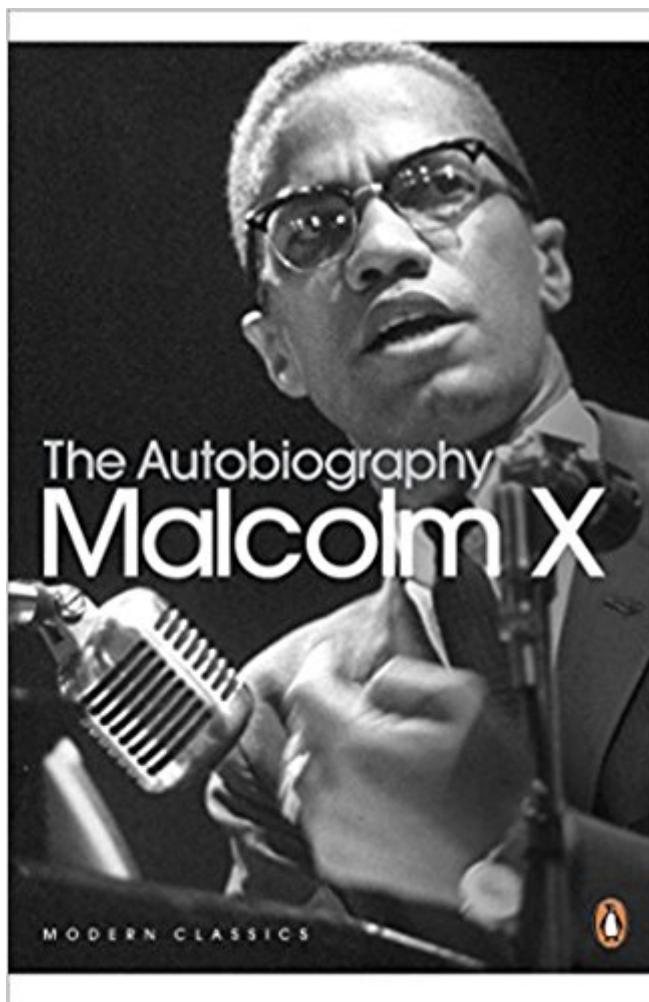


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# The Autobiography Of Malcolm X (Penguin Modern Classics)



## Synopsis

Malcolm X's *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* was written in collaboration with Alex Haley, author of *Roots*, and includes an introduction by Paul Gilroy, author of *The Black Atlantic*, in Penguin Modern Classics. From hustling, drug addiction and armed violence in America's black ghettos Malcolm X turned, in a dramatic prison conversion, to the puritanical fervour of the Black Muslims. As their spokesman he became identified in the white press as a terrifying teacher of race hatred; but to his direct audience, the oppressed American blacks, he brought hope and self-respect. This autobiography (written with Alex Haley) reveals his quick-witted integrity, usually obscured by batteries of frenzied headlines, and the fierce idealism which led him to reject both liberal hypocrisies and black racialism. Vilified by his critics as an anti-white demagogue, Malcolm X gave a voice to unheard African-Americans, bringing them pride, hope and fearlessness, and remains an inspirational and controversial figure. Malcolm X (1925-65), born Malcolm Little in Omaha, and also known as El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, lost both his parents at a young age. Leaving school early, he soon became part of Harlem's underworld, and in 1946 he was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. It was in prison that Malcolm X converted to Islam. Paroled in 1952, he became an outspoken defender of Muslim doctrines, formed the Organization of Afro-American Unity in 1963, and had received considerable publicity by the time of his assassination in 1965. If you enjoyed *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, you might like Nelson Mandela's *No Easy Walk to Freedom*, also available in Penguin Modern Classics. 'This extraordinary autobiography is a brilliant, painful, important book' *The New York Times*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Extraordinary . . . a brilliant, painful, important book \* New York Times \* --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

