

Keep Going

By ShayLinn Maybin

March 3rd 2014 is when my life changed forever. I was in a fatal accident that almost took my life. Tragically, it took a friend's life. The odds were definitely against me. I was hit by another car which caused me to lose control and smack into a concrete wall. I was knocked unconscious, dragged by the car over 17 ft and then flew over top of the car another 19 ft. I was then ejected from my car and when my car finally came to a stop my right leg was gone, I had several broken bones, a brain bleed, and many other injuries.

The paramedics did not find me in the desert until 2:44am, almost 30 minutes. I definitely had an angel with me. I was rushed to the hospital for my first emergency surgery. I was unconscious the whole time. I was put into a medically induced coma, time was passing. No one in my family knew what was going on or where I was. I was fighting without knowing I was fighting. As time passed I slowly came out of the coma. I was in a hospital bed with wires, tubes and who knows what else connected to me. I didn't know what had happened. I could not talk. I did not understand why I was there, everyone just told me I was sick. I didn't remember anyone or anything., I was lost and scared.

I spent several months in the hospital learning everything all over again - how to read, write, walk, talk and everything despite the fact I was told I would never function above a preschool education again.

I had a desire to live because I had a 2 ½ year old daughter, Annalayah, who never left my side. I was diagnosed with PTSD, anxiety and severe depression. Because of that, I got special permission for her to be in the trauma unit with me. She was always there. She watched me fight for my life and do everything I needed to do all over again - use my body.

After weeks of fighting I woke up and I just saw a man with a badge and my mom pushing him out of the room. Then I started to wonder what really happened. My boyfriend at the time bought me a phone and was showing me how to use it for emergencies, one of the many things I couldn't remember. I remembered my facebook login information, though, I logged in and saw I was in a fatality, that my friend had died, and that I was all over the news. Why didn't anyone tell me?

I finally figured it out on my own. I was then indicted for the accident. I served four years in jail after I was released from the hospital and somewhat medically stable.

I didn't know what my future was looking like, I was trying to survive and now I have a serious state charge. What do I do now?? Give up?? I have a daughter, I can't walk and barely talk. I was in a wheelchair. I was scared.

Today I am thriving. Not just living. I'm studying in adult education for my GED and trying to get into the mental health field, because our mental health is everything. I want to be a trauma specialist to help others.

This has taught me all things are possible no matter what you go through in life. you can always overcome the obstacles life throws at you. Never think you can not do something. Life is so precious and everyone deserves a second chance and to not let their past define who they are.. Keep swimming- You can do anything - Believe in yourself-.