

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: What do you think adults need to do more of?

Kylee Brown: Well, majority of adults be on their phones every single day, they need to do more of probably just going outside.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Do y'all hear that? Kylee just dragged all of us.

Creating a life that is authentic, bold, and purposeful takes audacity. It takes disruption. That is what it means to be a Professional Troublemaker. Professional Troublemaker is a book, a podcast, and a life habit. I'm your host, Luvvie Ajayi Jones, bestseller of books, aficionado of authenticity, and sorceress of side-eyes. Here to bring you perspectives, conversations, and deep dives about culture, business, life, leadership. Plus, my conversations are with world-movers and change agents, who have gotten where they are through their tenacity, their truth-telling and commitment to making good trouble. My hope is that this show compels you to do big things in a world where we have so much to fear. Let this be an arena of audacity for you. Let's get into it.

On today's show, this is the second of a series of five episodes that I'm dedicating to all things Little Troublemaker. What does it mean to really be one? How do we affirm the ones in our lives, those tiny rebels? How did the book I wrote called Little Troublemaker Makes a Mess come together. So, in this series, the focus of this podcast will be all about our littles, so you can feel free to listen with your littles. I have a lot of stuff for them. This episode, I'm in conversation with somebody special. Let's just get into it.

Today, I am joined by a very special guest, the youngest person I've ever had on this show. She's a super special person to me, and she's the daughter of my really good friends, Frank and J'ai. And she's one of the smartest kids I know. Two years ago, when I came out with Professional Troublemaker, she actually asked, "When are you going to write a book for me?" And I told her, "Soon." So, I kept my promise. I want to introduce y'all to Kylee. She's nine years old and I really love who she is. Welcome to my show, the first ever little troublemaker, Kylee. Hi.

Kylee Brown: Hi, guys.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Are you feeling shy right now?

Kylee Brown: No.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You're not?

Kylee Brown: No.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: All right, let's get into it. I'm ready. The first question that I ask my guests typically when they're on this podcast is, what did they want to be when they were growing up? But for you, I'm going to edit that. What do you want to be when you grow up?

Kylee Brown: I want to be a lot of things. I want to be a author, a makeup artist. I don't know what else yet.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: I like those two. Tell me why author and makeup artist.

Kylee Brown: Well, author because I like to write a lot. I like to write stories. I like to improve my writing. Then a makeup artist, because I do makeup a lot.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. What are your favorite types of books?

Kylee Brown: My favorite types of books are science fiction and sometimes biography, depending on who the person is.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Tell me, when did you first start writing stories?

Kylee Brown: I started writing stories in second grade. It was about my cousins and how we defeated different monsters.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. Okay.

Kylee Brown: And I still have them right now.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: I like that. See, the fact that you have this and this clarity is really cool. From one author to another, because you are already an author, because you've already written a book, right? From one author to another, I'm excited to read your stories. You are somebody who I consider a little troublemaker and I think that's a good thing. I think troublemakers are people who make the world better by being themselves, who use their voice and who are honest, and you are one. So, what do you consider making good trouble?

Kylee Brown: Playing a prank on my mom or my dad, because they just laugh.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. When is the last time you played a prank on them?

Kylee Brown: There was a remote that didn't work on my TV and my dad was going to go downstairs. So, last night I had switched the remotes out and then he couldn't watch anything while he was cooking dinner.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: And what he said when you found out that you actually switched the remote out?

Kylee Brown: He just yelled and then he started to laugh when I told him what I did.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: That is a good prank. So, what is something that you actually get in trouble for with your parents?

Kylee Brown: Lying about when I accidentally gets hurt, I don't lie, but I say I didn't do it.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. Does it always work?

Kylee Brown: No, it never works.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: It doesn't work? When it doesn't work, what do your parents say?

Kylee Brown: They say to tell what happened to Aya.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Aya, by the way, is Kylee's little sister. One of the things that I asked Kylee to do to prepare for the show is I ask her to write herself a bio. One of the things that you put in your bio is that you are a fabulous big sister. What does that mean?

Kylee Brown: I'm a good big sister. I play with Aya a lot. I care for her. She comes first.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: She comes first. Okay. What have you had to do to take care of Aya?

Kylee Brown: Change her diaper, put her clothes on, carry her when my parents need me to, give her company when my parents are doing something else.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: I have seen this in person, Kylee, can confirm, is a fabulous big sister to Aya, and Aya, I think you might be her favorite person, because she really loves you and she follows you everywhere and she looks just like you, which is really cool. You call her little Kylee sometimes. So, when you wanted a little sister, you did something that was really cool, because you said you really wanted a big sister. What was that? Do you remember?

Kylee Brown: I prayed for her.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You prayed for her. What did you say? What did you ask God for?

Kylee Brown: Please, bless me with a little sister.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: And then she came to pass. How does that make you feel?

Kylee Brown: It makes me feel really good that I have somebody else to play with, because when I'm in the house, when I was younger, it was so boring.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: It was so boring. Now, Aya gives you energy. What did that teach you about your power?

