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# Malcolm X: 'The Autobiography of Malcolm X'

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Reflections on the various works in the exhibit

## Imprints and Impressions: Milestones in Human Progress

Highlights from the Rose Rare Book Collection, Sept. 29-Nov. 9, 2014

Roesch Library, University of Dayton

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Malcolm X

*The Autobiography of Malcolm X*

- 1963
- Written with Alex Haley; original typed draft

**M**alcolm X's autobiography, as told to author Alex Haley and shown in this typed manuscript, received immediate acclaim upon publication in the fall of 1965, just months after the civil rights activist's assassination. Eliot Fremont-Smith reviewed the book in *The New York Times*:

"It has been said, correctly I think, that 'The Autobiography of Malcolm X' is a book about the nature of religious conversion. ... But the book is more. It tells what happens to an intelligent Negro who discovers that he has, within

American society, no future. ... 'The Autobiography of Malcolm X' is a brilliant, painful, important book. Alex Haley has made very readable the many hours of taped interviews, and his own epilogue ... is candid and perceptive. The book raises many difficult questions, and it is a testament parts of which many readers will not approve. But as a document for our time, its insights may be crucial; its relevance cannot be doubted."

—*Excerpted from The New York Times, November 5, 1965 (page 35)*