

*Montgomery Alabama*

*December 6, 1955*

*Dear Mom and Dad,*

*I'm sure you have heard that something big is happening in Montgomery. I realize now just how big this might turn out to be.*

*Last night, I covered a meeting at the Hall Street Baptist Church for the newspaper. The meeting was called by Montgomery's colored ministers following yesterday's boycott of the city's buses. The church was packed. Cars lined the street on both sides leading to the church, and hundreds of people stood outside listening to the speeches by way of loudspeakers. It was really something.*

*Never have I witnessed such determination and resolve. I think everyone there realized the significance of the moment. After years of discrimination-----years marked by humiliations, beatings, and lynchings-----these people were taking a stand; they were at last going to fight back. I could see it in their eyes. They were literally on fire for freedom.*

*Martin Luther King, Jr. who has recently become pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, addressed the audience. Few there, including myself, had ever heard of Dr. King, but few will easily forget him after his stirring speech. He urged those in attendance to rise up and protest against the injustices they had endured, but to do so" with dignity and Christian love." One minister told me afterwards that Dr. King is only 26 years old; I must say he is quite an impressive speaker for someone so young. I feel certain that he will emerge as a leader before this boycott is over.*

*I must hurry. I have another meeting to cover. Say hello to everyone for me.*

*Love,*

*Jordan*