that you're trying to help. It's like it's not a choice. So yeah, by my etias book, heal your way forward. That's going to drop in July and pre orders are going to start very soon. We're so excited about this, this book, it's going to be the exact the the roadmap, the how you should be living so that you are setting the world up for future generations. It's a beautiful book. It's I'm like, I'm so privileged to read it early. But yeah, just continue to ask yourself, how may I be of service? And and I'll tell you and I don't name names because they don't want to be named but one of our attorneys is a white woman, who from the very beginning before Rojas even had a name. She was actually working with me on my nonprofits, little readers. Big change initiative. She said, I'm yours. These are free services. Good for an indefinite amount of time, and when I tell you that she has donated hundreds of 1000s of dollars of legal work, it is no exaggeration, because we are coming up with another publisher. That's that Spiegel and Grau. that's run by Cindy Spiegel, who has been a mentor to us. And she's like, how are you even handling legal fees and like, oh, that's pro bono. Because we're doing so we have this white woman, the the use it for our podcast is written anonymously by a white man who donates his time and he's doing our season two music right now. It's like, all, you know, we are running on a budget that is unheard of in publishing, because we have the type of support that's unheard of in publishing. And it's white folks, not you know, giving them the pat on the back, but doing what they should be doing that are putting, you know, their time talent and their treasure, where their words are and saying, like, I'm ready to step up and make the world a better place. And, and like my Isha said, it doesn't have to be rowhouse, right? Like it could, I don't care who you're supporting, as long as you're putting your time into somebody who's who's trying to make the world a better place.

M

Myisha T. Hill 31:10

Yeah. I also want to add for the children, for people who are listening in if you have children, I think it's really important that also, children have to be brought in to this work as a parent, you know, we send our kids to school. And that's a whole nother conversation. If you want everyone to talk about the school system, please reach out to eat,

M

Michelle Glogovac 31:31

oh, you're going to be on you're going to be on more than one. I'm telling you right now.

M

Myisha T. Hill 31:34

It's, your kids have to be as my son calls them, Kid coconspirators. Like, you have to bring your whole family into this work, maybe your partner doesn't support you, but your kids are the future. And you know, I give this this analogy all the time, my ancestors put the cement in the concrete pot, right. And then the generation during the Civil Rights Movement, they start up the pot. And this generation, our role is to lay and pour the foundation so that our kids can just walk for because our kids, I don't know, if y'all pay attention this generation behind us, they are not taking any names. They are just No, they're not standing for the system shit. So oh, excuse my mouth, we have to You're fine. No, you're fine, you're fine, or the concrete so that these kids can walk for it. And if they see it in us, and if we take the time to teach them, they will then teach their children and then it sets a new cycle in place.

R

Rebekah Borucki 32:31

Oh my gosh, I couldn't agree more. I love my children,

R

Rebekah Borucki 32:35

you know, walk in this world move in this world as white people, right? It's the way they look. It's way they're accepted. I mean, even I've a transcend his 10 years old and he is very much accepted as a boy, you know, a male person in this world like no Manone differences, they walk and navigate with a tremendous amount of privilege. And it's so interesting to because I thought it'd be different I thought I would have to really teach them out of whiteness. And I have to really like shift their experience. I think it's a lot because like how I'm moving, they're not being raised by a white mother. And it's just a different experience for them that way, but they're just far more radical than me. Even my most conservative kids like my my oldest who's like a scientist, she's out there live in Seattle. It's just like, the stuff that comes out of her mouth. I'm like, wow, you're just so much more naturally aligned with really like doing what it takes to change this world. And the way they notice things is so much different. Like, my, my 21 year old son is just building his life and building his credit up and I said, you know, I'll put you on one of my credit cards and help you out with your credit and like his credit score, like shot up in one month shot up higher than mine has ever been on hold. Because he was on my card. And he's like, and he said like, wow, my map or ma'am, that never told me. Yeah. Well, Mom, you know, it's it's kind of interesting that I've never done anything to be worthy of this, like 770 credit score, but yet here I am, like, Yeah, let's examine. Let's talk about generational wealth and privilege. And how this is what, you know, this is how, you know the white people you watch on homestead rescue when sometimes I call it colonist rescue because it's um like your family has been living in Texas for 300 years and has 3000 acres and how did that come to be? But um, but like, this is how it works. And this is what we have to dismantle and examine. But yeah, kids are like, they're this generation is ready. They don't they don't subscribe to this authoritarian construct that we have been living in this patriarchal construct like the illusion is totally broken for them. They see what's up. Yeah, I

M

Michelle Glogovac 34:43

definitely think they're seeing more and more between social media and just the news and my kids are five and six and my six year old is the biggest news junkie. He will get up at 6am and come report to me by seven have Did you know that this happened and this happened? This happened? He knows what happened to George Floyd. And he followed the trial. And he's frickin six. But he will say black lives matter. You all know that black lives matter, we treat everyone equally and it doesn't matter your skin color. And he will go on a rant to ensure that, you know, that this is his belief. And I couldn't be more proud, especially as a white mom, that my child is for this and understands the importance of it, and is not going to make the same mistakes that we've seen happen over and over again. And he's going to stand up for what is right.

