

Ginelle Jean-Louis

Family Voyage Map

Interviewees:

-Mother: Francette (My mother)

-Great-Aunt from Mother side: Malou (known as the ugly duckling, but the most successful one in the bunch)

-Great-Aunt from Mother side: Cluadite (the loud crazy one with a lot of personality, not scared to say how she feels)

-Great-Uncle from Mother side: Rusell (the younger brother, but the one everyone goes to for help)

-Great Cousin from Mother side: Narchelle (Cluadite's daughter, who is 2 years older than me)

What am I searching for?

A little background on my family. When my grandma was born (in Haiti), her mother passed away, so her grandmother had the idea to have her father marry my great-grandmother sister (my grandmother's aunt), so they won't lose the rich guy. My grandmother was shipped away to be raised by her grandmother, while her aunt had about 9 other children with her father. She later on moved back in with them when her grandmother passed away. Unfortunately, I'm unable to interview my grandmother or my step-great grandmother/aunt since she has passed away, but I've always been curious about how the children felt about that dynamic. And how it affected their relationships.

Something else I might explore is why am I'm passive most of the time. I'm like to think of it as being considerate, but at times I think it's a bit unhealthy. It also has to do with my social anxiety, so I would love to learn if anyone else in my family has the same anxiety struggles (or any kind of intense anxiety) and if it's because of how we were raised.

Preview Questions:

1. When I was a kid I wanted to be...when I grew up
2. Describe your mother
3. Describe your father
4. The perfect family is one that...
5. Who was the special, favored child?
6. Who was the spoiled child?
7. Your courtship... Did you date a lot? Were you sexually active before marriage?
8. Did you ever get the birds and bees talk/Did you give it to your children?
9. Do you ever care about what people think of you?
10. What was the last thing you remember that made you anxious?