

#3 (1-4)

The Fight for Freedom

Audrey Faye Hendricks had an unfair life, but she stood tall like a statue. She wasn't scared or nervous. She had courage. When Martin Luther King, Jr. asked Audrey to participate in the Children's March in May, 1963, in Birmingham, Alabama, she said yes. She was only nine years old and in 3rd grade! When her teacher heard, she cried. I understand that, because, she was risking going to jail. But still, she marched.

Audrey was a brave young girl to go to the Children's March, risking her own life for civil rights. She skipped school and went down to the Sixteenth Street (Baptist) Church. They sang songs and said prayers. During the march, there were 20-40 sheriffs to stop the children. Firefighters came and sprayed most of the children with water. Clothes were torn, and flesh was scraped. It was a horrific moment for poor little Audrey. Many children like Audrey were taken to Juvenile Hall (Jail). Audrey was taken into a room with five or six men. The men were all white and poor, poor, poor Audrey's heart was pounding. A wave of perspiration washed over her. Finally, one of the men asked her if they forced her to

march. Audrey said no, and told them about singing songs and prayers, and how they hoped they would have freedom to do other things. But poor little Audrey was put in jail for seven days. But after seven very long, lonely days, her parents came. Audrey was glad, glad, glad to see them. Her parents were so happy to see her and was very proud of her. But still, civil rights were not here.

If Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. asked me to march, I would have definitely said yes. I don't care if I was white, or if he didn't ask me. I can't stand people ~~not~~ being treated unfairly. I cannot believe how blacks were treated! It was so unfair. I would march and say how bad blacks were treated. If I was black, I also would have said yes. I would not like to be treated that way. I would want freedom! Everyone should be treated equally! No one is to be mauled!

Now you know an important part of Audrey's life. If you mix together unfairness, jail, fighting for freedom, braveness, courage, hope, inspiration, dreams, predicaments, passion, patience, and a big dilemma, you get Audrey Faye Hendricks life.