

# Conquering Segregation in the Big Easy: The Ruby Bridges Story

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Historical Paper

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*“I have a dream that one day... little black boys and little black girls will be able to hold hands with little white boys and white girls as brothers and sisters” - Martin Luther King Jr.<sup>1</sup>*

Hundreds of policemen began to assemble in the mixed white and black residential districts of William Frantz Elementary school as the sun burned away the mist from the flowing Mississippi River. Black squad cars raced through the narrow streets between delicate New Orleans housing set among palms, oleanders, and crepe myrtle. Patrolmen in crash helmets dismounted from their motorcycles to direct the traffic. Police officers stationed themselves around the school and inside the halls. Plainclothes detectives established themselves around the crowd. They kept back screaming mothers and fathers from the school. Federal marshals made a final check and then drove to the home of a six-year-old girl named Ruby. It was her first day of school. This is the story of a little girl whose courage lit the way for equality in the public school system.

### **Early Life**

Ruby Nell Bridges was born on September 8th, 1954 in Tylertown, Mississippi to Abon and Lucille Bridges. Her birth coincided with the U.S Supreme Court’s landmark ruling on the Brown v. Education of Topeka, Kansas which “ended” racial segregation in public schools. After a while, Ruby’s parents decided life in Mississippi wasn’t the life they wanted for their children.

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<sup>1</sup> King, Martin Luther, Jr. "Speech." Washington, 28 Aug. 1963, Washington D.C. Speech.

Her mother, whose parents were sharecroppers, said “Sharecropping is hard work. On the day before Ruby was born, I carried 90 pounds of cotton on my back. I wanted a better life for Ruby.”<sup>2</sup> Hence the Bridges moved to New Orleans, also known as the Big Easy. Her father worked at a gas station and her mother stayed at home. Oblivious to the growing racial tensions around her, Ruby enjoyed playing jump rope, softball, and climbing trees. Little did Ruby know her life would soon be turned upside down.

### ***Brown vs. Board***

*“Can we honestly say that it doesn’t affect our security and fight for peace when negroes and others are denied their full constitutional rights?”- John F. Kennedy<sup>3</sup>*

Segregation. It is a word that has rung throughout history. From the Jim Crow Laws to Martin Luther King, discrimination has run rampant. Even after slavery was abolished, black Americans continued to be marginalized through diminished access to facilities, housing, education, and opportunities.<sup>4</sup> As Ruby grew up, the government was still debating segregation. Segregation-approving laws, known as the Jim Crow laws, reigned until the legal case *Brown vs. Board of Education* came before the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court voted it was unconstitutional to have laws forcing segregation between whites and blacks. They ordered the immediate desegregation of public schools in all states. Previously, states had control over their

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<sup>2</sup> Bridges, Ruby. Bridges, Ruby. *Through My Eyes*. New York, Scholastic Press, 1999*Through My Eyes*. New York, Scholastic Press, 1999

<sup>3</sup> Bridges, Ruby. Bridges, Ruby. *Through My Eyes*. New York, Scholastic Press, 1999*Through My Eyes*. New York, Scholastic Press, 1999.

<sup>4</sup> Savage, Karen, and Daryl Khan. "After 5 Decades Ruby Bridges Gets Applause Instead of Death Threats at School." *Youth Today*, 2017, [youthtoday.org/2016/](http://youthtoday.org/2016/) Accessed 13 Nov. 2019

ability to enforce discrimination. With the Supreme Court's ruling, that all changed. From there, in 1954, it was made known that legally enforced segregation of schools would come to an end. Three years later, in the year 1957, nine black students enrolled in a white school in Little Rock, Arkansas. President Dwight D. Eisenhower ordered federal troops (soldiers with machine guns mounted on military jeeps) to protect the "Little Rock Nine". Yet even after those events in Little Rock Arkansas, Louisiana stayed segregated. The Louisiana state legislature kept trying to find loopholes in the law. However, John F. Kennedy had just been elected president, and segregationists knew that President Kennedy would not be sympathetic to their cause. Eventually, the federal court gave Louisiana a strict deadline for integration: September 1960.

