

AUTHOR BIO

Judith Pluviose, Esq.

SHORT VERSION (50 words — social bios, panel programs)

Judith Pluviose, Esq. is an attorney, licensed esthetician, and certified skincare formulator. She is the founder of Beautélanin Skincare and the author of *The Skin They Forgot to Teach*. Her work challenges the beauty industry's history of excluding melanin-rich skin from its science, its standards, and its stories.

MEDIUM VERSION (100 words — press kits, event bios)

Judith Saintvil Pluviose, Esq. is a practicing attorney, New York State–licensed esthetician, and certified skincare formulator. She is the founder of Aging Beautified, LLC d/b/a Beautélanin Skincare, a brand built on ancestral wisdom and scientific rigor for melanin-rich skin. An alumna of the Goldman Sachs One Million Black Women in Business program, Judith's work focuses on melanin-centered skincare education, clinical reasoning, and the historical development of esthetics curricula. Her book, *The Skin They Forgot to Teach*, traces how beauty-industry curricula, licensing standards, and diagnostic frameworks were built without melanin-rich skin in mind, and offers a behavior-based alternative for practitioners ready to do better.

LONG VERSION (press releases, feature profiles)

Judith Saintvil Pluviose, Esq. is a certified skincare formulator, a New York State–licensed esthetician, and the founder of Aging Beautified, LLC d/b/a Beautélanin Skincare, a skincare brand devoted to honoring melanin through ancestral wisdom, scientific integrity, and unapologetic truth. With a background in law, beauty, and cultural advocacy, Judith is fiercely committed to challenging industry narratives that have long pathologized Black skin.

Judith is an alumna of the Goldman Sachs One Million Black Women in Business program (Cohort 6) and a rising voice in the movement to decolonize esthetics education. She uses her platform to amplify truth, empower estheticians of color, and expose the legacy of skin-based pseudoscience still embedded in beauty and dermatology training today.

Her book, *The Skin They Forgot to Teach: An Examination of the Beauty Industry's History of Racism and Systemic Neglect of Black Skin*, began with a single textbook passage describing dark skin as a “problematic case” and grew into a two-part examination of how curricula, licensing boards, and diagnostic models were built around a narrow default, along with a working alternative: the MélanoMatrix-D™ framework, a behavior-based approach to assessing melanin-rich skin.

Judith lives, writes, and formulates with fire. This is not her first act of resistance. It will not be her last.

Contact & Inquiries

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Book Confronts the Beauty Industry's History of Excluding Black Skin from Its Own Science

The Skin They Forgot to Teach pairs a firsthand account of exclusion in esthetics education with a working, behavior-based framework for treating melanin-rich skin.

MASSAPEQUA, N.Y. —Attorney and licensed esthetician Judith Pluviose, Esq. has released *The Skin They Forgot to Teach: An Examination of the Beauty Industry's History of Racism and Systemic Neglect of Black Skin*, a two-part book examining how esthetics education, licensing standards, and dermatological diagnosis were built around a narrow default—and what it will take to correct course.

The book began with a single line in a licensing-exam textbook describing dark skin as a “problematic case” for hyperpigmentation. For Pluviose, then a student esthetician, the moment became the starting point for a broader investigation: how curricula, professionalism standards, and diagnostic frameworks across the beauty and dermatology industries have systematically underrepresented and mismanaged melanin-rich skin.

“The lesson was not just about skin but about erasure,” Pluviose writes in the book's opening pages. “The skin remembers what education forgets. Melanin carries both history and biology. Inflammation is not a moral failing. Pigment is not a disease.”

Book I traces the roots of that erasure, from underrepresentation in medical and cosmetology textbooks, to grooming and professionalism codes that penalize natural hair texture, to diagnostic models that treat unexpected outcomes in melanin-rich skin as client noncompliance rather than a flaw in the protocol itself.

Book II, *Anchoring Repair*, shifts from critique to framework. It introduces MélanoMatrix-D™, a five-axis, behavior-based model for assessing melanin-rich skin by evaluating melanin density, inflammatory response, barrier resilience, UV legacy, and pigment memory. Rather than relying primarily on appearance-based classification systems developed outside the lived biological context of melanin-rich skin, the framework emphasizes observable skin behavior over time.

Pluviose brings a dual perspective to the material: years of legal practice interpreting how language like “professionalism” gets applied unevenly, paired with hands-on experience as a licensed esthetician and certified skincare formulator. She is the founder of Beautélanin® Skincare and an alumna of the Goldman Sachs One Million Black Women in Business program. Her legal background shaped her interest in how institutional language influences professional practice, while her esthetics training informed the biological questions explored throughout the book.

“This is not about replacing legacy diagnostic systems with another rigid chart,” Pluviose said. “It's an intervention framework—one that stays open to testing, scrutiny, and revision. The goal was never to colonize the skin with quick fixes. It's to support it.”

Why This Book Matters Now

In 2026, conversations about identity, healthcare, and science often become entangled with politics. *The Skin They Forgot to Teach* offers a different approach. It asks readers to return to observation, evidence, and biological understanding.

Biological truth is not political; it is informative. Understanding the biological differences that make us unique does not divide us; it helps us provide better care, ask better questions, and make better decisions.

This book invites readers to examine long-held assumptions with curiosity and intellectual honesty. As our world becomes increasingly interconnected, the future of skincare and healthcare depends not on inherited assumptions, but on our willingness to let evidence guide us toward more thoughtful and informed practice.

About the Book

The Skin They Forgot to Teach: An Examination of the Beauty Industry's History of Racism and Systemic Neglect of Black Skin by Judith Pluviose, Esq., is available now in paperback through Amazon and as a digital download (EPUB and PDF) at www.beautelaninskincare.com.

About the Author

Judith Saintvil Pluviose, Esq. is an attorney, New York State–licensed esthetician, certified skincare formulator, and founder of Beautélanin® Skincare. Drawing on her experience in both the legal profession and esthetics, her work examines how history, language, and scientific assumptions have shaped the education and treatment of melanin-rich skin. She is an alumna of the Goldman Sachs One Million Black Women in Business program. *The Skin They Forgot to Teach* is her first published book.

Media Contact

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