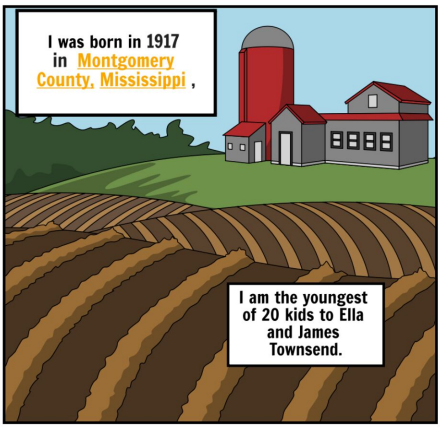
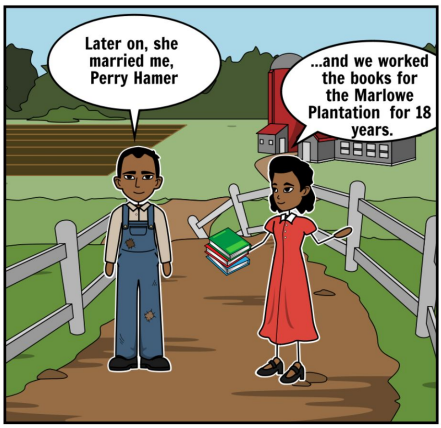
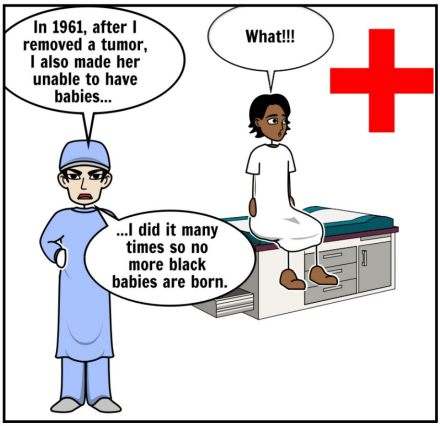
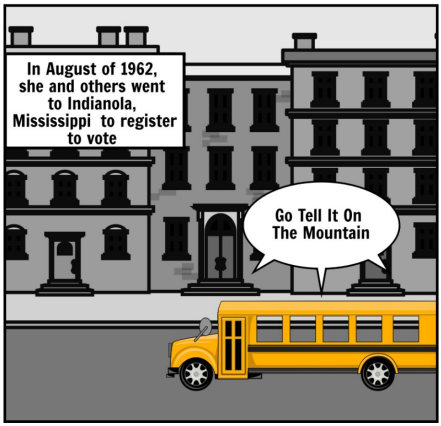

I was born in 1917 in Montgomery County, Mississippi ,
I am the youngest of 20 kids to Ella and James Townsend.

Part 6
I was picking cotton by age 6.

By 13, I could pick 200-300 pounds of cotton a day.
I had to drop out of school. I didn't like that at all.


Later on, she married me, Perry Hamer
...and we worked the books for the Marlowe Plantation for 18 years.

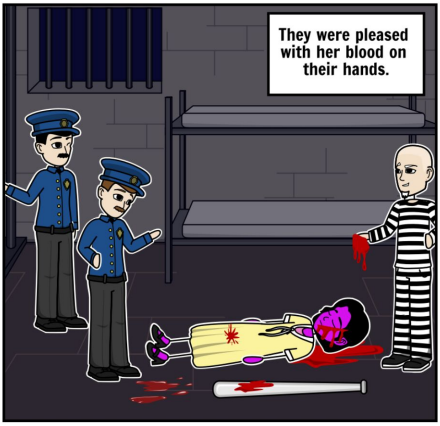

In 1961, after I removed a tumor, I also made her unable to have babies...
What!!!
...I did it many times so no more black babies are born.

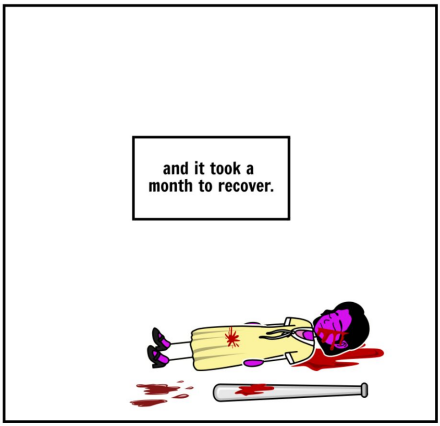

In August of 1962, she and others went to Indianola, Mississippi to register to vote
Go Tell It On The Mountain

On June 9th 1963, in Winona, Mississippi..

...her group was arrested on a false charge...

...Both inmate and the police beat her even when she screamed...

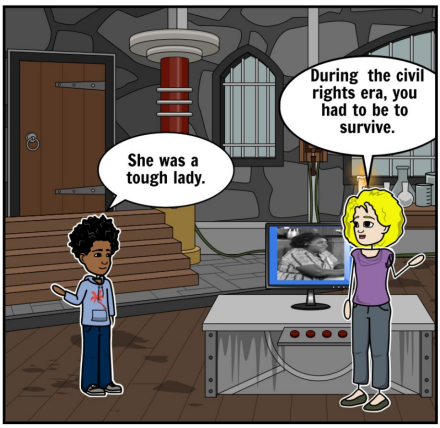

They were pleased with her blood on their hands.


and it took a month to recover.

In 1964, she was the vice-chair of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, which , was organized with the purpose of challenging Mississippi's all-white and anti-civil rights delegation to the Democratic National Convention, which failed to represent all Mississippians.

My name is Fannie Lou Hamer....

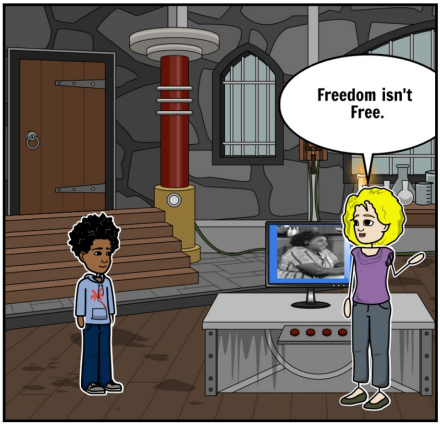
...And I'm sick and tired of being sick and tired!!!

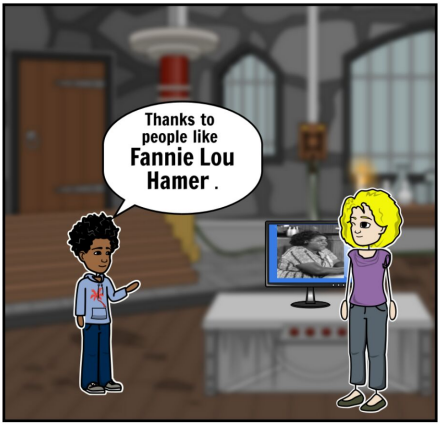

She was a tough lady.
During the civil rights era, you had to be to survive.

With the help of Fannie Lou and others...

...African Americans in the 20th century were allowed to vote.

One thing to remember...


Freedom isn't Free.


Thanks to people like Fannie Lou Hamer .