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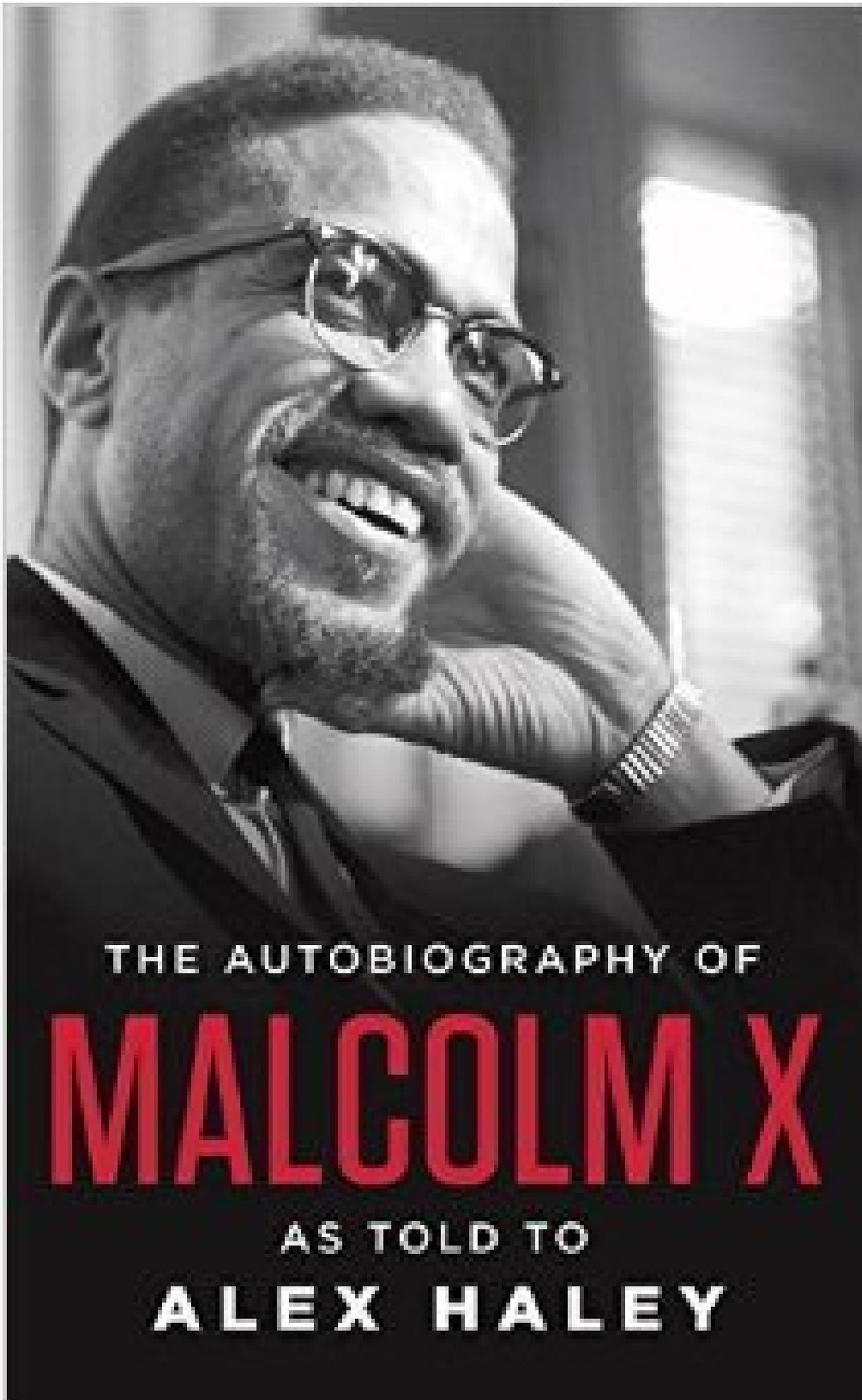
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Posted on 23 July 2019 By Malcolm X

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Download E-pub Á The Autobiography of Malcolm X ë Alternate Cover For ISBN Through A Life Of Passion And Struggle, Malcolm X Became One Of The Most Influential Figures Of The Th Century In This Riveting Account, He Tells Of His Journey From A Prison Cell To Mecca, Describing His Transition From Hoodlum To Muslim Minister Here, The Man Who Called Himself The Angriest Black Man In America Relates How His Conversion To True Islam Helped Him Confront His Rage And Recognize The Brotherhood Of All Mankind An Established Classic Of Modern America, The Autobiography Of Malcolm X Was Hailed By The New York Times As Extraordinary A Brilliant, Painful, Important Book Still Extraordinary, Still Important, This Electrifying Story Has Transformed Malcom X S Life Into His Legacy The Strength Of His Words, The Power Of His Ideas Continue To Resonate Than A Generation After They First Appeared



THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF

MALCOLM X

AS TOLD TO

ALEX HALEY

in such awe of this book and the man behind it that I don't think I can really give it a fair review. I came late to Malcolm X. I didn't pick up his autobiography until I was twenty five, during my third year teaching in the Bronx. He manages to so clearly articulate the injustice and anger that results from racism in America, and at the same time is unflinchingly honest regard his own life and his own failings. Following the progression of his thought and philosophy changed the way I thought about race, class, and America. He was murdered just as he was truly becoming a massive force in America and the World, and the potential that was lost with him is staggering. For everyone who thinks of Malcolm X only as violent and hating white people, you need to read this book. He was much more aggressive and uncompromising than Martin Luther King, but he was equally beautiful and inspiring. I've had enough of someone else's propaganda. I'm for truth, no matter who tells it. I'm for justice, no matter who it is for or against. I'm a human being first and foremost, and as such I'm for whoever and whatever benefits humanity as a whole. Malcolm X. In High School my history syllabus covered just a few pages on African American civil rights heroes. The majority of those pages were on Rosa Parks and Dr. Martin Luther King, Malcolm X was barely mentioned. After reading this book I was perplexed. I wonder why Malcolm X hasn't been given the same respect as Dr. King. He contributed so much to the civil rights movement as well, yet my knowledge on this man was very minimal. How did Malcolm Little become Malcolm X aka El Hajj Malik El Shabazz. This is what this book is all about. His transformation was remarkable especially as he spent time in foster homes and was a hustler in Detroit. He lived in an America where smart black kids were discouraged from being lawyers etc, and thus dropped out of school at young ages. It made me think for the umpteenth time just how can society malign and vilify black people, especially black men, when society itself is responsible for restricting them in the first place. Among the many things I admired about Malcolm X was his thirst for knowledge. He is a great advertisement for autodidacticism and how effective and transformative self education can be. I have often reflected upon the new vistas that reading opened to me. I knew right there, in prison, that reading had changed forever the course of my life. As I see it today, the ability to read awoke inside me some long dormant craving to be mentally alive. It was hard for me to read this book and not compare Malcolm X's philosophy to Dr. King's. I always thought I would adhere closely to Dr. King's peaceful, nonviolence philosophy, but after reading this book I do agree with Malcolm X's ideology as well. Not that I am advocating violence, but radicalness and action is sometimes needed, as are anger and indignation. As Malcolm X said, So early in life, I learned that if you want something, you had better make some noise. I feel there is so much to learn from both men so I won't say I prefer one doctrine over another. At the same time I wonder, how can people not become militant and revolutionary after having experienced so much cruelty and discrimination. Another thing I found interesting in this autobiography was Malcolm X's religious transformation from having been raised Christian, to entering the Nation of Islam NOI, he finally found his spiritual home in

mainstream Islam His depiction of his trip to Mecca in particular was very enlightening and a turning point in his life His adoration of Elijah Muhammad, the founder of the NOI, was quite sad, especially as Muhammad seems to have been a bit of a weirdo Muhammad said something along the lines of too short women marrying tall men and vice versa is ridiculous Also, he said that a man should ideally marry a woman half his age plus 7 years Malcolm is unapologetic about his views in this book and that's what I love best about this autobiography His writing is very candid and so informative This is an important book for all to read The prevalence of eurocentrism in the world is astounding and I don't think we really realize just how established it is Malcolm X dissected the race problem so well, I felt inspired. This book counts for a lot Cornel West says that one of the deepest fears for black America is that Malcolm X was fundamentally right, that the political system here is incapable of being changed through traditional means in order to serve the black community what they are due What are they due asks the conservative A share in the incredible wealth of the country that they have labored to build for hundreds of years, often against their own will, answers the REALIST self actualization, in whatever form that may take, answers Malcolm Malcolm X scares the hell out of people even today because of his refusal to accept the current democratic system as a way for African Americans to address their genuine bitterness towards a country that has screwed them over time and again He also refutes racist claims of white intellectual superiority, absorbing the whole canon of European philosophy while in prison, and responding to it with fierce criticism And he was a busboy in some of the greatest New York clubs that ever existed I dunno I'm another middle class white boy in the U.S who has absorbed from a young age dramatic pictures of black culture mostly negative that don't so much reflect the culture so much as reflect the fears imposed on it by the elite Malcolm X, along with Molefi Asante, Cornel West, Ishmael Reed, Zora Neal Hurston, James Baldwin, Toni Morrison all help to correct that skewed viewpoint. The voice of Malcolm X was powerful, unbridled and simply heroic He is one of the most quotable men of the twentieth century In fact, once he is motivated no one can change completely than the man who has been at the bottom I call myself the best example of that It is only after slavery and prison that the sweetest appreciation of freedom can come I believe in recognizing every human being as a human being neither white, black, brown, or red and when you are dealing with humanity as a family there's no question of integration or intermarriage It's just one human being marrying another human being or one human being living around and with another human being One of the strongest realisations Malcolm X had was learning exactly who he was As a political figure, his rhetoric was extraordinary But I will get to this much later in this lengthy review, for now though looking at his childhood experience helps to understand what shaped him. As a young black man in America, he was a man without a sense of true identity His African roots, though still in his blood, were far from evident in his people The culture he existed in is comparable to a murky mirror Very much in the vein of Franz Fanon's Black Skins White Masks, Malcolm

