In The Color of Water, James McBride provides his readers with an autobiography of his life and a tribute to his mother, Ruth McBride (Ref-u409199). His mother came to America at a tender age and as Polish Jewish immigrants, they had a time settling in their new environment. Culture shock affected the family as they had a tough time adjusting to the environment. Ruth underwent sexual abuse under the hands of her father, Tateh, who threatened her if she told anyone about the encounter (Ref-u409199). Furthermore, hardships in life and chaotic family setting, Ruth forged ahead in life to make a better lifestyle for herself. She married Andrew Dennis McBride, who was a black man living in North Carolina, and devoted herself to serving her husband. However, her chaotic life as a child followed her in the marriage as she constantly faced abuse from McBride and with nowhere to turn to, she focuses on building herself and provide a better future for her children.