### **Testing**

*"As an elected official, I feel it is my duty to provide public education, if possible on a segregated basis, but if not, on an integrated basis."* -School Board President Lloyd Rittiner<sup>5</sup>

In the days leading up to integration, everyone from the governor on down threatened to jail the school board president if he opened the schools.<sup>6</sup> Still, the integration proceeded. Soon black children were brought to be tested for school. Many believed that black children's brains were inferior and would not succeed in a white school. It was said that the test was supposedly very hard. The idea was that if they all failed the test, the schools could stay segregated longer. When Ruby was considered for testing, her father did not want her to go. Having fought in the Korean War, he experienced segregation on the battlefield, where he risked his life for his

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<sup>5</sup> Reckdahl, Katy. "Fifty Years Later, Students Recall New Orleans Integration." *NOLA.com*, 14 Nov. 2010, [www.nola.com/news/politics/](http://www.nola.com/news/politics/)

<sup>6</sup> Reckdahl, Katy. "Fifty Years Later, Students Recall New Orleans Integration." *NOLA.com*, 14 Nov. 2010, [www.nola.com/news/politics/article\\_c087accd-5bb7-5940-b062-8deadb53d0fc.html](http://www.nola.com/news/politics/article_c087accd-5bb7-5940-b062-8deadb53d0fc.html). Accessed 18 Nov. 2019.

country. He had faced the barrier that was segregation and it had not yielded. He thought Ruby would never be treated as an equal.<sup>7</sup> Nevertheless, her mother insisted she go and be tested, not just for Ruby's education, but for "all black children."<sup>8</sup> In the end, Ruby was tested. Then one night, neighbors and friends came to the Bridges household, congratulating Ruby. She and five other girls had been selected to integrate the New Orleans schools. Her parents were shocked. How, out of all the children that had been tested, was Ruby chosen? Ruby, however, being an innocent little girl, did not even know what was going on. When everyone came to her house, praising her for passing and telling her she was "so smart," six-year-old Ruby thought she was so smart she had completed the test to go from Kindergarten to college.<sup>9</sup>

### **The First Day of School**

Initially, Ruby was supposed to start school at the same time as everyone else, but the Louisiana Legislature managed to postpone it. Finally, on November 14, 1960, Ruby had her first day of school. Out of the six children who passed the testing, only four of the children integrated a school. Two children were pulled out by their mothers, and Leona Tate, Tessie Prevost, and Gail Etienne were integrating McDough 19 public school. This meant Ruby was alone. Police Superintendent Giarrusso refused to protect the children going to school that day, so the government enlisted federal marshals to protect Ruby and the other children attending.<sup>10</sup> Wearing a starched white dress, matching white ribbons and ruffled socks, Ruby stepped into the car that was going to drive her to school. When they reached William Frantz it was almost a

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<sup>7</sup> Biography for Kids." *Ducksters*, 2019, [www.ducksters.com/history/civil\\_rights/ruby\\_bridges.php](http://www.ducksters.com/history/civil_rights/ruby_bridges.php). Accessed 21 Oct. 2019.

<sup>8</sup> Lewis, Jone Johnson. "Ruby Bridges Six Year Old Hero of the Civil Rights Movement." *ThoughtCo*, 19 July 2019, [www.thoughtco.com/ruby-bridges-biography-4152073](http://www.thoughtco.com/ruby-bridges-biography-4152073). Accessed 23 Oct. 2019.

<sup>9</sup> Hall, Ruby Bridges. Interview. 21 Feb. 2017.

<sup>10</sup> Ruby Bridges: Honorary Deputy." *U.S Marshals Service*, U.S Department of Justice, 14 Nov. 2019, [www.usmarshals.gov/history/bridges/index.html](http://www.usmarshals.gov/history/bridges/index.html). Accessed 14 Nov. 2019.

carnival atmosphere. Women in bright toreador pants, their hair done up in curlers, struck poses in front of cameras, kidding policemen and reporters.<sup>11</sup> Children waving Confederate flags dashed up and down the street grabbing drinks from a truck bearing a sign that read “For white mothers only.”<sup>12</sup> Ruby arrived at school eager and excited. She could see people all around the school, shouting and throwing things. What a celebration! In her six-year-old mind, she thought it was Mardi Gras. When looking back on her experience Ruby said, “I didn’t know what was going on. When I went inside and saw everyone running around, I thought ‘Wow- college is busy.’”<sup>13</sup> Generations later, the photograph of Ruby walking into the school amidst hollering protesters is now immortalized as a photo of the Civil Rights Era<sup>14</sup>. When Ruby and her mother got inside, they sat in the principal's office for the rest of the day, watching as mothers stormed in and took their children out of school. 500 children were taken out of school that day. Many mothers believed that black children had strange diseases that could affect their children.<sup>15</sup> Others believed that a black child would drag the school down academically. When the school day ended, Ruby grinned at her mother. “College is easy!” she giggled. When they left the school, it was the same routine. Two marshals in front, two in the back. As they passed the mob, many threatened to kill Ruby, but she was oblivious. When she got home, Ruby went to go play with her friends. Lucille Bridges later commented, “Ruby was special. I wanted her to have a

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<sup>11</sup> Good Housekeeping Magazine. Apr. 1962, [www.goodhousekeeping.com](http://www.goodhousekeeping.com). Accessed 30 Oct. 2019.

