

# The Day Everything Changed

---

**By Shiloh Grace Parker**  
**Age: 13 in May**  
**Word count: 300**  
**Phone: +263 719 068 549**  
**Parker's Corner HomeSchool**

"I don't want to go!" I said to my Gogo. "You'll get used to the bush, and it'll be an adventure." She said patting my hand. I rolled my eyes and looked out the window. "*Adventure? More like nightmare.*" I murmured to myself .

Fast forward 5 years, I'm almost 13 now, and if you were to tell 8-year-old me that I'd be swimming in croc infested waters, I would've called you crazy! But there I was five minutes ago. Living in the bush isn't how people make it out in movies. The only thing they got right is the snakes. I've killed three cobras in my room this week alone. I keep having to remind myself to look under the bed in case there's a snake.

But everything changed when I realized that everything I knew and loved back in the city is now just an old dream, the past. Out here, even the silence sounds like something.

Mama finally came to find me. "Are you coming for lunch at Amai Rudo's place?" she asked when she found me. "In a minute." I was trying to find out how to climb down from the ceiling. "Are you still mad at me for making you move away from Gogo and Sekuru to the land of snakes?" she asked. "I haven't forgiven you for the snake under my bed yesterday!" I told her.

"Look on the bright side," I told myself, "I still have you Ally-cat. You're the only one that I can trust right now. You'll scare the snakes away for me right?" I said quietly to my pet cat. I stayed a little longer. Gogo was right - I have gotten used to the bush. But she was also wrong, the bush became a part of me.