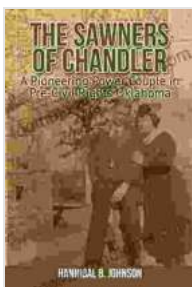


# Pioneering Power Couple Blazes Trails in Pre-Civil Rights Oklahoma

## A Legacy of Resilience and Transformation



### The Sawners of Chandler: A Pioneering Power Couple in Pre-Civil Rights Oklahoma by Cornelia Reiwald

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
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In the tumultuous era of pre-Civil Rights Oklahoma, a remarkable power couple rose above adversity, their unwavering determination illuminating the path towards progress and equality. Meet Dr. Julius and Dr. Alpha Alfa, whose extraordinary journey left an indelible mark on their community and beyond.

## **Education as a Catalyst for Change**

Born into a time and place where racial barriers seemed insurmountable, Julius and Alpha Alfa refused to be confined by societal norms. Education became their indomitable weapon against prejudice, empowering them to shatter stereotypes and break down barriers.

Dr. Julius Alfa, a brilliant scholar and charismatic leader, earned his doctorate in education from the University of Oklahoma in 1953, becoming the first African American to receive a Ph.D. from the institution. Dr. Alpha Alfa, a dedicated educator and passionate advocate for social justice, obtained her doctorate in education from Colorado State College in 1967, forging a path for future generations of African American women.

Together, they dedicated their lives to providing quality education for all, regardless of race. Dr. Julius Alfa served as the president of Prairie View A&M College in Texas, transforming the institution into a thriving hub of academic excellence and social activism. Meanwhile, Dr. Alpha Alfa played a pivotal role in integrating schools and promoting diversity within the Oklahoma education system.

## Community Empowerment and the Fight for Justice

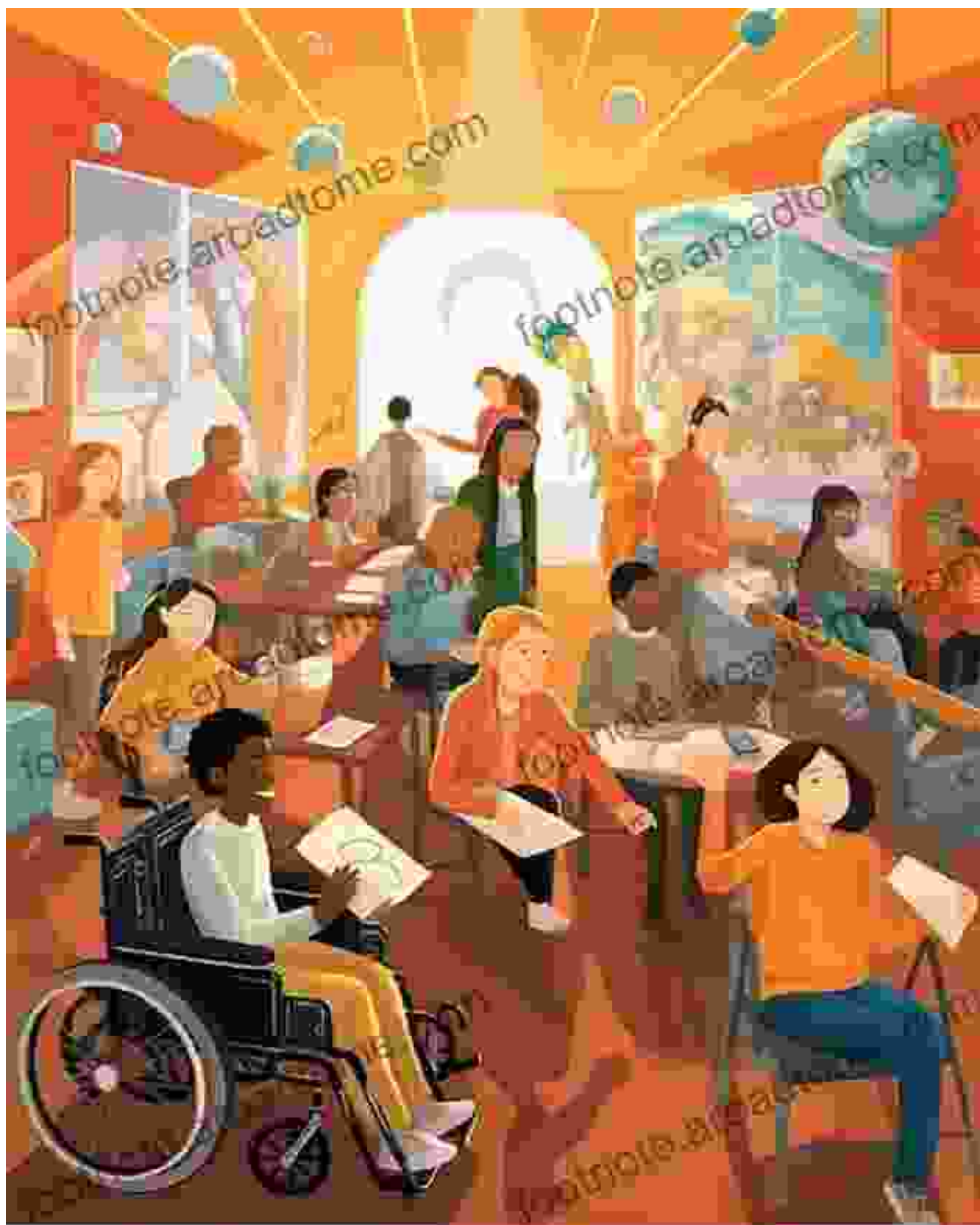


Beyond the classroom, Julius and Alpha Alfa extended their influence into the broader community, becoming beacons of hope and empowerment for their fellow African Americans.

Dr. Julius Alfa founded the Oklahoma Black Education Association, a powerful organization dedicated to advocating for the rights and educational opportunities of African Americans in the state. He also actively participated in the civil rights movement, working alongside leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to dismantle the barriers of segregation and discrimination.

Dr. Alpha Alfa dedicated her efforts to improving the living conditions and social well-being of African Americans in Oklahoma. She established the nationally recognized organization, "Concern for Infants," which provided comprehensive healthcare and support services to infants and young children in underprivileged communities.

### **A Legacy that Transcends Time**

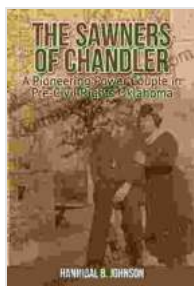


The pioneering spirit of Julius and Alpha Alfa left an enduring legacy that continues to inspire and empower generations to come. Their unwavering commitment to education, community empowerment, and the fight for social justice transformed the landscape of Oklahoma and paved the way for a more just and equitable society.

Today, schools, institutions, and organizations across Oklahoma and beyond bear witness to the Alfa legacy. The Julius and Alpha Alfa Elementary School in Oklahoma City serves as a constant reminder of their dedication to educational excellence, while the Alpha Alfa Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Education at the University of Oklahoma ensures that their vision for empowering young minds continues to thrive.

Julius and Alpha Alfa's story is a testament to the transformative power of resilience, determination, and unwavering belief in a better future. They stand as icons of progress, inspiring us all to strive for a world where equality, justice, and opportunity prevail.

Their legacy is a guiding light, reminding us that even in the face of adversity, the human spirit has an extraordinary capacity to overcome, innovate, and create a more just and equitable world for all.



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