

**THE THEME OF EXILE**  
**IN THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X**

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*Abstract: The paper will present the various forms of confinement that Malcolm X finds himself in from the beginning of his life until the end of it. Its ideas are taken from the book The Autobiography of Malcolm X written by Alex Haley, ideas which will be compared to those from the movie "Malcolm X", which was directed by Spike Lee, 1992. The paper will especially rely on Foucault's theory from Discipline and Punish regarding the necessity of subjecting and improving a body in order for it to be accepted and the obstacles that are encountered by minorities, in this case by African Americans, while trying to fit in "society". However, the paper will present a slightly different perspective on Foucault's idea. The small physical confinements, such as the prison, manage to open Malcolm X's eyes and free him from prejudice while open spaces have the opposite effect. Nonetheless, physical or psychological, Malcolm X becomes aware of his jumping from one type of imprisonment to another and begins to doubt his ever reaching freedom.*