<sup>12</sup> Good Housekeeping Magazine. Apr. 1962, [www.goodhousekeeping.com](http://www.goodhousekeeping.com). Accessed 30 Oct. 2019.

<sup>13</sup> Savage, Karen, and Daryl Khan. "After 5 Decades Ruby Bridges Gets Applause Instead of Death Threats at School." *Youth Today*, 2017, [youthtoday.org/2016/](http://youthtoday.org/2016/) Accessed 13 Nov. 2019.

<sup>14</sup> See Appendix B

<sup>15</sup> Savage, Karen, and Daryl Khan. "After 5 Decades Ruby Bridges Gets Applause Instead of Death Threats at School." *Youth Today*, 2017, [youthtoday.org/2016/01/after-5-decades-ruby-bridges-gets-applause-instead-of-death-threats/](http://youthtoday.org/2016/01/after-5-decades-ruby-bridges-gets-applause-instead-of-death-threats/). Accessed 13 Nov. 2019.

good education so she could have a good job when she grew up. There were things I didn't understand. I didn't know Ruby would be the only black child in the school. I didn't know how bad things would get. I remember being afraid the first day Ruby went to school when I came home and turned on the television set and realized that, at that moment, the whole world was watching my baby and talking about her. At that moment, I was most afraid."<sup>16</sup> As police set up barriers around the block to stop anyone that didn't live there from coming in, Ruby taught her friends a new jump rope chant she had learned that day: "Two, Four, Six, Eight, we don't want to integrate." They didn't know what the words meant, but they would jump rope to it every day after school.<sup>17</sup> In the tense days following the first day of school, people didn't just protest in front of the school. Violence was growing throughout the Big Easy. Yet Ruby kept going to school, even though teachers refused to teach her. Norman Rockwell created one of his most famous paintings of Ruby walking to school, titled "The Problem We All Live With".<sup>18</sup> That week was hard for Ruby, but soon a miracle would occur. Her name was Barbara Henry.

### **Barbara Henry**

Barbara Henry was a white Boston native who had moved to New Orleans to teach school. When asked if she was willing to teach an integrated class, she accepted, but she did not receive the warm welcome she expected. "I clearly remember my concern as to how to get to the school's front door, as I presumed soon a class full of students would be waiting for me."

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<sup>16</sup> Biography for Kids." *Ducksters*, 2019, [www.ducksters.com/history/civil\\_rights/ruby\\_bridges.php](http://www.ducksters.com/history/civil_rights/ruby_bridges.php). Accessed 21 Oct. 2019.

<sup>17</sup> Bridges, Ruby. *Through My Eyes*. New York, Scholastic Press, 1999.

<sup>18</sup> Rockwell, Norman. *The Problem We All Live With*. 1964, The Norman Rockwell Museum. See Appendix A

Barbara said, “Duty first, honor always, self last was my motto that day as I walked through a sea of protesters. I rang the doorbell and waited. Twice refused entry and for not knowing what else to do, I rang the doorbell again and the door opened with the apology that I appeared to them as a reporter.”<sup>19</sup> It was that day when Mrs. Henry met her only student, Ruby Bridges. It wasn’t long before Ruby and Mrs. Henry became close. The other teachers shunned Barbara due to the fact that she taught a black child, so Ruby and Mrs. Henry spent most of their time together. Ruby idolized her fashionable teacher and Barbara told everyone how Ruby was “such a sweet and smart child.”<sup>20</sup> Still, trouble ensued for Ruby. Many threatened to poison the six-year-old, so she was only able to eat food from home. Ruby began to recognize the danger she was in. For a time, she stopped eating lunch. She would take her sandwiches and hide them in a closet. She would pour her milk in the glue jar in the classroom. Soon, a janitor discovered the mice who had found the sandwiches. The incident led to Mrs. Henry eating in the classroom with Ruby. It also brought Dr. Coles into her life.

### **Dr. Coles**

The Bridges received a lot of support from others. They received money from families in the North and even a letter from Eleanor Roosevelt that her mother cherished. Unfortunately, Ruby’s mental health was getting worse. She began to have nightmares and a fear of eating anything other than chips and soda. She was afraid of poison and would always make sure her food was sealed.<sup>21</sup> Dr. Coles, a mental health therapist, was shocked to hear what Ruby was

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<sup>19</sup> Henry, Barbara. "In Her Own Words: Barbara Henry." *Judy Newman Scholastic*, Scholastic, 2019, [www.judynewmanatscholastic.com/blog/2017/11/barbara\\_henry/](http://www.judynewmanatscholastic.com/blog/2017/11/barbara_henry/). Accessed 18 Oct. 2019.

