The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks

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Henrietta Lacks were part of one of the most influential stories in science history. She was a patient at Johns Hopkins Hospital who was diagnosed with cervical cancer in 1951. Her cancer cells were used for research and became the first immortal human cells in culture. These cells, known as HeLa cells, were used to develop the polio vaccine, develop gene mapping, and countless other scientific advancements. Henrietta Lacks was never informed about the use of her cells, and her family was not aware of her contributions until many years later. The story of Henrietta Lacks has been the subject of numerous books and films, and her legacy continues to inspire scientists and researchers around the world.