

"Thank you, Reese. In 1964, I was a little girl sitting on the floor of my mother's house in Milwaukee watching Anne Bancroft present the Oscar for best at the 36th academy awards. She opened the and said five words that literally made history: "The winner is Sidney Poitier. Up to the came the most elegant man I ever remembered. His was white, his skin was black -- and he was being celebrated. I'd never seen a black man being celebrated that. I tried many, many times to explain what a moment like that means to a little girl, a watching from the cheap seats as my came through the door tired from cleaning other people's houses. But all I can do is and say that the explanation in Sidney's performance in *Lilies of the Field*: Amen, amen, amen, amen.

In 1982, Sidney received the Cecil B. DeMille award here at the Golden Globes and it is not on me that at this moment, there are some little girls watching as I become the first black woman to be this same award. It is an honor -- it is an honor and it is a privilege to the evening with all of them and also with the incredible men and women who have inspired me, who have me, who have sustained me and made my journey to this stage possible. Dennis Swanson who took a chance on me for *A.M. Chicago*. Quincy Jones who me on that show and said to Steven Spielberg, yes, she's Sophia in *The Color Purple*. Gayle who's been the of what a friend is and Stedman who's been my rock, just a few to name.

I would like to thank the Hollywood Foreign Press Association. Because we all know the press is under these days. But we also know that it's the insatiable dedication to uncovering the absolute truth that keeps us from turning a eye to corruption and to injustice. To -- to tyrants and victims, and secrets and I want to say that I value the press more than ever before as we try to these complicated times, which brings me to this. What I know for sure is that speaking your truth is the most powerful we all have. And I'm especially and inspired by all the women who have felt strong enough and empowered enough to speak up and share their personal stories. Each of us in this room are celebrated because of the stories that we, and this year we became the story.

But it's not just a story affecting the entertainment industry. It's one that transcends any culture, geography,, religion, politics, or workplace. So I want tonight to express gratitude to all the women who have endured years of and assault because they, like my mother, had children to feed and to pay and dreams to pursue. They're the women whose names we'll never know. They are domestic workers and workers. They are

working in factories and they work in restaurants and they're in academia, engineering, medicine, and science. They're part of the world of and politics and business. They're our athletes in the olympics and they're our soldiers in the military.

And there's someone, Recy Taylor, a name I know and I think you know, too. In 1944, Recy Taylor was a young wife and mother, she was just walking home from a service she'd attended in Abbeville, Alabama, when she was abducted by six white men, raped, and left by the side of the road coming home from church. They threatened to her if she ever told anyone, but her story was reported to the NAACP where a young worker by the of Rosa Parks became the lead investigator on her case and together they sought justice. But justice wasn't an option in the of Jim Crow. The men who tried to destroy her were persecuted. Recy Taylor died ten days ago, just of her 98th birthday. She lived as we all have lived, too many years in a culture by brutally powerful men. For too long, women have not been heard or believed if they to speak their truth to the power of those men. But their time is up. Their time is up.

Their time is up. And I just hope -- I just hope that Recy Taylor died that her truth, like the truth of so many other women who were tormented in years, and even now tormented, goes on. It was somewhere in Rosa Parks' heart almost 11 years later, when she made the decision to stay on that bus in Montgomery, and it's here with every woman who to say, "Me too." And every man -- every man who chooses to listen.

In my, what I've always tried my best to do, on television or through film, is to say something about how men and women really To say how we experience shame, how we love and how we, how we fail, how we retreat, persevere, and how we overcome. I've interviewed and portrayed people who've some of the ugliest things life can throw at you, but the one quality all of them seem to share is an ability to maintain hope for a morning, even during our darkest nights. So I want all the girls watching here, now, to know that a new day is on the horizon! And when that new day finally, it will be because of a lot of magnificent women, many of whom are right here in this room tonight, and some pretty phenomenal men, fighting to make sure that they become the leaders who take us to the when nobody ever has to say "Me too" again."