<sup>20</sup> Henry, Barbara. "In Her Own Words: Barbara Henry." *Judy Newman Scholastic*, Scholastic, 2019, [www.judynewmanatscholastic.com/blog/2017/11/](http://www.judynewmanatscholastic.com/blog/2017/11/)

<sup>21</sup> Lewis, Jone Johnson. "Ruby Bridges Six Year Old Hero of the Civil Rights



going through, so he volunteered his services to help the girl. Soon Ruby began to progress. She told Dr. Coles how she would always pray for the scary people because Jesus prayed for those “who were mean to him.”<sup>22</sup> Dr. Coles helped her know her family and friends loved her and that she would always be safe.

### **The Later Half of the Year**

As the year progressed, protests didn't stop. Once or twice Mrs. Henry got permission for Ruby to walk in the schoolyard. Ruby saw men standing off in the corner of the playground. She later learned that they were plainclothes detectives tasked with protecting her.<sup>23</sup> Mrs. Henry remembered, “I had to be very secretive. Few people even knew where I was teaching, because I didn't know who could be trusted. It was a dangerous time.”<sup>24</sup> Sometime in the spring, Mrs. Henry found out there were three first graders who had been going to school lately. The principal had told her that no other first-graders had been attending. She was stunned when she found out. She thought it was cruel to keep Ruby isolated for so long. She talked to the principal to let them play and learn together, but the principal refused. Finally, after threatening to call the superintendent, the principal gave in.<sup>25</sup> The two girls and one boy would have class with Ruby for part of the day. Soon they began to play together.<sup>26</sup> It was progress. Then, the school year

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Movement." *ThoughtCo*, DotDash, 19 July 2019, [www.thoughtco.com/ruby-bridges-biography-4152073](http://www.thoughtco.com/ruby-bridges-biography-4152073). Accessed 23 Oct. 2019.

<sup>22</sup> Judson, George. "Child of Courage Joins Her Biographer." *New York Times* [New York City], 1 Sept. 1995. *New York Times*

<sup>23</sup> Ruby Nell Bridges." *Fun Facts*, 2019, [rubybridges101.weebly.com/fun-facts.html](http://rubybridges101.weebly.com/fun-facts.html). Accessed 23 Oct. 2019.

<sup>24</sup> Henry, Barbara. "In Her Own Words: Barbara Henry." *Judy Newman Scholastic*, Scholastic, 2019, [www.judynewmanatscholastic.com/blog/2017/11/barbara\\_henry/](http://www.judynewmanatscholastic.com/blog/2017/11/barbara_henry/). Accessed 18 Oct. 2019.

<sup>25</sup> Bridges, Ruby Nell, and Pam Foreman. Interview. Conducted by Sally Ann Roberts. This interview was conducted at the Louisiana Children's Museum.

<sup>26</sup> *Whatever Happened to Ruby Bridges*. NBCNews, 15 Jan. 2007, [www.nbcnews.com/id/16636708/ns/nbc\\_nightly\\_news\\_with\\_brian\\_williams/t/](http://www.nbcnews.com/id/16636708/ns/nbc_nightly_news_with_brian_williams/t/)

drew to a close. Mrs. Henry gave Ruby excellent grades at the end of the school year, but the principal threatened to change them. She claimed that Ruby had received so much personal attention that the grades were not accurate. After a large quarrel with Mrs. Henry, the grades more or less stayed the same.<sup>27</sup> Barbara still could not understand why the principal could be so vile to such an innocent little girl. Still, life went on. School ended and summer stretched on. The next year would be different.

### **Later Life**

Ruby went to school the next year in a truly integrated class. That year no one protested. It seemed people wanted to forget the year before. Ruby graduated from Francis Nicholls High and later went to Kansas City Business School. Ruby wanted to put her past behind her. She married Malcolm Hill and had four sons. Yet, her life changed when her brother was murdered in a drug-related shooting. While raising her now fatherless nieces, Ruby decided she would try and make a difference again. She started the Ruby Bridges Foundation to help combat racism throughout the United States.<sup>28</sup> On July 15th, 2011, Ruby met with Barack Obama at the White House. As they talked, he told her, "I think it's fair to say that if it hadn't been for you, I wouldn't be here."<sup>29</sup>

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whatever-happened-ruby-bridges Accessed 30 Oct. 2019.

<sup>27</sup> Savage, Karen, and Daryl Khan. "After 5 Decades Ruby Bridges Gets Applause Instead of Death Threats at School." *Youth Today*, 2017, [youthtoday.org/2016/01/after-5-decades-ruby-bridges-gets-applause-instead-of-death-threats/](http://youthtoday.org/2016/01/after-5-decades-ruby-bridges-gets-applause-instead-of-death-threats/). Accessed 13 Nov. 2019.

