

# Colby



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## First Person

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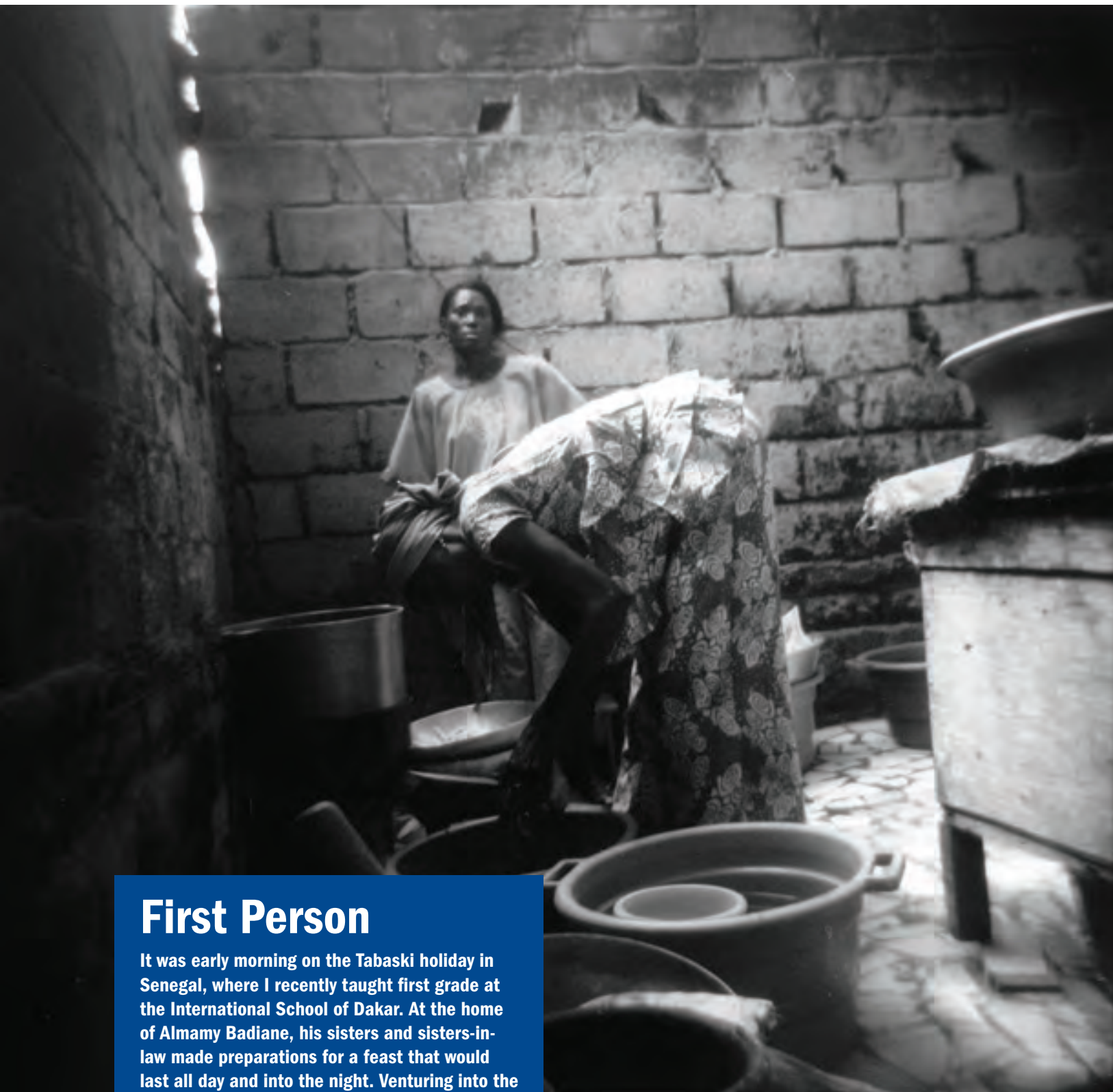
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## First Person

It was early morning on the Tabaski holiday in Senegal, where I recently taught first grade at the International School of Dakar. At the home of Almamy Badiane, his sisters and sisters-in-law made preparations for a feast that would last all day and into the night. Venturing into the outdoor kitchen with my dusty Holga medium-format camera, I was not unwelcome, but I knew my place as a guest was beside the host. My own plastic chair was waiting. The result was this image, which appears in a new book of short stories set in West Africa, *Everything Is Insha'Allah*, by Bradford Philen.

—Noah Balazs '06