Kylee Brown: It taught me that Aya always wants to play with me. So, I have someone to play with. If I want to play with her, she will want to play with me.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Also, what it also taught me is that prayers can come true. You prayed for Aya, and now she's here, which is really cool. I was like, "Shoot, Kylee, dude. Can you say some special prayers for me?" You seem to have a cheat code. I will put my request in. Thank you very much. Tell me, what is your favorite thing about yourself?

Kylee Brown: Probably my hair.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Your hair. Okay. Can you describe it to people? Because they can't see you, they're listening to this.

Kylee Brown: I have locks and before I wanted to cut them off, because I felt like I couldn't do as many styles of them. But then my parents convinced me and also the people at the hair shop, they convinced me that I can do different styles of locks. I can braid it, I can make it longer, I can put clips in it. Now, I'm really grateful for it.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes. And your locks are really nice. One of the things, I remember when you wanted your locks and you convinced your parents over time that they should let you have them. How did you convince them for this?

Kylee Brown: I showed them pictures. I don't really remember what else.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You asked for a long time. So, you kept on asking, which means you were serious about it, which showed your parents that you were very serious about it, and now that you have the locks, they're really nice. And I used to have locks for six and a half years. I told you that, right? And it was really long. Your hair's going to keep growing. You'll see, all the styles will change. You're going to be able to curl it at some point.

Kylee Brown: I've curled it already.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You have?

Kylee Brown: Yeah.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: How long did it last with the curls?

Kylee Brown: Like a week. I went to school with it and then put a headband on and it looked really cute.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: So, when it gets longer, the curls will stay longer. I used to have my curls for three weeks. I liked it. I liked it. Tell me about a time when you had good intentions, but you still got yourself in trouble. Can you remember a time?

Kylee Brown: No, I don't think that's ever happened.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: No, I challenge that. Okay. For example, let's say you had good intentions in playing with Aya and something went wrong.

Kylee Brown: Oh.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Exactly.

Kylee Brown: I was playing with Aya with her little bike, and then she fell backwards and I wasn't able to catch her and then she started crying.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Ooh. In that moment, how did you handle it?

Kylee Brown: I cried as well.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You did? Okay. What made you cry?

Kylee Brown: That Aya got hurt. Whenever she gets hurt, I just feel like I'm Aya in that situation. So, I cry as well.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Do you know what that thing is called? That's called empathy. Empathy is when something happens with somebody else and you feel their emotions or their pain, and it's a really good thing to have. It means you cared really deeply about other humans. And I think that's something that... Don't lose that. That's called empathy. You are empathetic. That is one of your traits. You are empathetic. And that's a really good thing.

Kylee Brown: I have a lot of traits. I can't name all of them.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Oh, you know what? Let's name some of them then. What are some other traits of yours?

Kylee Brown: Sassy, funny, relatable, smart, gorgeous, pretty.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes.

Kylee Brown: Sometimes shy.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes. You're all of that and beyond, and more, bold. You're interesting. You are brilliant. You're confident.

Kylee Brown: I'm energetic.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You're energetic. Yep. Yep. Again, now, you're going to add empathetic to the list, which is a great thing. Which one of those things is your... What do you think is a big superpower for you?

Kylee Brown: Empathetic.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Huh?

Kylee Brown: Empathetic.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Empathetic. That is a superpower. Yes. Been able to feel other people's pain and put yourself in their shoes is a superpower. What's another superpower of yours?

Kylee Brown: Relatable.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yeah. What does that mean for you?

Kylee Brown: You know what other people mean. Like, I say for real a lot, because I'm really relatable, and other people are really relatable as well.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You say for... Do you think I'm relatable? Okay, I'm going to take that. I'm going to take that. She just nodded her head yes. What is a lesson that your parents have taught you, one of your favorite lessons that you've learned from your parents?

Kylee Brown: Probably try all the styles in the world. I just learned that one from my mom.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: So she encourages you to take risks with your hair? What about from your dad?

Kylee Brown: Don't give up. Well, they both said it, but when I was playing golf, I was mad because I wasn't getting them far and they were just going really short past the grass. And he said, "Don't give up, because it's your seventh time playing."

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: I mean, that's a lesson that you have to hold onto for the rest of your life. Don't give up when it's something that you really want. Right? It's like, don't give up on the locks, don't give up on the golf, don't give up on the writing. What inspires you to be bold?

Kylee Brown: Probably myself, because I probably just got it from my parents, because they're both really bold, and then I passed it down to Aya.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You passed it down to Aya. In what ways are you teaching Aya right now?

Kylee Brown: She knows the letter four. I show her numbers like one, two, three, four, and then she did four.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Oh, what else do you want Aya to know?

Kylee Brown: I want her to know how to say my name. She only knows how to say mama and dada. Well, that's not only what she knows how to say, but those are the only names she knows how to say. She sometimes says papa, sometimes.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You want her to know... She'll know Kylee shortly. That'll probably be the next name that she knows. She trying to figure out Kylee. So, mama and papa, the reason why kids learn those words first is because-

Kylee Brown: They don't. She learned dada first.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: She did?