<sup>28</sup> Ruby Bridges Foundation." *Weebly*, [rubybridgesasingh.weebly.com/ruby-bridges-foundation.html](http://rubybridgesasingh.weebly.com/ruby-bridges-foundation.html). Accessed 31 Oct. 2019.

<sup>29</sup> Ruby Bridges Today." *Periscope*, 2019, [www.knowitall.org/ruby-bridges-today-periscope](http://www.knowitall.org/ruby-bridges-today-periscope). Accessed 31 Oct. 2019.

## Conclusion

The footprints of a child are small, but on November 14th, 1960 Ruby Bridges walked with purpose as she changed history.<sup>30</sup> She was one of the first black children to integrate a southern school and she did so with courage. She broke the barrier that said black children would not succeed in a white school. Today, Ruby Bridges is still celebrated throughout America. Multiple books were written about her, including her own autobiography. She has received the Presidential Citizen Award and many others. Through every step, Ruby pressed forward with courage and dignity, even though many abused her. She paved the way for African American education today. As Ruby later said, "I know now that experience comes to us for a purpose, and if we follow the guidance of the spirit within us, we will probably find that the purpose is a good one."<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>30</sup> Bridges, Ruby Nell, and Pam Foreman. Interview. Conducted by Sally Ann Roberts.

<sup>31</sup> Ruby Bridges Facts for Kids." *Kiddie Encyclopedia*, 1 July 2019, kids.kiddle.co/Ruby\_Bridges. Accessed 23 Oct. 2019.

## Appendix A



Known primarily as an illustrator, Norman Rockwell drew numerous pictures for magazines. This was one of his most important paintings, a painting of Ruby Bridges walking to school. This painting drew eyes and support to the Bridges family.

### Citation

Rockwell, Norman. *The Problem We All Live With*. 1964, The Norman Rockwell Museum.

## Appendix B



Ruby Bridges and marshals leaving William Frantz Elementary School, New Orleans, 1960. She was escorted both to and from the school while segregationist protests continued. This photograph has been canonized as a Civil Rights Era reminder.

### Citation

Byrd-McDevitt, Lori. "10 Facts about Ruby Bridges." *ChildrensMuseum.org*, 2019,

[www.childrensmuseum.org/blog/10-facts-about-ruby-bridges](http://www.childrensmuseum.org/blog/10-facts-about-ruby-bridges). Accessed 21 Oct.29

## Appendix C

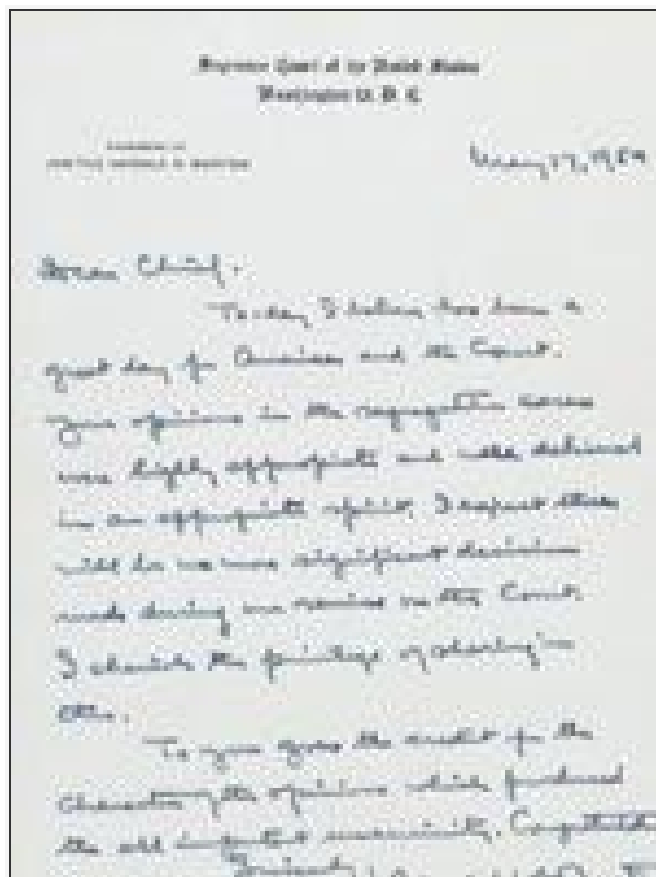


A newspaper declaring the news that the Brown vs Board of Education had passed through, changing American life forever.

