

# WARRIOR WOMEN



## Jonelle Carter

**Jonelle Carter** is a singer-songwriter, author, speaker and coach from Morris, IL. Growing up as a small town Midwestern girl with deep European roots, in a nearby village, Seneca, IL, she was lucky to be surrounded by the best of both worlds when it came to art, music and food. By the age of five, she was writing poems and, by the age of eight, was a published poet. It didn't take long until she was putting the words she would write to music. Guitar, piano, flute and choir lessons were part of her everyday life, creating a musical world around her. Jonelle was set down upon such a strong foundation for success that nothing should have been able to penetrate or weaken it. But when she turned fourteen, everything crumbled. Between a diagnosis of endometriosis and a toxic relationship, she found herself focused on everything but music. At the age of nineteen, she found she was pregnant with her son, putting any and all plans to sing on big



stages aside. At the age of twenty-one, Jonelle was able to break free from her abusive relationship and began her journey as a single Mom. To make ends meet, she was able to join her first band and released her first studio album in 2005. In 2011, her world flipped upside down when she was diagnosed with a rare type of Parathyroid Cancer. The parathyroid glands regulate the body's blood level of calcium. The only treatment available for this type of cancer is surgical removal. The tumor was located next to her vocal cord nerve. If this nerve is injured, it can result in temporary or permanent loss of the voice. In September of 2011 Jonelle underwent surgery to remove the tumor and surrounding tissue but was unable to sing for over a year after complications with the vocal cord nerve. Jonelle and her now husband, guitar player and co-writer, Terry Carter, worked hard every day to get her voice back. After a year of therapy, prayer and hard work, Jonelle's voice re-appeared and is stronger today than ever. Jonelle has gone on to release multiple singles with her band River Road Trio and travels the country playing music and empowering women to find THEIR voice to live their best life. Jonelle published her book "More Than A Country Song" in 2020 and continues to write, record and sing.

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