

tribes

Summer 2012 | #35

ON THE FRONTLINE OF URBAN
MUSIC, ARTS & CULTURE WORLDWIDE

SPARK AFRICA

Buddha Blaze &
the West African
Hip Hop Movement

ROOTS IN RAP

MAMA AFRICA

Miriam Makeba

CONCERTS
For the People
TRIBES'
Top Ten
Summer music
concert picks!

**BRANDON
HAYNES**
photography



Sarabah
Black Clown
Virgin Sluts
Gotye's
Domination
SBF Seeking

**Tar Heel
Tracks**
Support the
Congo

NNEKA

SOUL IS HEAVY

Download Nneka's song "Heartbeat" free at tribesmagazine.com

Text by Sarah Weathersby.
Photographs courtesy of LaToya Hankins.

Writers' TRIBE

SBF SEEKING...



I met LaToya Hankins through a Meetup.com writers group. I had the opportunity to do a critique of a chapter of her work-in-progress that became the novel, *SBF Seeking*. The next time I saw her at a meetup, she had just published her completed work and was excited to tell the group about her experience. I try to support

the talented authors I know, and even though I gave positive and supportive feedback for the chapter I read, I was torn in my reaction, knowing that *SBF Seeking* was a lesbian romance. Should I buy the book?...Of course. Will I read the book?...Maybe. Then she asked me to write a review and so I had to tell her: I don't often read "gay" literature though I had recently read Justin Torres' *We the Animals* and a couple of James Baldwin books forty years ago.

LaToya was gracious and tried to let me off the hook but I got my hands on the ebook Sample on Kindle and the story grabbed me; a light-hearted romance about a young woman preparing to marry her college sweetheart when she realizes he is not The One. After trying her hand at personals ads and dating other men, she



ultimately finds her way into a relationship with a woman and struggles with coming out of the closet when she has only just discovered her sexuality.

Hankins handles the subject matter with humor and the protagonist's experience is a funny ramp until she decides to tell her family; and then the self-righteous bigotry flies.

Available on Amazon.com. Visit googereads.com for more reviews (Search *SBF Seeking*). ■

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