### Citation

*The Russell Daily News* (Russell, Kansas), Monday, May 17, 1954. Historic Events Newspaper Collection, Serial and Government Publications Division, Library of Congress (84)

## Appendix D



Associate Justice Harold H. Burton sent this note to Chief Justice Earl Warren on the day that the Supreme Court's decision in *Brown v. Board* was announced. He said, “Today I believe has been a great day for America and the Court. . . . I cherish the privilege of sharing in this.”

### Citation

Harold H. Burton to Earl Warren, May 17, 1954. Holograph letter. Earl Warren Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress (82)

## Appendix E



A second grade Ruby, playing with her white friends. Eventually true integration was brought into William Frantz and this was the result.

### Citation

Lewis, Jone Johnson. "Ruby Bridges Six Year Old Hero of the Civil Rights Movement." *ThoughtCo*, DotDash, 19 July 2019



## Appendix F



Bridges travels around the country, speaking to kids and imparting her wisdom with the hopes that her truth will inspire further acceptance and inclusivity.

### Citation

Judson, George. "Child of Courage Joins Her Biographer." *The New York Times* [New York City], 1 Sept. 1995. *The New York Times*, [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)

## Bibliography

### Primary Sources

Bridges, Ruby. *Through My Eyes*. New York, Scholastic Press, 1999.

The book was written by Ruby Bridges herself. It was full of pictures of Ruby and was written in first person. It also had quotes from Barbara Henry, the court marshals, and other people who were close to Ruby. It noted other families who were not as well known, but helped Ruby through that tough time. I got the book from the Mckay Library at Brigham Young University- Idaho.

Bridges, Ruby Nell, and Pam Foreman. Interview. Conducted by Sally Ann Roberts.

This interview was conducted at the Louisiana Children's Museum. Pam Foreman and Ruby Bridges were interviewed about the school year.

Hall, Ruby Bridges. Interview. 21 Feb. 2017.

This was a video that can be found on Youtube. It showed Ruby (Bridges) Hall talking in an interview about her experiences on November 14th, 1960. She shared how overcoming racism takes the heart of a child.

Henry, Barbara. "In Her Own Words: Barbara Henry." *Judy Newman Scholastic*, Scholastic, 2019, [www.judynewmanatscholastic.com](http://www.judynewmanatscholastic.com) Accessed 18 Oct. 2019.

This source was a website about what Barbara Henry( Ruby Bridges first grade teacher) thought on the first day of school. It was all about Barbara's view on the New Orleans integration. It was full of wonderful information, and had many good quotes.

King, Martin Luther, Jr. "Speech." Washington, 28 Aug. 1963, Washington D.C. Speech.

I was able to read the 'I have a Dream Speech' and use it as context for the Civil Rights Era. I also was able to quote this inspiring speech.

Rockwell, Norman. *The Problem We All Live With*. 1964, The Norman Rockwell Museum.

This painting was painted by Norman Rockwell. For a period of time, it was located in the White House until it was relocated to the Norman Rockwell Museum. It depicts Ruby Bridges' first day of school. This helped me see what Ruby's first day of school was from an outsider's point of view.

"Segregation in Schools Is Outlawed." *The Russell Daily* [Russell, Kansas], 17 May 1954.

*Library of Congress*, [www.loc.gov/exhibits/brown/brown-brown](http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/brown/brown-brown). Accessed 16 Jan. 2020.

This was a newspaper article detailing the announcement that school segregation was outlawed. It was found in the Library of Congress archives and was a key source to see how people reacted to the news.

## **Secondary Sources**

"The Aftermath- Brown V. Board." *Library of Congress*, 2019, [www.loc.gov/brown/brown-aftermath.html](http://www.loc.gov/brown/brown-aftermath.html).

This source provided not only information about Ruby Nell Bridges, but provided detailed descriptions of every important step to school integration. It showed other schools that integrated at the same time as well.

"Bay Area Students Honor Ruby Bridges." *Kron 4 News*, uploaded by Sara Stinson, [www.kron4.com/news/bay-area/bay-area-students-participate-in-ruby-bridges-walk-to-school-day/](http://www.kron4.com/news/bay-area/bay-area-students-participate-in-ruby-bridges-walk-to-school-day/). Accessed 15 Nov. 2019.

This was a news article about how San Francisco students walked to school with the mayor on November 14th to commemorate Ruby Bridges' infamous walk to school.

Biography.com Editors. "Ruby Bridges." *Biography.com*, A&E Television Networks, 9 Oct. 2019, [www.biography.com/activist/ruby-bridges](http://www.biography.com/activist/ruby-bridges). Accessed 21 Oct. 2019.

This is one of the best websites I found. It was absolutely full of information. It was amazing. It included facts, quotes, and so much more.

