

Ruby N. Bridges

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Hi, My name is Aniya and I am going to talk to you about an important little girl which impacts on us today. Her name is Ruby Nell Bridges. She was the first African-American to attend an all white public school in the South. Ruby bridges was born on September 8th, 1954. She has attended William Frantz Elementary school when she was only a little girl. Ruby had attended that school only because how beautifully smart she was. Her father (Abon Bridges), however, didn't want Ruby to take the test where it determined if she could attend the all white school because he knew that there would be trouble. Ruby's mother, in this case, wanted to force the situation. Lucille (Ruby's Mom) believed that if she passed the test, Ruby would be able to attend

an all white school and receive a better education. Lucille eventually convinced Abon to let Ruby take the test.

In just 1960, Ruby's parents were informed that she was 1 of the 6 African-Americans to pass the test. Ruby ended up passing, and her mom and dad let her attend the all white school. Every day when Ruby arrived to school there were angry mobs waiting to bring her spirit down, but not to worry because Ruby's mother was always there by her side proudly walking her little girl through the doors of education. Until one day Ruby had to walk courageously through the negativity by herself with no one standing by but security guards and even cops. In a sudden move, Ruby dropped a book without noticing until a white child picked it up and gave it to her. Kids started to get mad which led to parents getting mad about the fact that an African-American was going to a white segregated school. On her very first day, Ruby spent the entire day in the principal's office waiting for approval. Parents were not allowing their children to be seen with an African-American. The next day was just like the first, except she got to meet her teacher. Her teacher's name was Barbara Henry. She was the only teacher that didn't mind teaching Ruby because she didn't look at Ruby the way others did. However, Barbara was a new teacher at that time. For that school year, Ruby and Mrs. Henry, (as Ruby would call her) were the only 2 in the class, meaning Ruby was the only student because of the parents that didn't want to have their child with an African-American individual. There was a day that a woman threatened to poison Ruby. After the lady said that Ruby wouldn't eat when her mother cooked. Her mother started to notice, then Ruby came clean. Her mother told her to just pray that everything would

be alright. There was a time when one of the marshalls commented that Ruby was a very courageous girl. As it got closer to the end of the year, Ruby was accompanied by some children, and all of the racial activity started to settle. Until One day, Mrs. Henry's contract was renewed, then Mrs. Henry returned to Boston with her Husband. The school had received more children. Ruby had walked to school by herself with no one to watch her.

In only 1993, Ruby's youngest brother was murdered for drug-related things.

Ruby looked after her brothers' children and it turns out, they attended William Frantz school too! With that story of the Famous Ruby Bridges, she wasn't a scared little girl.

Ruby was the bravest little girl I have ever known. I have always looked up to her and hey, maybe one day I'll get to meet her.