Kylee Brown: That was the first word she learned.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: The betrayal, Aya, you didn't even say mama first. Aya, come on. So you know why? It's because the reason why they're able to say dada or mama first is because those are really easy. Their mouths form mama, right? So, when they're saying, "Ma, ma, ma," they go, "Oh, okay. That's that person." She'll learn Kylee shortly. It's just mama and papa are just easier and dada is easier just because your mouth makes that sound typically.

Kylee Brown: So, we're not really saying Kylee. We're going to say Ky Ky instead, because it's matching with the rest of them.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Oh, so you're going to teach her Ky Ky.

Kylee Brown: And then we're going to teach her Kylee.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. Okay.

Kylee Brown: We're going to be like, "Ky," and then she's going to say, "Ky Ky." Then we're going to be like, "Lee."

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. I see the vision. I see the strategy there. Yes. Yes. Yeah. She's what, one now? She probably learning about what?

Kylee Brown: She's really smart, so it's going to be very easy.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: I'm looking forward to when it happens, because she just started walking and everything. Okay, you want her to learn your name. What is something else you wish for Aya? Something else.

Kylee Brown: I wish she would say mama all the time. She would only say mama when mommy is not there. Something I wish she would learn also is for her to not drop her cups on the floor.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Y'all just don't see Kylee's face right now. Apparently this is a big pet peeve of hers. What does Aya do with this cup?

Kylee Brown: She looks at us, drops it.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: She's like, "I dare you to say anything to me. I'm going to do this. That's [inaudible] be a little troublemaker."

Kylee Brown: We don't give her milk that much anymore. We give her water. Because one time she looked at daddy-

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: And dropped it on the floor?

Kylee Brown: Yes. And then mommy had to clean it up.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yeah, we going to get Aya out of that. It's fine. This is the moment when she's going to do it. All right. So, you're teaching her numbers, you're teaching her... Does she know letters yet? Any of the letters?

Kylee Brown: No.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay.

Kylee Brown: Well, she's kind of saying "Pa, pa, and ma, ma," and then she's saying "be, be," I don't even know. It's bye-bye, but it doesn't sound like that.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Last time I video called her, she gave me a air kiss. I felt very happy and loved in that moment. What is Aya's favorite thing that she does to you?

Kylee Brown: To tackle me.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: I have seen this also. She definitely is a mini bully. I love it for you.

Kylee Brown: She sits on me and then she just sits on me, that's all she does. Sometimes throws stuff on the floor by my ear.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: She's funny. Aya is funny. As you are this big sister, what have you learned from being a big sister?

Kylee Brown: I've learned that I can't do bad things anymore, because she's just going to do the same thing. If I try to climb the wall, she's going to try to climb the wall.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: So, you know what that's called, right? That means she's modeling your behavior. You are officially a role model. You're Aya's role model. What we do with our role models is we try to copy what they do. I think that's a great... Yeah. You think about... Her mouth is like... What's the surprise face that you're giving me?

Kylee Brown: I'm like, "She needs to do her own thing," because if she's copying me, she's not doing her own thing.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yeah. Babies don't really do their own thing. I mean, they do their own thing sometimes, but how they learn about the world, how we all learn about the world is that we watch the people around us and they teach us how we're supposed to behave. So, you actually just pulled out a really good lesson about how she's watching all the things you're doing and then doing them. Now, you're thinking twice about what you're doing.

Kylee Brown: Like when I grab the remote, she snatches it from me and tries to turn... She turns on something else. She always does it. When she has the remote, something is on the TV.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: But see, I love the fact that you have realized this big lesson of yours. What else have you learned from being a big sister?

Kylee Brown: I have learned that she doesn't let anybody do her hair. She only will if I'm doing my... If somebody's doing my hair, she will copy me.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yeah, no, you officially have a shadow, a new shadow, and her name is Aya, and she's learning a lot from you. She's learning how to be a good person. She's learning how to move through the world. So, I think she has a great role model in you. I think she's-

Kylee Brown: She's learning how to move up the stairs.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yeah, when she starts really running, oh man, y'all are going to have to chase her around that house. It's going to be fun though.

Kylee Brown: She's trying to run. She thinks she can run, but she can't.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: By the summertime, she's going to be running. She's going to be running. Which is, you're going to have to keep an eye out for that. How do you think other kids need to learn to embrace their unique selves?

Kylee Brown: They need to put good affirmations somewhere and just read them before they go to bed, after they wake up, at any good time, they need to read affirmations, or read speeches, or ask their parents funny things they did as a child.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. You got to tell me, what are some of your favorite affirmations?

Kylee Brown: It's a Maya Angelou one. I forgot. I think it's the speech, Phenomenal Woman.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Oh, so do you read that to yourself sometimes? What?

Kylee Brown: It's on Family Reunion, so at the same time I'm learning and I'm also watching my favorite show.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. You know what, I think I would love for you to read Phenomenal Woman then. The assignment here is you got to read it as if you are talking to somebody who is not feeling great about themselves, and they are feeling discouraged and they need to hear something that will make them feel good, make them feel powerful, and make them smile. Let's see. We will have you read the last paragraph of Phenomenal Woman.