realised that the black folk acted like puppets the way they thought, and the way they behaved, was nothing short of extreme social conditioning They were indoctrinated with this idea, this idea that the white man was better thus, they tried to become white, by adopting white culture, rather than finding their own true sense of self And this is exactly what he addressed in his later arguments after his lessons under Elijah Muhammad and the Nation of Islam. However, some of his earlier experiences show the powers at play directly The young Malcolm experienced it all When at school studying history, the history of the negro was condensed down into a single paragraph in a Western textbook Let me say that again, one paragraph That s it, an entire history of a people summarised by a few sentences Simply put, the history of the black man, at least according to the white man here, didn t exist until he arrived in Africa with his slave boats He had no history before enslavement, and this is what these children were taught at school Chinua Achebe come eat your heart out Ignorance like this is why he wrote Things Fall Apart Malcolm was later told by another teacher that he could not become a lawyer because of his skin colour It s these kinds of rejections that planted the seeds of anger in his heart First though, before he would begin to walk his path, he would make a series of mistakes I could hear the sorrow in his voice as I read some of the words here When he was a very young man he broke a girl s heart, an experience that set her on a downward spiral You could say it ruined her life He bought into this idea that white is better and left her for all the prestige a white partner could bring him All in all, the young Malcolm, as he puts it, was deaf, blind and dumb as he walked away from a woman who clearly loved him He would make even mistakes as he got older He became a hustler and a drug pusher, then later a house breaker He was surrounded by a world of violence Few make it to old age in such a life, so he had only two possible exists death or prison But who is to blame I call these mistakes, but the reality of the situation is that they were merely pitfalls When Malcolm entered prison, it was only because the situation created by the white man lead him to the cell And at this moment in his life, arguable the lowest, when he sat in a prison cell bored to tears and full of rage he realised what true power was and where he could get it booksThe ability to read awoke inside of me some long dormant craving to be mentally alive He learnt to read, and did it so often he gained his trademark glasses After hearing the words of Elijah Muhammad, filtered through his brother s mouth, Malcolm came to understand the evils of western society He had become what the white man wanted him to be, so he changed rapidly He transformed himself drastically He learnt his full history that of the African American and then what he could of the African He embraced Muslim faith, slowly at first, but when he did he became incensed with the clarity it gave his mind Christianity, for him, became nothing than a mode of control the white man used on the blacks It forced them to their knees and made them worship a white god He wanted no part of it When he got out of prison he quickly became one of the most important men in The Nation of Islam He converted hundreds, and gave many speeches to the press He was second only to their leader He worked diligently for

twelve years, and then was ungracefully thrown out. Where did he go wrong? He didn't. He never did. He would have died for the nation. He was forced to leave because the leader was jealous and afraid of him, even after he continued to serve him, after he found out about his hypocrisy. Simply put, Malcolm put all his faith into a false bastion, twelve years of faith, and he still had the strength to carry on afterwards. He did not let it destroy him. He truly was a great man. But what of all his hate? Malcolm hated the white man. And from this power he drew his early success. His hate was justified, but it was very generalised. The white man committed terrible crimes in history, but it was also the general man on the street that would stick his nose up in the air and act superior on a day to day basis that would get Malcolm angry. It was out there. It kept happening, but this doesn't mean that was all that was out there. There were genuine white people who felt as Malcolm did, and perhaps they could have helped each other. But, that being said, I'm not sure he would have been as successful had his hate been tempered at the start. As he once said, "So early in my life, I had learned that if you want something, you had better make some noise." He needed the white man to know why he hated him. The wasted potential of X. Malcolm X did wonders for black pride in America. He did wonders for the civil rights movement despite his hatred, but the true tragedy is we will never know how much he could have done. When he was assassinated, he was at the peak of his intellect. He was at a moment where he realised that hatred wasn't necessarily the answer. After he became a full Muslim, in the traditional sense, after his pilgrimage to Mecca, he realised that Allah should have been his true guide, not the false Elijah Mohamed. He was ready to face the world, this time himself. He was ready to throw his true heart out there. He'd learnt from his experience as The Nation's number two Muslim, and he was going to put his ideas into practice. But he was cut short, and the world weeps. He is often criticised for his hatred, but rarely recognised for what he became in the end. We will never know how far he could have gone with his Muslim Mosque Inc group. Could he have rivalled The Nation of Islam? Could he have sped up black rights even further? We shall never know, and that is why his potential was wasted. He always knew he would die by violence, and perhaps as he grew older he would have developed even further. Malcolm X is a contentious figure even today, but he is a man who must be studied to be understood. Hearing his words, his anger, is not enough. We need to know where it came from and why it was born. This autobiography is honest, brutal and, above all, simply an outstanding piece of writing. There's so much to be gained from reading this.

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