



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2014

HENRIETTE MUTEGWARABA

Henriette lived in Rwanda. She had two brothers and three sisters. Henriette remembers how much fun Christmas time was with all of her family.

Henriette's school teachers told her that she was different to her friends because she was a Tutsi and they were Hutus. Her friends stopped sharing with her and spread rumours about her. People began to say they would do bad things to her family. Soldiers said they would kill all Tutsis.

Going to school was difficult because people blocked the roads and school buses were blown up. Henriette's family decided that because it was dangerous Henriette should go and live in Burundi. Henriette had to hide in people's houses and try to sneak into Burundi when no one was looking. Eventually she paid two men to carry her on their shoulders across a big river into Burundi. In Burundi Henriette met an old man who said that she looked like him. He found relatives for her to live with. Henriette thought that all of her family had been killed by Hutus until one day she got a letter from her little sister. Her sister said she was in Rwanda with her aunty and they wanted to see Henriette again. Henriette went back to Rwanda.

Henriette finds it hard to live in Rwanda because it reminds her of the bad things that had happened. She works at the Kigali memorial museum helping other survivors and telling everyone about what happened. Henriette wants people who are different to be friends and not fight.

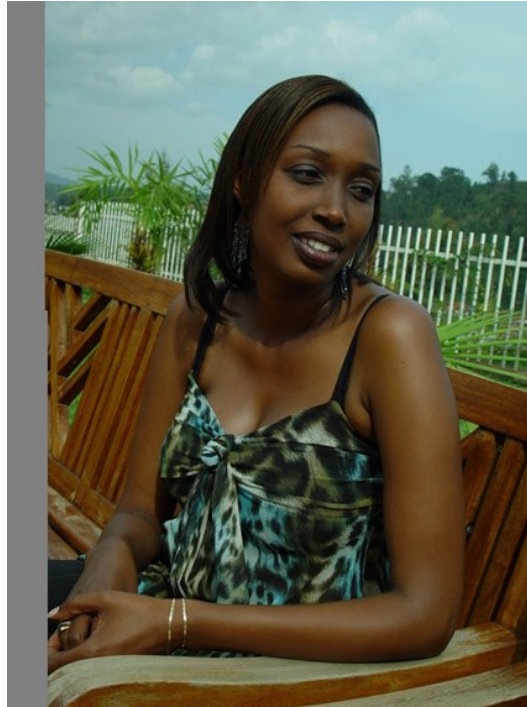




JOURNEYS

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This is a picture of Henriette now:



Henriette's family were killed in Rwanda by their neighbours because they were different. Henriette survived because she made a journey to live in Burundi. Henriette made another journey to come home and care for her sister.

Henriette works telling people about what happened when people in her country turned against those who were different to themselves. She does this because she hopes it will stop something bad like that from ever happening again.

