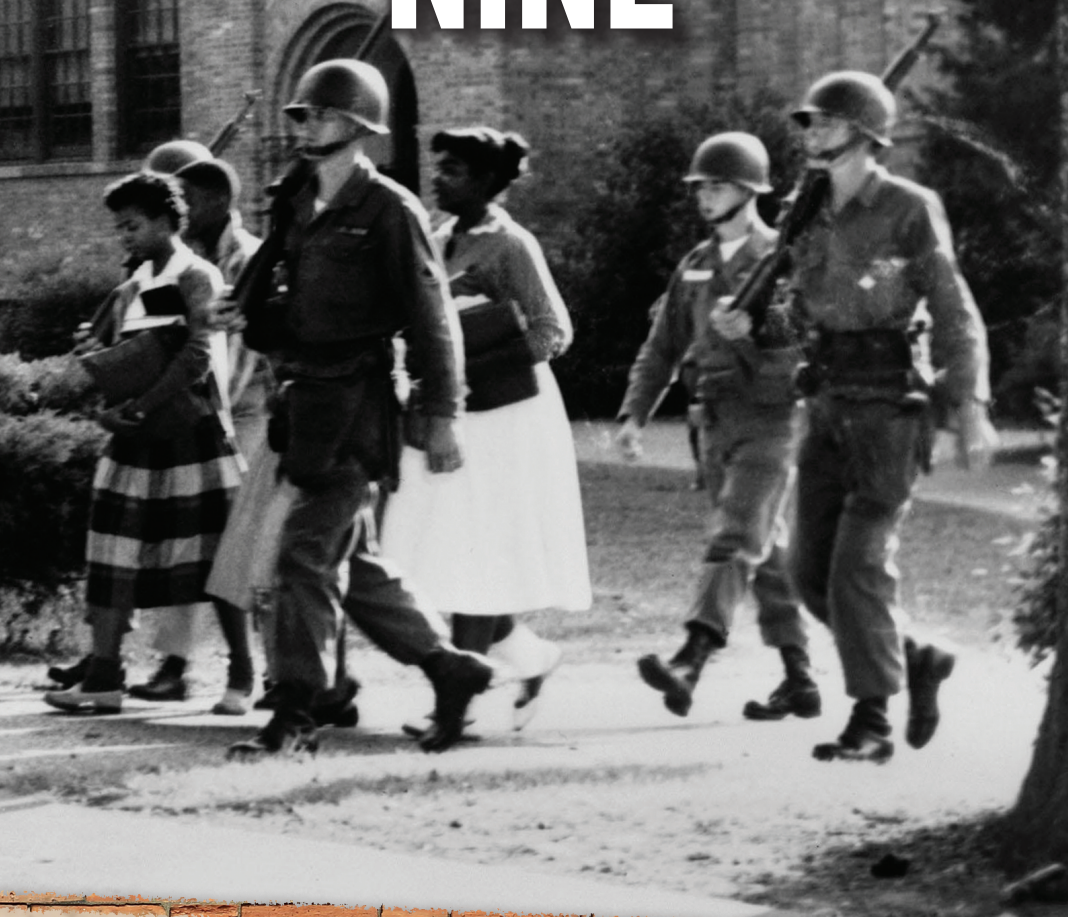


# LITTLE ROCK NINE



JOHN PERRITANO



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Chapter 1</b>	
A Long Journey .....	2
<b>Chapter 2</b>	
The Way Things Were .....	6
<b>Chapter 3</b>	
Building a Case .....	12
<b>Chapter 4</b>	
The Court Decides .....	18
<b>Chapter 5</b>	
Little Rock .....	20
<b>Chapter 6</b>	
The Governor Disagrees .....	26
<b>Chapter 7</b>	
The Big Day .....	30
<b>Chapter 8</b>	
The President Steps In .....	34
<b>Chapter 9</b>	
Troops Arrive .....	40
<b>Chapter 10</b>	
Things Change .....	44
<b>Glossary</b> .....	50



## Chapter 1

# A LONG JOURNEY

It was the 1950s.  
Linda Brown was 7 years old.  
She lived in Topeka, Kansas.

Linda was in third grade.  
Her school was far away.  
She walked six blocks.  
Then she rode a bus.  
Finally she got to school.  
It was a long trip.













There was a school that was closer.  
It was near Linda's house.  
Linda wanted to go there.  
But she was not allowed.

That school was for white children.  
Linda was African American.  
She was not welcome.



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## Chapter 2

# THE WAY THINGS WERE

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Life was different back then.  
Many states had special *laws*.  
They kept blacks and whites apart.  
These were called *Jim Crow laws*.





These laws were not fair.  
Rules were based on color.  
Blacks had to sit in the back of buses.  
They could not eat with whites.  
Whites and blacks could not marry.



### **Words of History**

Freedom Rider: a person who tested laws saying that people could not be treated differently while traveling using buses and trains in the South



# LITTLE ROCK NINE

What happened in Little Rock?

Were the nine students in danger?

How do you think they felt?

How has the world changed since then?

Have you ever been scared at school?

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