Kylee Brown: How many lines?

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: It is, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15. Are you up for the challenge?

Kylee Brown: I read way more than that, so.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Oh, it's nothing. Kylee, you got this. Look.

Kylee Brown: "Now you understand just why my head's not bowed. I don't shout or jump about or have you talk real loud. When you see me passing, it ought to make you proud. I say, it's in the click of my heels, the bend of my hair, the palm of my hand, the need for my care. Because I'm a woman, phenomenally. Phenomenal woman, that's me."

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Amen. Yes. You know what's funny is, I'm coming out with an ABCs of troublemaking affirmation deck, because I realize kids do need to hear some of these types of affirmations every day. I'm really glad you brought that up. One of the affirmations is A is for audacious. Do you know what audacious means?

Kylee Brown: No.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Audacious means knowing that you can do big things, feeling bold, being daring. Do you think you're audacious?

Kylee Brown: Yes.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: All right. What makes you audacious?

Kylee Brown: Being sassy, stepping up like in volleyball, there was a ball coming and everybody else wasn't really going to get it. So, I looked at the ball and then I passed it to the other side.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Nice. While everybody else was scared, you stepped up. That is super audacious. That's another, we're going to add that to another trait of Kylee's, audacious.

Kylee Brown: And I have a suggestion. I think you should give the book to Aya first.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Really? How about this? I give the book to you and you read it to Aya, because Aya can't read right now.

Kylee Brown: She can touch-

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Oh, for sure.

Kylee Brown: ... the words though.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: For sure. But, actually, you did tell me that you were going to read to Aya though. I'm excited to see that happen.

Kylee Brown: We read to her every night unless she's really, really sleepy.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay, are you the one doing the reading or is just your parents?

Kylee Brown: Sometimes my parents, sometimes me. We don't take turns, it just who gets in the room first and who gets a book first?

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Nice. I'm here for that. So, do you have any advice for kids? Well, you know what, I'll ask you, when you're feeling big feelings, like when you're sad, when you're angry, how do you deal with them?

Kylee Brown: I usually get frustrated. When I'm sad, I usually try to wipe away my tears and think of good things. Usually, when I'm sad, it's probably when something happens to someone. So, that's when I'm sad.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Then when you're angry, what about that?

Kylee Brown: That's a whole different thing. I stay angry for a while.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Really? Then how do you get past the anger?

Kylee Brown: I sleep through it.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Really? You just go to sleep and you wake up feeling better? Do you talk about it?

Kylee Brown: Yes.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: How and with who?

Kylee Brown: Nobody. I talk to myself or I talk to the mirror.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Do you talk to your parents when you're angry about something?

Kylee Brown: It depends on what it is. If it's a problem, like my mannequin it's not... It doesn't look good. I hit it.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: So, there are other things that some people do when they get angry. Some people will write, some people will, yeah, hit something like a mannequin or a boxing bag. Some people will cry. You are the person who just sleeps through it. Hey, if it works for you, people can add that to their list of ways to cope with anger. Then, how do you show somebody that you love them?

Kylee Brown: I hug them. I write a note to them, sometimes, and usually I do something that they really like, give them positive affirmations.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: That is so very cool. I asked Kylee to also come with questions that she can ask me. Shortly, I'll have give her the opportunity to ask some questions. One of the ones that I want to ask you though is what do you think adults need to do more of?

Kylee Brown: Well, majority of adults be on their phones every single day, and they need to do more of probably just going outside.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: That's a word. Yep. Continue.

Kylee Brown: Hanging out with friends, not being lazy.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Do y'all hear that? Kylee just dragged all of us. She just told us we spent too much time on our phone. We need to go outside. We need to hang with our friends more. Okay. What is something that you think adults should do different?

Kylee Brown: Use their phones differently. Not just go on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter. Instead, they should look up things for work maybe, or text people they haven't seen in a long time.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Wow, she dragging us. She's dragging us all. So, you're saying we need to be more connected with the people in our lives and less doomscrolling on

Instagram. I think most therapists will say the same thing. So, you actually doing well here. What is something that adults get to do that you wish kids got to do?

Kylee Brown: I wish we could drive around the place.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. Okay. Being able to drive. All right.

Kylee Brown: Also, we could buy our own stuff. Well, some kids out there, they have their own money and they buy their own stuff with their parents. But I wish kids, like all kids, would be able to buy stuff, like just go to Target, go to Starbucks, go to any of their favorite places and just go and buy stuff there.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: That is a cool perk by being an adult. We can go buy stuff when we want, sometimes. Sometimes. But then we're too busy to go buy stuff, then we don't buy it, but we'll online shop. I guess that's what you're looking forward to, driving and buying your own stuff.

You know that kid, who is a tiny rebel with a cause, with a strong side-eye and a giant smile and a kind spirit. They're confident, sometimes to a fault. Their big feelings come with a big personality in a small package. The little troublemaker. I was her. I am her. You might be her. You might be raising your own. That's why I am so excited about my latest book. *Little Troublemaker Makes a Mess*, which is available for pre-order now and out on May 2nd, 2023. It is an ode to the small disruptors in all their fearless glory.

