

Photographs

The chapter titled "Photographs" presents a series of impactful images that encapsulate significant moments in John Lewis's life and contributions to the civil rights movement. Each photograph is accompanied by a brief caption, providing context and detailing the events depicted.

- 1. **Early Years**:** The chapter begins with an image of a young John Lewis from around 1951, followed by a nostalgic photograph of the ten Lewis siblings likely taken in the early 1970s, highlighting his family background.
- 2. **Activism in Action**:** The narrative continues with historical moments of activism, including the January 1960 lunch-counter sit-ins in Nashville, where Lewis was actively involved. Key figures, such as C. T. Vivian, Diane Nash, and Bernard LaFayette lead events like the march on city hall in April 1960.
- 3. **Freedom Rides**:** Another significant photograph documents Lewis with fellow Freedom Rider Jim Zwerg, featuring the aftermath of a mob assault in Montgomery, Alabama. Lewis's resilience is further highlighted in a press conference after the Freedom Rides, where he appears with notable leaders like Martin Luther King Jr.
- 4. **Legacy of Leadership**:** The imagery hosts moments that signify Lewis's continuous role within the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). For instance, a photograph showcases him kneeling in Cairo, Illinois, during a protest that became iconic, and another captures the vibrancy of SNCC's folk festival featuring performances from artists like Bob Dylan.
- 5. **Civil Rights Milestones**:** The chapter progresses to crucial civil rights milestones, including the legendary March on Washington in 1963. Lewis's emotions are palpable in a photograph where he is seen editing his speech, which was considered the most "militant" of the day.
- 6. **March Across Selma**:** A pivotal series of images document the Bloody Sunday march across Selma's Edmund Pettus Bridge on March 7, 1965, illustrating the violence faced by marchers, culminating in the traumatic injury Lewis endured at the hands of state troopers. This day notably galvanized national support for voting rights.
- 7. **Later Years and Legacy**:** The chapter concludes with photographs that chronicle Lewis's later endeavors, including his run for Congress, his interactions with political leaders like Lyndon Johnson, and his ongoing commitment to activism well into the 21st century. Memorable images capture him in moments of celebration, reflection, and continued advocacy against racial injustice, culminating in his visit to Black Lives Matter Plaza in 2020 shortly before his passing.

This collection of photographs provides not only a visual history of Lewis's life but also serves as a testament to his unwavering dedication to civil rights and social justice advocacy throughout several pivotal moments of American history.