"Biography for Kids." *Ducksters*, 2019 [www.ducksters.com/history/civil\\_rights/ruby\\_bridges.php](http://www.ducksters.com/history/civil_rights/ruby_bridges.php). Accessed 21 Oct. 2019.

This was a very good source because it included many things about what happened after Ruby went to first grade. It also included many extra facts about Ruby before she went to school.

Byrd-McDevitt, Lori. "10 Facts about Ruby Bridges." *ChildrensMuseum.org*, 2019, [www.childrensmuseum.org/blog/10-facts-about-ruby-bridges](http://www.childrensmuseum.org/blog/10-facts-about-ruby-bridges). Accessed 21 Oct. 2019.

This site listed ten facts about Ruby Bridges. It was quite helpful and provided useful and correct information.

Dayes, Brie. "60 Unforgettable Things That Happened in the 60's." *MSN*, Microsoft News, 11 Oct. 2019, [www.msn.com//lifestyle/did-you-know/60plus-unforgettable-things-that-happened-in-the-60's](http://www.msn.com//lifestyle/did-you-know/60plus-unforgettable-things-that-happened-in-the-60's) Accessed 30 Oct. 2019.

This article pointed out other important things that happened in the 60's besides Ruby Bridges.

*Good Housekeeping Magazine*. Apr. 1962, [www.goodhousekeeping.com](http://www.goodhousekeeping.com). Accessed 30 Oct. 2019.

This article was found in the April Issue of the 1962 Good Housekeeping Magazine. It provided information on Yolanda Gabrielle and her mother, Daisy Gabrielle.

Hale, Benjamin. "The Open Door Policy of Forced Desegregation." *History Cooperative*, 2019, [historycooperative.org/open-door-policy-forced-desegregation-ruby-bridges/](http://historycooperative.org/open-door-policy-forced-desegregation-ruby-bridges/). Accessed 13 Nov. 2019.

This source provided in much detail the process of the forced school integration. It also provided detail on Ruby's life.

Judson, George. "Child of Courage Joins Her Biographer." *New York Times*, 1995, [www.nytimes.comny region/child-courage-joins-her-biographer-child-courage-joins-child-courage-joins-her-biographer-pioneer-integration-honored-with-author-she.html](http://www.nytimes.comny region/child-courage-joins-her-biographer-child-courage-joins-child-courage-joins-her-biographer-pioneer-integration-honored-with-author-she.html). Accessed 30 Oct. 2019.

This source was a newspaper article in the New York Times. It talked about how Ruby Hall reunited with her psychologist (Dr. Coles) to promote her new charity.

Lewis, Jone Johnson. "Ruby Bridges Six Year Old Hero of the Civil Rights Movement." *ThoughtCo*, DotDash, 19 July 2019, [www.thoughtco.com/ruby-bridges-biography-4152073](http://www.thoughtco.com/ruby-bridges-biography-4152073). Accessed 23 Oct. 2019.

Jone Johnson provided a wonderful insight into the later years of Ruby Bridges education. She also contributed insight on the effect Ruby had on her peers.

Mac, Toby, and Michael Twait. "In a Class of Only One." *CBN*, 2004, [www.cbn.com/special/BlackHistory/UnderGod\\_RubyBridges.aspx](http://www.cbn.com/special/BlackHistory/UnderGod_RubyBridges.aspx). Accessed 31 Oct. 2019.

This was an amazing source. It provided a ton of information about Ruby and Dr. Coles's interaction. This source was where the 'pray' quote was found. It also provided information about Ruby's fear of poison.

Michaels, Debra. "Ruby Bridges." *National Women's History Museum*, 2015, [www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/ruby-bridges](http://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/ruby-bridges). Accessed 18 Oct. 2019.

This is a broad overview of Ruby Bridges life and experiences. It was written by Dr. Debra Michael. Dr. Michael has received a PHD from Merrimack College. It was written very well and gave you many general facts.

Reckdahl, Katy. "Fifty Years Later, Students Recall New Orleans Integration." *NOLA.com*, 14 Nov. 2010 [www.nola.com/news/politics/article\\_c087accd-5bb7-5940-b062-8deadb53d0fc.html](http://www.nola.com/news/politics/article_c087accd-5bb7-5940-b062-8deadb53d0fc.html). Accessed 18 Nov. 2019.

This was an incredible source. It provided information on Yolanda Gabrielle and Pam Foremen, two white girls who went to school with Ruby Bridges. It showed a different point of view, this time it was about two white girls who were abused for going to school with a black child. It provided quotes from them and vital information on the integration process.

Rodriguez, Annalisa. "Civil Rights Icon, Ruby Bridges, Reunites with Protector." *The Indianapolis Star* [Indianapolis], 6 Sept. 2013.