In *Little Troublemaker Makes a Mess*, we meet Little Luvvie, a girl who loves her mom and her sister. She also loves doing kind things for other people, but those kind things don't always have the best results. Her intentions don't match up with her execution, or her heart of gold is admirable. In the book, Little Luvvie finds out what happens when your big heart causes you to break big rules, and what to ask yourself before you act. The story will allow kids to know that it's okay to make mistakes and that they're still lovable in spite of all those things.

About the book, Kirkus Reviews said, "This adorable tale will resonate with children who recognize feelings of impatience, being too small, and wanting to be helpful. The playful and brightly-colored illustrations match the book's cheerful mood, ideal for story time. This one will also help kids develop social-emotional skills. I love this book and Little Luvvie so much." It was illustrated by Joey Spiotto, my brilliant, brilliant partner in this. So, pre-order *Little Troublemaker Makes a Mess* in hard cover or audiobook, now, everywhere books are sold or at littletroublemakerbook.com. Your littles and even you will love it. littletroublemakerbook.com. I'm going to let you ask me some questions now. I know you have a sheet of paper in front of you. Ask me whatever.

Kylee Brown: What does it take to be a author?

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: What it takes to be an author. You have to commit to writing and finishing a book. What that usually takes is commitment to, "I'm going to do this even when I don't feel like it." I've written, this is my fourth book now, Little Troublemaker Makes a Mess is my fourth book, and it's the shortest one. I wrote that one faster than the other ones. But the other ones that I wrote were 80,000 words. Every book does not have to be 80,000 words. Keep that in mind. But I had to commit to 80,000 words, because the type of book that I was writing requires a lot of words like that. So, I had to make sure I finished it and then I had to get an editor. You've heard about an editor?

Kylee Brown: No.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: An editor of somebody who exists to, they'll take your words and they'll make sure it sounds good, feels good, and it's cohesive. That means the book is good. Their job is to make the book really good after your first draft. Most writers that you see, most authors that you see, their editors did a lot of work to make sure their words sound good. And then you publish the book. That is a Cliff Notes version. But I would say number one thing that you need to be an author is to be committed to writing words.

Kylee Brown: Do you have to have a private editor? Or it could be just an editor what-

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Your editor can be... For me, because my book deals are with a big publishing house, they have editors inside the house. I have an editor who, once I finish my book, her job is to actually edit my book. But for everybody else who doesn't have a publisher, you can get a friend who is really good at writing to edit. Just think about editors as somebody who is looking at your words and looking to make them better. So, it can be your parents right now, your parents can be your editor, your teacher can be your editor.

Kylee Brown: Probably my mom, because she types really fast. Have you seen the meme, I'm Kermit the Frog?

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes.

Kylee Brown: That's how fast she types.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: I know that meme, because I'm also that meme. I think your mom will be a great editor for you, because she'll tell you where you need to improve. She'll tell you what the strong paragraphs are and then she'll tell you if your story is missing something. Yeah, your parents can definitely be your editor.

Kylee Brown: Do I have to go in order? Because I have the questions in order.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You don't have to. It's your world.

Kylee Brown: How many years... Wait, I already know that question.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Ask it anyway, because maybe other people want to know.

Kylee Brown: How many years did you have your locks?

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Six and a half years.

Kylee Brown: What was your dream when you were a kid?

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: My dream was to become a doctor. I wanted to help people and everybody had told me that, "You're really smart, you should become a doctor." So, I was like, "Okay, I'll become a doctor." I had that dream until I was 18, and then I started... No, 17. I started college at 17. And then I took chemistry and realized I don't really like science. I also failed the class. Yeah. It was my first time ever failing a class. I got a D, I'd never gotten a D before. So, I had to be like, "I don't even science like that. I don't think I do want to be a doctor." That's when I dropped that dream. Then I started writing then.

Kylee Brown: And you found your calling.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Then, I found my calling, but it was hard to find my calling, because writing, sometimes, I couldn't figure out how writing was going to make me money. So, I was like, "No, that can't be it." Because Maya Angelou's a writer. So, I had a hard time comparing my... I was like, "Maya Angelou's a writer, so I'm not that good. So, I'm not a writer, I'm just somebody who likes to write." It took me a while to find my calling or to say, "Yes, this is my calling." But once I finally did, I was able to do good things with it.

Kylee Brown: Do you design your own clothes? Because your clothes, they're really fabulous, you always style them. You're always wearing a really good outfit, even if you're just going out to get coffee, you have to look good.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Kylee, that is an amazing affirmation. Thank you so much for thinking that. I did not realize you thought I had great style. I receive that. I don't design my clothes, but I know where to go to find clothes I really like. One, I'm a fan of comfort. One thing me and Kylee have in common is that we both love sneakers and the sneakers that Kylee's wearing right now, I actually own them also.

Kylee Brown: My mom's wearing the same ones as well.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: See, we have a whole shoe gang, okay? We have a shoe gang. Y'all get with it. Yeah, I know what I like. I go to the stores that have the stuff that I like, and then if it doesn't fit me, I'll get it tailored. Have you ever gotten something tailored?

