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Jabavu's journey

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ABSTRACT

This research report is in two sections. The first section comprises a reflexive and theoretical essay that provides the background and introduction to the biographical chapters. The significance and nature of this biography is given. Methods used to collect data are given, problems encountered are explained. Gaps in the biographical sections, results of yet inaccessible data, are noted.

The second section is in the creative non-fiction biography genre. It focuses on three distinct periods of Helen Nontando (Noni) Jabavu's life: 1961 - 1962 while she was an editor at *The New Strand* magazine in England; 1977 while she was a weekly columnist for the *Daily Dispatch* newspaper in South Africa; and the current period starting from her return in May 2002. Each chapter tells the story of her life, providing texture, colour and depth. The first two biographical chapters also delve into Noni's writings, attempting to understand her from these.