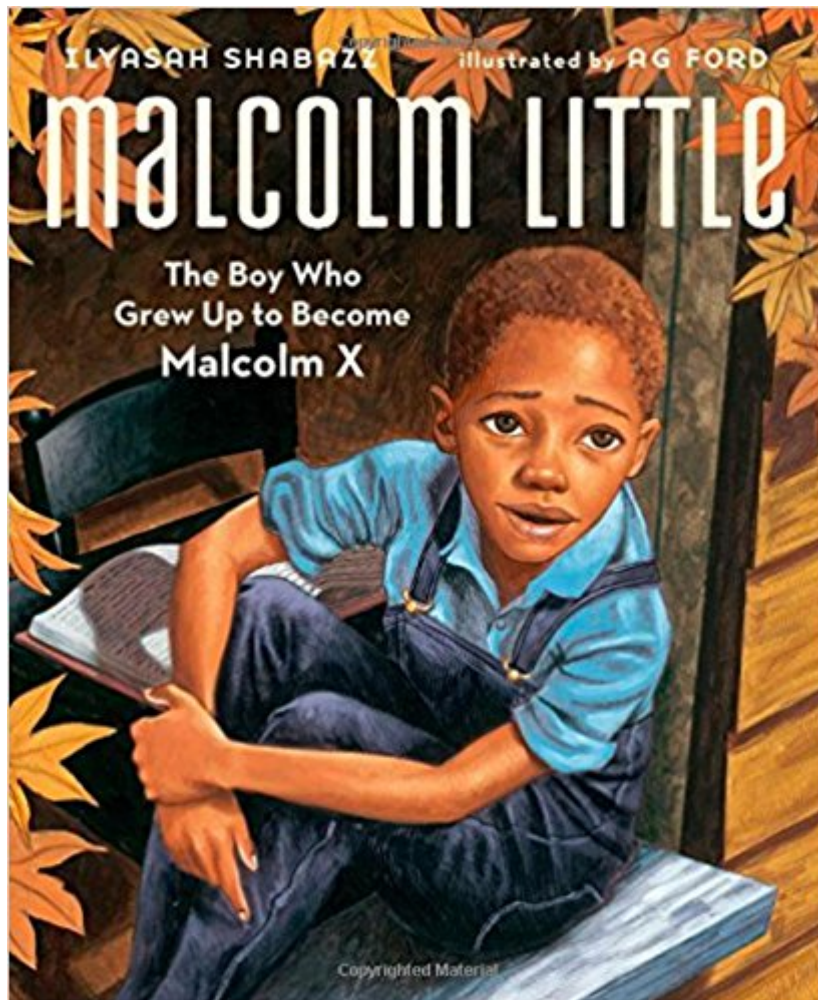




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# Malcolm Little: The Boy Who Grew Up To Become Malcolm X



## Synopsis

Malcolm X grew to be one of America's most influential figures. But first, he was a boy named Malcolm Little. Written by his daughter, this inspiring picture book biography celebrates a vision of freedom and justice. Bolstered by the love and wisdom of his large, warm family, young Malcolm Little was a natural born leader. But when confronted with intolerance and a series of tragedies, Malcolm's optimism and faith were threatened. He had to learn how to be strong and how to hold on to his individuality. He had to learn self-reliance. Together with acclaimed illustrator AG Ford, Ilyasah Shabazz gives us a unique glimpse into the childhood of her father, Malcolm X, with a lyrical story that carries a message that resonates still today—that we must all strive to live to our highest potential.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: NC1190L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers (January 7, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 144241216X

ISBN-13: 978-1442412163

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.5 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 39 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #87,563 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Social Activists #171 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies >

Multicultural #240 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > African-American