Kylee Brown: No.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: When you get it tailored is when you get it customized for you. Let's say you get a sweater that's too big for you, somebody can actually make it fit you. They'll sew it to make it fit you. So, I'll do that. For my dressy clothes, I get them tailored if they don't fit perfect. Then otherwise, I'm wearing, you see me, I'm usually in sweats, they match, and some sneakers that I think are cute. Then that's kind of how I move. I usually have on a hat, because it just makes it easy to get dressed.

Kylee Brown: I only have two hats.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: What colors are they?

Kylee Brown: The first one is green and the other one is White Sox. I got it at a White Sox game.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Do you like baseball caps? This is a baseball cap. You like them? Okay. I actually have a surprise for Kylee. Hold on. I have a surprise for you. I meant to give this to you a while ago. All right. I meant to give this to Kylee a long time ago, but it is a Professional Troublemaker baseball cap, and it's red. I have on a black one right now, so we are matching, officially. Boom. Okay? Yes.

Kylee Brown: This has to be my favorite hat.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes. And it looks good on you. Y'all don't see Kylee right now, she's giving to y'all, [inaudible], I'm here for it. Yes. Giving y'all poses, yes. Period. Yes. Okay, great. That's a great question. Awesome. Okay, what else you got?

Kylee Brown: How did you come up with the designs on your front cover?

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Ooh, the designs on the front cover of my book. What you see on the cover of my book, every book, actually, is a side-eyeing emoji, and I call it Judgey Pop. I came up with the design because I wanted it to kind of be a fun little version of me, that's telling everybody to do better and side-eyeing people. Now I put on the covers of my books, because it's just fun to have and I think it makes people smile.

Kylee Brown: So, it's your new logo?

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes. You see the vision. You see the vision. Yes. Yeah. Yeah, I think it is.

Kylee Brown: I think you should make earrings.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You know I have pins. I have pins of them. Earrings would be cool. Which I also still owe you a pin, too. But yeah, I have pins. I might have a pin in my bag, but yeah, good idea. What other ideas you got for Judgey pin, what you got?

Kylee Brown: Shoes, stickers. A water bottle.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. Come through creative designer. Yes.

Kylee Brown: Do you already have a necklace?

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: I don't, with a pendant of the... I might have to talk to my jeweler for that. Yes. Yes. That's a good idea. Yeah, because I do always have one chain, so I just throw it on one of them. Okay. Okay. I'm with you. I see you creative, what you got? What other questions you got for me?

Kylee Brown: I really only put six, but I do have questions in my mind.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Bring them.

Kylee Brown: Do you only have one sister?

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: I do. I have one sister and one brother, and I'm the baby, so I'm Aya, and she's you. Yeah.

Kylee Brown: I was looking at pictures and I realized how alike me and Aya were. I didn't think we were that alike, but I realized we were really alike.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: In what ways?

Kylee Brown: Definitely the eyes, the skin, the hair, we both have natural curly hair.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: And y'all's hair is both amazing. I asked the people who follow me on Instagram to give me some questions for you. Here's what some people want to know from my favorite little troublemaker. What qualities make a good friend?

Kylee Brown: They will hang out with you a lot. When you're sad, they will make you feel better. When somebody wants to hang out with you and you ask if the other friend can hang out as well.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Are you a good friend?

Kylee Brown: Yes.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Dope. Okay. Somebody wants to know what is your favorite thing about being nine?

Kylee Brown: Probably that you're about to enter two digits.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. So, what happens at two digits?

Kylee Brown: Probably going to fifth grade, I'm going to be able to dye my hair when I'm 10.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. Your mom told me about that. She said you had asked that if you could dye your hair when you got to double digits, and she had agreed. So, now that you are going to be double digits soon, what color are you going to dye your hair?

Kylee Brown: I'm just going to dye the ends. I think I'm going to start off with maybe blue. I'm only going to dye it a couple times, and then I'm going to go back to black.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. So what is your favorite color? Is blue your favorite color?

Kylee Brown: No, I just like, that it's calm.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay.

Kylee Brown: My favorite color is purple, but I'm planning on making it pink and green.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Does it have anything to do with the fact that your mom's an AKA?

Kylee Brown: Yes.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes. Yes, indeed. Yes. And isn't Aya's room pink and green?

Kylee Brown: Yes.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Uh-huh. I asked her, I was like, "Was that on purpose?" She actually said your dad picked it up. So, I'm a delta, it's all love. And ours is red. Okay, cool. Cool. Pink and green. Somebody's asking, "What have you gotten in trouble for that you don't think you should have gotten in trouble for?"

Kylee Brown: I came with my dad about the wrong answer, I thought I had the right answer, but I didn't. Then we just kept going back and forth and we said, "This is the right answer." Then he proved me wrong and it was like... Then he was like, "Maybe you should listen to me." Well, he didn't say exactly that, but it was a lot more, so.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You know what, but what lesson was learned in that moment?

Kylee Brown: That you should actually solve the problem before saying it's right.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: So, basically, do your research. Okay. All right. What brings you joy?

