

Ruby Bridges' Brave Step

by Latorial Faison

The year was 1960

The day, November 14th

When a little Black girl

Was brave in New Orleans

Her name was Ruby Bridges

Some called her Ruby Nell

She lived through segregation

And gained quite a story to tell

William Frantz Elementary

Would never be the same

It was no longer a White school

The day that Ruby came

On her first day of school

She was so strong and proud

She stepped boldly without stopping

Through fiercely threatening crowds

There were people filled with hatred

Who told Ruby to go back home

They did not want integration

They taunted Ruby to make it known

But little Ruby had protection

Her mother, US Marshalls, and her God

As she stepped into this new school

Her teacher, Ms. Henry, won her heart

Ruby was, sometimes, afraid

But she prayed and continued on

With her family, teacher, and community

She weathered integration's storm

Ruby Bridges' experience

Is a significant part of history

Her unwavering faith and courage

Resulted in what we now see

Schools all across America

Integrated and diverse

Children of every color and creed

Learning together, breaking the curse.

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