This was a newspaper article about when Ruby Bridges met with one of the U.S Marshals who escorted her to school.

"Ruby Bridges- Bio,Facts,Family." *Famous Birthdays*, 2019, [www.famousbirthdays.com/people/ruby-bridges.html](http://www.famousbirthdays.com/people/ruby-bridges.html). Accessed 23 Oct. 2019.

This source provided many fascinating facts about her personal life. It also talked about the 1998 TV movie, *Ruby Bridges*. It was very interesting.

"Ruby Bridges Facts for Kids." *Kiddie Encyclopedia*, 1 July 2019, [kids.kiddle.co/Ruby\\_Bridges](http://kids.kiddle.co/Ruby_Bridges). Accessed 23 Oct. 2019.

This site provided many photos and additional information that was very helpful. It was descriptive and full of facts. It went into further detail on her home life during this time.

"Ruby Bridges Foundation." *Weebly*, [rubybridgesasingh.weebly.com/ruby-bridges-foundation.html](http://rubybridgesasingh.weebly.com/ruby-bridges-foundation.html). Accessed 31 Oct. 2019.

This source provided vital information on The Ruby Bridges Foundation. It talked about their achievements and lasting impact. It showed where Ruby Bridges had been recently and many of her speeches.

"Ruby Bridges: Honorary Deputy." *U.S Marshals Service*, U.S Department of Justice, 14 Nov. 2019, [www.usmarshals.gov/history/bridges/index.html](http://www.usmarshals.gov/history/bridges/index.html). Accessed 14 Nov. 2019.

This was a government website and was about the U.S Justice Department. It talked about how they were bestowing the title of honorary deputy upon Ruby Bridges. The website helped you know more about the federal marshals protecting her.



"Ruby Bridges Today." *Periscope*, 2019, [www.knowitall.org/photo/ruby-bridges-today-periscope](http://www.knowitall.org/photo/ruby-bridges-today-periscope). Accessed 31 Oct. 2019.

This source talked about the life Ruby Bridges (Hall) led after she got married. There was information on her immediate family and extended family as well. It also showed what the Ruby Bridges Foundation was doing to combat racism.

"Ruby Nell Bridges." *Fun Facts*, 2019, [rubybridges101.weebly.com/fun-facts.html](http://rubybridges101.weebly.com/fun-facts.html). Accessed 23 Oct. 2019.

This source provided a lot of information on the books written about Ruby Bridges and her publishers. It talked about the process of gathering the information they used. Dr. Coles' effect on Ruby's mental health was also explored.

Savage, Karen, and Daryl Khan. "After 5 Decades Ruby Bridges Gets Applause Instead of Death ThreatsSchool." *YouthToday*, 2017. [youthtoday.org/2016/01at/after-5-decades-rubyafter-5-decades-ruby-bridges-/gets-applause-instead-of-death-threats/](http://youthtoday.org/2016/01at/after-5-decades-rubyafter-5-decades-ruby-bridges-/gets-applause-instead-of-death-threats/). Accessed 13 Nov. 2019.

This source showed Ruby Bridges visiting South Orange-Maplewood School District and delivering a speech. It delved into more of the abuse Ruby received on her way to school.

"Six Best Ruby Bridges Quotes." *AZQuotes*, 2018, [www.azquotes.com/author/38042-Ruby\\_Bridges](http://www.azquotes.com/author/38042-Ruby_Bridges). Accessed 18 Oct. 2019.

This website provided six of the most famous quotes that Ruby Bridges has said. It was used to see Ruby's personal thoughts on her infamous school year.

"Tulane University Awards Nearly 2,000 degrees." *NOLA*, 19 May 2012, [www.nola.com/news/education/article\\_d05c39c2-1ee0-56bc-9bdc-ca1ed74b15a1.html](http://www.nola.com/news/education/article_d05c39c2-1ee0-56bc-9bdc-ca1ed74b15a1.html).

This source provided a list of those who got degrees during 2012, the year that Ruby Bridges received her honorary degrees.

*Whatever Happened to Ruby Bridges*. NBCNews, 15 Jan. 2007, [www.nbcnews.com/id/16636708/ns/nbc\\_nightly\\_news\\_with\\_brian\\_williams/t/whatever-happened-ruby-bridges/#..](http://www.nbcnews.com/id/16636708/ns/nbc_nightly_news_with_brian_williams/t/whatever-happened-ruby-bridges/#..) Accessed 30 Oct. 2019.

This source talked about what Ruby Bridges was doing to improve racial integration in New Orleans today. It included a list of new classes the Ruby Bridges Foundation provides for William Frantz Elementary today.