

Women of Resilience

Four mature women overcome trauma and celebrate the healing power of relationship.

A documentary film by Roselyn Kelada-Sedra

Subjects: Margaret, Ibtisam, Julianne, & Fété

My godmother, Margaret Davidson, experienced violent, sexual abuse, and yet she healed so completely that she modeled forgiveness to me. With her husband of 60 years beside her, she spoke her last words on camera for me, nine days before she died.

My mother, Dr. Ibtisam Kelada-Sedra, was removed from her home in Alexandria at age 4. She went through displacement and war in Egypt, yet she teaches me how to love.

Julianne Maslaby lived through her mother's death, father's and brother's suicide. Through her loving relationships, Julianne healed and now helps others as a therapist.

Fété Ngira-Batware Kimpiobi lost her mother as a child when she was displaced from the DR Congo. Ethnic war that threatened her family forced her to leave her home. Now, she supports other francophone, black women in white-dominated Niagara.

My own trauma forced me to re-evaluate the concept of resilience. What I saw was my mother, my godmother, women who went through trauma and came through it with love. Their loving hearts are the keys to their resilience. My own healing journey helped me see their inspiring resilience. I offer this film to celebrate women who let love shine through their cracks and show that broken people can heal.

