CHAPTER ONE
Lil Tonya

LIL TONYA

I'm only 12 years old but I have so much stress. I'm fabulous for sure, but sometimes I don't always feel that way about myself. My life **encompasses** a lot of responsibilities that are pulling on me like my friends at school, my parents, my social activities, my brother and just me. People seem to think that just because I'm 12 years old that my issues are not real but, sometimes a kid's life can be **hectic**.

I don't really like referring to myself as a kid because I am double digits in age now. "Pre-Teen adult," sounds great, if you know what I mean. But sometimes when all the noise stops, I sit back and wonder, "What do people really think of me?" I say "I don't care," but I really do. We all do. We care for real.

Ok so, my mom has all these demands on me. I have to clean up my room, do the dishes, walk the dog and do other **miscellaneous** activities that she wants me to do. Don't get me wrong, I love my mom, but she gets on my last nerves. Everything has to be done the way she wants it to be or guess what-I have to do my chores all over again until she is **satisfied**.

Ok so, don't act like you don't know what I'm talking about. I know I say, "Ok so" a lot. So what - that's me! Mom always says, "One day you're going to do things right the first time." I'll let you know when that day comes, but as for right now...

I have to re-clean my room because I've piled so much junk under my bed. I know that's the first place my mom is going to look. I've tried so many of those get-over **strategies** like piling clothes in the closet and hiding stuff in my drawers, but it didn't work. So, I don't know why I keep half-stepping with my chores - that's just me! I'm not **trifling**. I'm just a little lazy when it comes to chores because I want to go outside and play with my friends. Well, ok so, you know what I mean, we're really not playing games. We're just talking about double digit pre-teen **business**.