If there was any one man who articulated the anger, the struggle, and the beliefs of African Americans in the 1960s, that man was Malcolm X. His AUTOBIOGRAPHY is now an established classic of modern America, a book that expresses like none other the crucial truth about our times."Extraordinary. A brilliant, painful, important book."TEH NEW YORKTIMES --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Let me be crystal clear and extremely frank in this review. The Autobiography of Malcolm X is my FAVORITE book and, I believe, one of the most important books written in the 20th Century. There have been many printings of this book and they have had slight alterations throughout their publishing. The original 1965 edition came with photos. There have always been three missing chapters that are still held by a private owner. However, Penguin Modern Classics has reprinted this essential piece of literature anew-WITHOUT THE ORIGINAL EPILOGUE or Ossie Davis' contributions to the work. This means, essentially, THAT THE ASSASSINATION HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THE BOOK! Reading this version of the book will leave the reader wondering how Malcolm was assassinated, who was responsible and so forth. In addition, the first page of the book is a generalizing synopsis that has the audacity to claim that Malcolm advocated change through the vehicle of violence. Anyone who has read the complete Malcolm X Autobiography in depth knows fully well that this is untrue, an absolute falsity and misrepresentation that can lead to dangerous miscalculations. Omitting the Epilogue, for a topic this serious, is not only censorship, but one must conclude that it was done intentionally. If it was done intentionally, the only real motive could be to mislead a new generation of people trying to learn THE TRUTH about Malcolm. It's a shame that they won't be able to find all of it in his own book!

This man is amazing and yes angry. Once he opened his mind to the true characteristics of Islam his heart changed. Unfortunately Malcolm X was the mouthpiece for Elijah Muhammad. Malcolm X grew the Nation of Islam in the United States making Elijah Muhammad an important figure in the

Nation of Islam. Malcolm had to confront his own blind devotion and belief in Elijah Muhammad. Malcolm X had the mind of a brilliant scholar or lawyer and helped build most of the mosques in the U.S. His autobiography is shocking and telling and what he learned and knew of white people is appalling. Raw and real are words that adequately describe this autobiography of Malcolm X.

Excellent Book! Very compelling. I recommend this book to anyone interested in learning more about civil rights and the history of America. This book gives a very detailed account of Malcolm's life - but more importantly, clarifies his positions on topics such as; race, politics and white supremacy. Alex Haley does a great job of telling Malcolm's story from a boy growing up in Detroit to his time spent in Harlem and Boston. More importantly, he takes the reader on a journey that connects key events in Malcolm's life which would help one understand Malcolm's often extremist positions. Anyone who reads this book with an open mind will have a new found respect for this man and what he stood for.

I truly was inspired by this book

this is a book that was very important in my life and helped form my social conscience. i wish more people... anyway, there is a special 12 year old next door who is very interested in helping others and wants to grow up to be an attorney so she can help people. this book was part of my required reading in high school and community college (same wonderful teacher both places). i ordered a copy for my neighbor a couple of months ago. i think everyone should read it.

Powerful book about the black man in the sixties mostly. Malcolm X was a natural leader, and after his younger years he comes to the realization that became his dogma, that thanks to his controversial ways caused quite a stir among his peers, and America at large. Eventually people like him tend to get singled out and executed, for they cause unrest among the population. Intelligent man heading directly into danger as the years rolled by. The book is well written, and quite entertaining, for even before he became Malcolm X he was quite a character. Some men are destined to become legends, and Malcolm X was one of them. 4 Stars.

In today's political context where "purity tests" are often required for one to prove loyalty to a cause; Malcolm X was an example of what it means to let one's world vision become modified in the

respect of fighting to create a better society. His story is also a tragic story of what happens when one "outshines the master". More than anything, the man lost his life due to jealousy and movement infighting, a scourge that still haunts social justice circles today. The Autobiography of Malcolm X is not to be treated as an instruction manual; but rather as a cautionary tale of personal growth.

What a great story! I've admired Malcolm X for quite some time, and this autobiography has been on the "To read" list for just about as long. An interesting and compelling book, well written by Alex Haley, detailing Mr. X' travails and philosophical evolution through life. Quite the read, a bit disturbing at times, and with a tragic ending, but well worth the time.

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