R

Rebekah Borucki 35:33

Yeah, I mean, I mean, that's, it's, you know, it's, it's interesting, even the bringing up the word equally. It's like, what happens when everything's equal? And and I'll tell you that that's not even the goal of row house. It's its equity and equality are so much different. And, you know, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, as problematic as she was a times was when someone asked her, you know, how many women are gonna have to be on the Supreme Court for you to be satisfied? And she said, nine? And why not right. And so I'm like, you know, if we're only telling the stories of the most marginalized among us, if those are the only books that get or get or getting published, we need like, 400 years of that, for it to be equal. So we're for that we're, we're for tipping the scales in the total opposite direction. Because the narrative that we have been fed for so long, has been one sided, and I'm ready for this. I'm, I'm hungry for something fresh and new and different. And I think that's what the world needs. So like, I'm not looking for equal, I'm looking for, like, how much of what hasn't been? Can I personally make happen? Because that's what's required.

M

Michelle Glogovac 36:54

I love that. And I appreciate that you said that. And I personally will work on that with my kids on making sure that it's more than equal, that it tips the scales. And, you know, it's something I think, you know, as my Isha said, that we need to have these conversations with our children. And it is recognizing what we need to say, and to say it properly, you know, but also at the same time, not being afraid to have those conversations and, you know, going back and saying, hey, you know, how I said, everyone needs to be treated equally willing, we need to treat them even better.

R

Rebekah Borucki 37:27

Well, that's the thing. It's like they're in there's no properly either, because the goal is black liberation. And I think Black Liberation liberates all and, you know, before 100 years it that people smarter, better, wiser, stronger. All of that have been working on it. We're still not there. So we have to move imperfectly. We have to move in different ways. We have to have these arguments in these conversations. Like, we're not going to do it right. I don't know what's right

or wrong. All I know, is the next best step. And I think that that's what my Isha teaches, and that's what her book teaches. But yeah, like, we just have to just keep working at it. No matter what. Yes,

M

Michelle Glogovac 38:05

I can't wait to read my Aetius book. I can't wait to read more of your author's books to have everyone on the show you have an open invitation. Anyone from rowhouse anytime, and we'll talk offline more to but in the meantime, can you share where everyone can find rowhouse? Follow my Isha follow you Rebecca and make a minute ago

R

Rebekah Borucki 38:26

because we want to follow her first.

M

Myisha T. Hill 38:29

You can follow me at Mikey T Hill on Instagram and Facebook or check your privilege, C K, your privilege on Instagram and Facebook as well. Also my podcast is called check your privilege.

R

Rebekah Borucki 38:43

And I will say beyond following by the programs, sign up for the workshops, make sure you preorder the book, put something in the tip jar, the work has to be subsidised. I know like we look like we're out there living our best lives. But we struggle with all the things and a lot of the times it's because we're neglecting our bills to make you know sure girlfriend's rent gets paid. Like this is just our life, like mutual aid is like sending real people like the mean broke. People just send in the same \$25 back and forth to each other. When you put money in the hands of a black woman, you are supporting a community you're not supporting a person I need to make that abundantly clear as far as rowhouse. rowhouse publishing comm hit us up. That's all I got.

M

Michelle Glogovac 39:28

Thank you both so much. I really appreciate that you took the time to come on. And I appreciate the work that you're both going to thank you for having me. We are still in the midst of the holiday season. So I wholeheartedly encourage you to invest in rowhouse, send a donation, make a difference, give a gift. If you love books and making a difference then here is your opportunity to do so. We have worked to do so much work and as you heard, the most important part is to not be a one and done Do more. Keep speaking, keep listening, keep striving to do better. This isn't about putting a black post on your Instagram feed for a day or a week. This is about Amplifying Voices and continuing to have conversations like these. We have to keep going in order to see change happen. So I encourage you, I asked you, I'm telling you that you can and need to be a part of this change. I appreciate each and every one of you and I know that together, we are making a difference. Your voice matters. Until next week, I wish you a very Merry Christmas all the love and happiness there is and the courage to keep showing up.

