

Thank you for this award. It is truly an honor. I am so sorry that I cannot be with you in person today.

But as I accept this award, I want to note that it is only possible because of the amazing women who have invested in me. This award is for them.

It is for the countless women who have faced gender-based violence. It is for the survivors who chose to trust me. It is for the uncounted. It is for Jenny, Wangu, and Consoler. It is for the many women who have shared their experiences with me. Who allowed me to hold their truth.

It is for the women who believed in me. The leaders who invited me in. It is for Amanda, and Caitlin, and Angela, and Marya, and Anne-Marie, and Julia, and Anush, and Fiona, and Heather, and Lisa, and Di, and Kelly. Women who included me. Who partnered with me.

It is for the women who shaped me. Shirley, and Anitha, and Anu, and Joni. It is for the women who challenged me. Who called me out. Who spoke into my life. It is for the women who shared their wisdom with me.

And it is for the countless number of women who equipped me. Who shared their skills with me and gave me language to articulate what I was learning.

Without all of you, I would not be here today.

So thank you. Thank you, Global Woman's Award. But much more, thank you to each of those women who have made this possible.