Kylee Brown: Aya.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yay. Then what else?

Kylee Brown: My parents, my dad trying to wrestle me, because last night I was just trying to give Aya a kiss and then he had kicked me and then I fell.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: I'll see you guys' wrestling matches. It's a moment. It cracks me up every time, because he throws you over his shoulder and you can't do nothing else. Right now, y'all don't see her face. She has this hilarious look on her face. Yeah. Okay. What else brings you joy?

Kylee Brown: When me and my mom cuddle and watch a movie. Playing with my friends.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yeah.

Kylee Brown: My friends hyping me up or me hyping them up, because we're really crazy.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Let's do... Listen. So, your friends hype y'all up. Okay, all right, if one of your friends was like, "Kylee, I didn't do well on this test." What do you say to them?

Kylee Brown: I'm like, "But you slay on the other ones."

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: But you slayed on the other ones. Come on. Okay. What if your friend is like, "I don't feel pretty today." What do you say?

Kylee Brown: But you're always pretty, you don't feel pretty today, but you're always pretty.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes. Okay. Okay. Your friend is like, "I want to try out for the volleyball team, but I don't know if I'm going to make it."

Kylee Brown: Well, this year it's just an introduction. So if they asked us this year, I would say, "It's an introduction and you're going to slay anyways."

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You're going to slay anyways. Okay. Your friend goes, "I got in trouble with my parents last night and I feel bad about it." What do you say?

Kylee Brown: Well, you know they love you.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yeah. Y'all better get into Kylee's TED Talks. Yes. Okay. Okay. What if I'm like, all right, what if your friend goes, "Things aren't going well lately." What do you say to them? She's thinking, she's thinking.

Kylee Brown: Well, [inaudible] go, "Well, things are going to go well with us."

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Oh, come on, Kylee. Yes. Okay. Okay. Let me see. I'm trying to think, because in these moments, I think some of the adults listening actually need to hear some of this, these affirmations you're giving back. Let me think about another moment. Okay, what if they go, "I am worried about my parents." What do you tell them?

Kylee Brown: Well, I need to know what's wrong? What's happening? Why are you worried about them?

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Let's say somebody's like, "Oh, I'm worried because my parents are getting older and they don't move as fast."

Kylee Brown: Well, maybe if they have a house with stairs, maybe consider getting a house with no stairs.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: That's good advice. That's good advice. See, I'm here for Kylee's advice. Let me see. Let me see another scenario. That's really good. Oh, what if somebody goes, "I don't feel like getting out of bed this morning. I just want to stay in bed and not do anything." What do you tell them?

Kylee Brown: I really don't either.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. But then how do they still... What's the word you use to encourage them?

Kylee Brown: Well, at school, we're crazy. Anyways we're going to be hyped up anyways, at the end of the day.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: At the end of the day, just come to school and it's going to be hyped. By the end of the day, you'll feel better. All right. Okay. Okay. Your friend is... Oh, what do you say to the new girl at school who's like, "I don't know anybody. I'm afraid and I don't feel like I fit in."

Kylee Brown: Well, girl, you're coming with us. You're going to be our new friend.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes. Come on. Include the new babies. Yes. Kylee, that is actually the sign of a really good person. You being able to look at the person who feels out of place and bringing them into your circle is a really amazing thing. Because as you're growing up, people will always, they'll always be somebody who feels alone or out of place. So, you being the person that makes them feel a little bit more at home is amazing.

Kylee Brown: I know that if you are not nice to the person, when you grow up, something happens and then it makes you feel bad. You have no friends, and then you go over to them and they don't talk to you, because you've done really bad things in the past. So, I learned to be nice to everybody everywhere I go.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes, kindness. That's called kindness. It's even better than niceness, because kindness takes heart. It takes good intentions and good actions, which is the best thing we need. What do you think the world needs the most right now?

Kylee Brown: Probably they need no polluting, because the world has become way dirtier. When I'm walking, when I'm just driving, well, when my parents are driving, I

see all this trash all over the place, and I'm just so mad. So, whenever I see trash and my hands are sanitized, or I know where hand sanitizer is, I pick up the trash, throw it away, and then hand sanitize.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes, that is facts. There's a lot of pollution. How do you think you want to make a difference in the world, a positive difference, make good trouble in the world?

Kylee Brown: Play pranks.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. Yep, yep. How do you want to use your superpowers for good?

Kylee Brown: Properly, well, kindness. Make people feel better.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: So, you're going to do that by being an author and possibly a makeup artist. I like it for you. Any other questions for me?

Kylee Brown: Where do you get your shoes? Because I know where my dad gets his shoes. Do you guys get the same shoes?

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yeah, me and your dad exchange notes whenever shoes are dropping, I'm like, "Wait," because I think... I wear kids' size shoes. I do. I wear five and a half in boys in my sneakers. Usually, if he's getting you shoes, I'm like, "Where are you getting Kylee's? Because I'm going to need a pair." So, we exchange notes. But I get my shoes from Nike. I get them from Foot Locker, Finish Line. Those are the sneakers that I'm wearing. My heels, a lot of them come from... Where do I get my heels? Different places. I get different types of heels. Oxfords that I get are from Office of Angela Scott. I get them from... Yeah, I get them from everywhere.

