

Little People, **BIG DREAMS**

Rosa Parks



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Illustrated by Marta Antelo

Rosa grew up near Montgomery, Alabama, with her mother, brother and grandparents.



She was very little and very brave, and she always tried to do what was right.



When she was young, Rosa's grandparents told her stories about slavery, when black people weren't free to live like other people.



Slavery was over, but times were still hard for Rosa and her family. Black people were treated very badly and told they were not equal to white people.



Every day, Rosa watched the school bus go by taking white children to their big school. It didn't stop for her. She had to walk a long way to the one-room school that was just for black children.

Rosa knew this wasn't right. She knew she was a regular person, just as good as anyone else.



Lots of times, she had to make sure other people knew it too.

When Rosa grew up and got a job in the city, she couldn't use the same doors, lifts, bathrooms or water fountains as white people.

COLOURED

WHITE



COLOURED
WAITING ROOM

WHITE
WAITING ROOM

COLOURED
ENTRANCE



She could ride the bus, but she had to sit at the back. Her life was full of rules that she knew weren't right.



Rosa fell in love with a man named Raymond who was trying to change the rules to be more fair and equal.

Soon Rosa started working, too, trying to get more rights for black people and help for those who were treated badly. She worked day after day, even when it seemed like nothing would ever change.

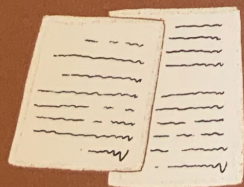
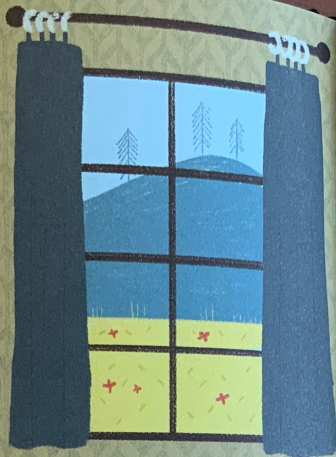




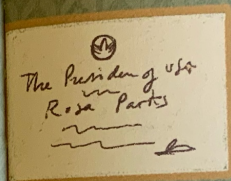
It was no longer safe for Rosa to live in Alabama. She moved to Detroit and fought for fair schools, jobs and houses for black people.



She fought for voting rights, women's rights and the rights of people in prison.



When Rosa was an older woman, she was given awards and told she was a hero. But she knew who she was.



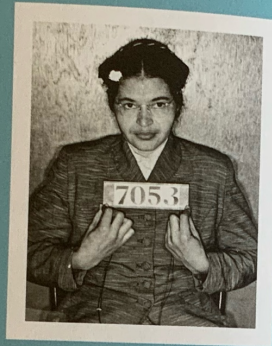
A regular person, just as good as anyone else. And she had work to do.

ROSA PARKS

(Born 1913 • Died 2005)



c. 1950



1955

Rosa Parks was an American activist and one of the most important figures in the civil rights movement. The grandchild of former slaves, she grew up with her mother, brother and grandparents on a small farm outside of Montgomery, Alabama, where she faced mean and unfair treatment because of her skin colour. She regularly resisted with bravery and dignity. It wasn't until she met her husband, Raymond Parks, that she learned about activism. At 30, she became a leader in the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP) in Montgomery and began working to end inequality.



1965



1984

When she was 42, Rosa was taken from a bus and jailed because she refused to give her seat to a white person. Her arrest brought the black people of Montgomery together to demand change and she helped lead them in a year-long boycott of the buses. Rosa's actions and hard work helped establish the civil rights movement. They also cost her family their jobs and safety. They moved north to Detroit, where Rosa was dismayed to find that great inequality persisted. She remained an activist for the rest of her life, helping many people and inspiring countless others with her bravery, dignity and determination in the ongoing fight for human equality.

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Rosa Parks

Discover the lives of outstanding people, from designers and artists to scientists. All of them achieved incredible things, yet each began life as a child with a dream.

Rosa Parks grew up in Alabama, where she learned to stand up for herself at an early age. Rosa went on to become a civil rights activist whose courage and dignity sparked the movement that ended segregation. She never stopped working for equal rights. This inspiring story of her life features a facts and photos section at the back.

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