

# MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTTS

Who is this story for? Social Activists.

**MEMBERS OF THE MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION**

Everyday heroes.



**BLACK AND WHITE BUSES**

Ordinary world.



**SEGREGATION**

Compelling villain.



**ROSA'S REFUSAL AND ARREST**

Call to adventure.



**BOYCOTT BUSES**

Crossing the threshold.



**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR**

Mentor, allies and gifts.



**ROSA'S COURT CASE**

Challenge.



**BOYCOTT, BOYCOTT, BOYCOTT!**

Challenge.



**THE PIVOTAL COURT CASE**

Challenge.



**DESEGREGATION**

Better world.





Everyday heroes.



Ordinary world.



Compelling villain.



Call to adventure.



Crossing the threshold.



Mentor, allies and gifts.



Challenge.



Challenge.



Challenge.



Better world.



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**MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTTS**



## EVERYDAY HERO

The group or individual to be inspired to do things differently

Montgomery Improvement Association. Formed in the days following the December 1955 arrest of Rosa Parks, to oversee the Montgomery bus boycott. The organisation would play a leading role in fighting segregation in the city and produce some of the civil rights movement's most well-known figures. Within it, Rosa Parks, a quiet and respectable woman who believed in the fundamental power of speaking back, and an organising activist since 1943.



## ORDINARY WORLD

The everyday world which is increasingly frustrating for our hero to live in

White supremacists in power. Institutionalised everyday racism and its physical, psychological, economic, societal and cultural impacts. Unfair trials and no justice for black communities.



## CALL TO ADVENTURE

The trigger for change which could be the pull of inspiration or the push of necessity

Rosa Parks' refusal to get up from her seat and her subsequent arrest that triggered change in the form of a wider boycott and legal challenge.



## BETTER WORLD

The positive change to the hero and the difference the hero has made

Desegregation of buses. The bus boycott lasted a total of 382 days. It ended in December 1956 after bus companies throughout Alabama were forced to comply with a US Supreme Court ruling that segregation on public transport was illegal.



## CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

The first step and point of no return

Taking action by boycotting buses.



## ALLIES AND GIFTS

The people and help that is needed for change to happen

Bus Boycotters including Jo Ann Robinson, Viola White, Hilliard Brooks, Claudette Colvin and Rosa Parks. The National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP), The Woman's Political Council.



## MENTORS AND GIFTS

Giver of wisdom and support

Local pastor, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was at the time an ally who later became a mentor, particularly to the next generation of activists.



## COMPELLING VILLAIN

An attention-grabbing manifestation of the selfish behaviour that stands in the way of change

Segregation laws.



## THREE CHALLENGES

Three difficult but confidence-building hurdles to be overcome

1. Rosa Park's court case that created the opportunity to challenge the segregation law.
2. Encouraging others to boycott buses. A panicked press helped spread the word so the majority of Montgomery's black community boycotted buses on the first day of Rosa's court case.
3. Browder v. Gayle (1956). A case heard before a three-judge panel of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama on Montgomery and Alabama state bus segregation laws.