Age Range: 6 - 10 years

Grade Level: 1 - 5

## Customer Reviews

Gr 4-7 • The author of this handsome, inspirational offering is Malcolm X's daughter—an educator, activist, and motivational speaker. Though the book does provide anecdotes from the subject's childhood, it is largely the story of Malcolm's parents, Earl and Louise Little, and how they helped shape their son's character and ideology. His mother was part of the Marcus Garvey movement and was dedicated to the idea of international freedom and equality. His father

was an impassioned speaker: "his words had the power to move people, to make them laugh, cry, feel, and think." At the age of four, Malcolm and his family watched their house burn at the hands of people who disagreed with the family's beliefs. While young Malcolm is described as a mischievous prankster from a large, close-knit family, the haunting fire and traumatic events that followed left him "sad, lonely confused—broken." Still, Malcolm's story ends triumphantly in the seventh grade when he, the only African American at school, is elected class president. Ford's oil paintings are accomplished and historically accurate; images of the Littles courting and Earl preaching are painterly and realistic while images of the Little children are more stylized. Dense pages of text make this offering more suitable for upper-elementary or middle-school students. —Barbara Auerbach, New York City Public Schools

"The childhood of the controversial African-American activist was shaped by parental love and white racism. Writing with the fervor and intensity of a motivational speaker, Shabazz recounts her father's early years, which were filled with the loving support and teachings of his parents as well as the hate and destruction of the Ku Klux Klan.... With the passion of a preacher, she celebrates love, respect, tolerance and education without restraint.... Ford's oil paintings, framed on the page, are lush and filled with detail. A daughter's proud...tribute to her father and his parents." (Kirkus Reviews, November 2013)"Shabazz (Growing Up X) pays affectionate tribute to her father, Malcolm X, and his parents in this account of the activist's childhood.... Shabazz relays...Malcolm's resolve to succeed and remain true to his parents' values after he loses his father "to the brute force of racism and the narrow-mindedness of the Ku Klux Klan," and his mother is deemed "no longer fit to care for her children." • Ford's (My Daddy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.) oil paintings render joyous and desolate moments with equal skill." (Publishers Weekly, October 2013)"The author of this handsome, inspirational offering is Malcolm X's daughter —an educator, activist, and motivational speaker. . . . Ford's oil paintings are accomplished and historically accurate." (School Library Journal, January 2014)"Before he became the black nationalist leader known as Malcolm X, Malcolm Little was a boy who loved fishing and butterflies. His daughter, Ilyasah Shabazz, aided by AG Ford's vivid paintings, outlines a childhood marked by love and tragedy." (Usa Today, February 2014)

I like this book. The reason I like it's because I'm creating a social studies project and this book definitely made it easier for me to understand Malcolm X's life. I recommend this book for kids

8-13. Great book!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Great untold story of Malcolm as a young boy. I loved it ! Told by his daughter, this book sheds light on how Malcolm grew into a great leader.

Excellent text! This story should have been written years ago. Thank you Ms. Shabazz for sharing your story with the world. Given the continued struggle for equality by African American in this country (i.e. Ferguson, MO), this text can help our child see and understand racial oppression. Additionally, it focuses on self-determination, strong family values, and love.

This is a wonderful piece of art collaborating with non-fiction. A credit not only to it's author, but sensitive to the early socialization of all children everywhere. Kudos to you Ms. Shabazz, for your father, would truly be proud of you, for fulfilling the need of and for responsible parenting, in the form of a children's book. My children are all grown-up now, but I have bought copies for them, for my grandchildren to enjoy. The beauty of a children's book to captivate not only the child's mind, but the responsible parent(s) as well, Thank You so much! Respectfully, DCAdams

This book has some really beautiful illustrations. I bought it because children learn about Dr. King but know nothing about Malcolm X. They don't talk about him in schools except to say he was a racist separatist which is a shame because he was a very important figure. The storyline itself is a bit lengthy unless your child is an advanced reader, but all in all my son and I have enjoyed reading it together.

Wonderful tribute to Malcolm Little, the boy, before he became Malcolm X, the man. The book focuses on his early childhood, activist parents, and loving foundation. This is a great children's book with a warm, touching narrative. Also, the author's note was very informative. I bought this for my son, but enjoyed reading it myself.

Finally, I am so glad that Malcolm is put into perspective by his daughter and to see how he has influenced America and the world's view on how we should treat each other better. His parents taught him the lessons that laid a foundation for him to overcome obstacles and thrive towards achievement. Recommended read for every young African American kid today and should be on every birthday and holiday list as a gift.

Great book to introduce young people to a very important man. I bought this book for my 7 year old son. I learned things I did not know about Malcolm as I read to my son. The book explores difficult and universal concepts in an age appropriate and child friendly way while staying true to history. A little repetitive at times, but overall a great read that will remain a part of our library.

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