Kylee Brown: I get my sneakers really just from the Nike app, we really order our sneakers, but if we are going out to get sneakers, we would go to DICK'S Sporting Goods.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Well, that's a good place. And there's also a Nike outlet that's really good. So, sometimes I'll go there too and get some shoes that are no longer on that Nike app.

Kylee Brown: I'm trying to get my dreams shoes, the red and white Jordan 11s.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Ooh, wait, let me look them up. The red and white, the ones that are like patent leather red?

Kylee Brown: My dad has them, they're Jordan's, the same as the shoes I'm wearing right now.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yeah, I know those exact Jordan 11s, they're the lows or the mid ones, these ones, right?

Kylee Brown: Yes.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yeah, so they're the Jordan 11 Retro Cherries. That's what it's called is Cherry. See, that's my favorite color scheme. Red and white for shoes is my favorite color scheme. I'm not supposed to buy anymore. I have these ones, the ones that are all red. I'm not supposed to buy any more red and white shoes, because I have so many. I need to buy more blue shoes. Today, I have on blue shoes.

Kylee Brown: I have denim Jordan. No, not denim Jordan, denim Nikes. Me and Aya are matching. I think you saw it at her birthday party.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes. They were so cute. Yeah. No, see, the sneaker heads are real. I feel like we have a lot in common. We have a lot in common, Kylee. I even think we're the same color. I think we're the same skin tone. I remember when I was a kid and I was bold and I was very confident like you. It is really cool to see other kids who are also bold and confident. I think, especially as girls, the world needs more of us who are bold and confident.

Kylee Brown: And they need more respect for us.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Say that again.

Kylee Brown: They need more respect for us.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes, they do. Yes, they do. So, I love the fact that you are confident, and I don't want you to ever lose that confidence. I want you to always remember that your voice matters in any room, even when the boys are trying to shut it up, because that's going to happen sometimes. So, what happens is sometimes they'll interrupt you when you're trying to talk, or they might, yeah, they might not show you as much respect as you deserve. So, you are surrounded by amazing parents, who are teaching you the best lessons. You have an amazing little sister. You have a great village that includes me. I'm excited to see what you do with it. Any final thoughts for our audience? You want to leave them behind with anything?

Kylee Brown: A shout-out to my sister.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Word.

Kylee Brown: She's really amazing and I never wish to have another one that's not like her, because I love her so much.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yes. Okay. Give any shout-outs you want to give now, because remember that this is your first official interview. This is your first time in the press. Who else you want to give a shout-out to?

Kylee Brown: Shout-out to all the amazing people that has been nice to me and shout-out to all the people in the world, in general.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: You want to shout-out any friends?

Kylee Brown: Shout out to Nike.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Shout-out to Nike, okay, y'all.

Kylee Brown: For making the best shoes.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Let them know. Okay. All right. All right. The fact that I said you want to shout-out friends, you consider Nike a friend?

Kylee Brown: Yes.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: I'm cracking up. She's like, "Yep. Yes, I do." See, Nike, I'm just saying, if you want to gift Kylee with shoes, feel free. Okay? Kylee, do you know your shoe size?

Kylee Brown: Two and a half.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: She's a two and a half. Look, if the peoples want to gift Nike's to our good little troublemaker, please feel free, hit me up. I get it to her. Okay? What's your favorite color again?

Kylee Brown: Purple.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Purple. Okay. Boom. We going to get you some purple Nikes. We got to get you some purple... Do you own purple Nikes?

Kylee Brown: No.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Okay. Well, that's a gap in your wardrobe and we going to have to fix it. So, purple Nikes, [inaudible]. No more shout-outs, you good?

Kylee Brown: Yes.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Boom. Okay. I want you to give us an outro. An outro is when a show is ending, this is the goodbye, whether it's a phrase, whether it's a lesson, whether it's final words, basically how do you want to be remembered? All of that.

Kylee Brown: You guys slay forever. Bye, y'all.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Boom, drop the mic. Y'all heard from Kylee, slay forever. Thank you everybody. Kylee, good to see you. Good to have you here.

Kylee Brown: Good to be here.

Luvvie Ajayi Jones: Yo, I knew Kylee was going to come through and what she say, slay, yes. She is incredible. She's such an inspiring little troublemaker, and I am excited for y'all to now know who Kylee is. She says she's famous and that is true. Connect with me on Instagram. You can follow me @Luvvie, L-U-V-V-I-E. I want you to sign up for my newsletter at luvvletter.com. L-U-V-V-L-E-T-T-E-R.com. It's my weekly rants, reflections and recommendations delivered straight to your inbox. And pre-order Little Troublemaker Makes a Mess. It's everywhere books are sold. Visit littletroublemakerbook.com. Not only can you find out how to order the books, you will also find pre-order bonuses for your littles to have. We have a word search and we have a coloring sheet. So, check out littletroublemakerbook.com. Pre-order the book and get some of these bonuses. So, see y'all on the next episode.