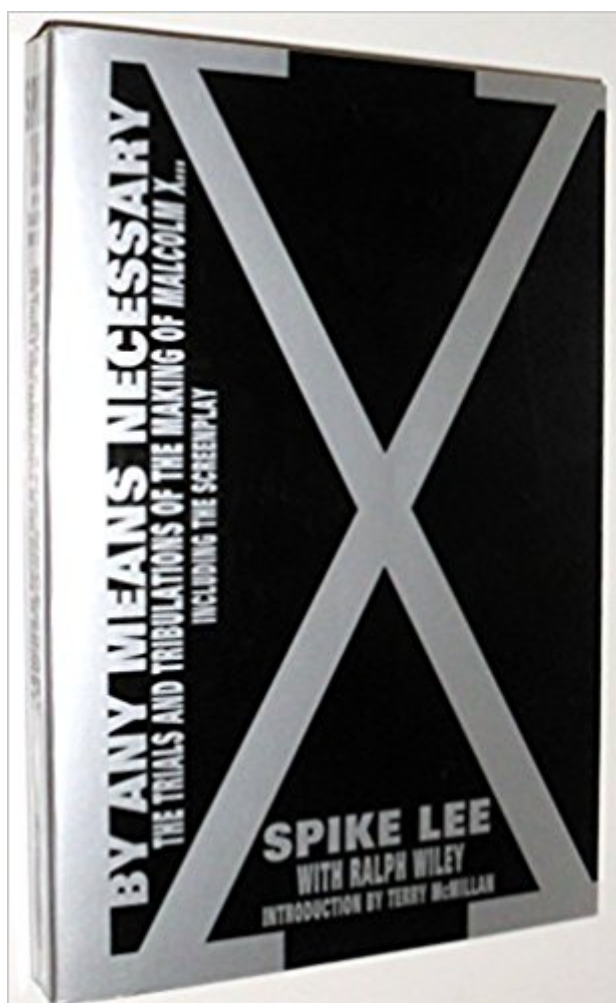


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By Any Means Necessary: Trials And Tribulations Of The Making Of Malcolm X



Synopsis

The director of *Do the Right Thing* and *Jungle Fever* describes the troubles he encountered while making *Malcolm X*, a film based on the life of the slain African-American leader. Original.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lee, as energetic a marketer as he is a director, regularly releases companion books to his films, and fans of the upcoming epic about Malcolm X will welcome this book, which contains the film script as well as reflections by Lee and other participants in the film. Though Wiley (*Why Black People Tend to Shout*) collaborates with Lee, the book is loosely edited--the selections, reading like transcribed interviews, show how quotable Lee is: "This was the picture I was born to make," he declares, for example. Lee addresses issues ranging from Malcolm X's influence on him to his part in the controversy over Norman Jewison, who was originally to direct the film, to the evolution of the script, which was first written by James Baldwin. Lee reports on interviews with Malcolm's intimates, including his "very sometimey" widow, Betty Shabazz, and the imposing Minister Louis Farrakhan, who discusses Malcolm X's split with Nation of Islam. Lee also tells how he raised funds from black athletes and entertainers to complete the film when it went over the budget. Among other contributors are co-producer Monty Ross and star Denzel Washington. Those wanting to know what the film lacks, of course, will have to turn to other sources. Photos not seen by PW. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Such a great deal for a book that was printed more than two decades ago. I am very pleased and it arrived quickly.

"By Any Means Necessary" is an excellent book on the making of the film "Malcolm X" by director Spike Lee. Not only do we get a chance to see the film from the director's eye, but we also get to read all of the hassles he had to go through in order to come out with a film in Hollywood. The whole tone of the book, like all of Lee's books on his firms, is that of a diary. So what we're reading is random notes, scribbles, and just little lines that he will remember down the line. It almost seemed like a match made in hell: Spike Lee, considered to be a "controversial" film director, does a film on the line of Malcolm X, considered to be a controversial human rights figure. Throughout the book, Lee has to remind himself that despite the nay-sayers, the film will be done, even at times when he doubts his own creative genius. There are also thoughts from some of the actors (including Denzel Washington, who also played Malcolm X in his early years), but the best words come from Lee

As to say Spike Lee is one-of-a kind director and a good follower. I luv him from the top since he been out. I would actually like to hear more from him 'cuz he's still my top director and mentor. Now back to the movie, I know everybody have love for this flick that Spike Lee created it talks about the life and times of civil rights leader Malcolm X (played by my main man Denzel Washington) which begins on reading the screenplay, the talks about it, the stars who played on the film and to those that believe that believe it out, etc. This is one of my all-time favorite books to read 'cuz it tells it all right here from this movie I like. Anyway it's still my #1 favorite movie of all-time. I look forward for Spike Lee putting out a memoir of his life and where he started his film-playing career into a higher level which drops in Sept or Oct of this yr. Specially look forward of hearing it.

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