

The Life of Malcolm X (1925-1965)	The Life of Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968)
<p>1925 May 19: Malcolm X is born Malcolm Little in Omaha, Nebraska, the fourth of Earl and Louise Little's seven children.</p> <p>1926 December: The Littles leave Omaha and move to Milwaukee, Wisconsin.</p> <p>1928 The Littles move again, this time to Lansing, Michigan. Settling in a white neighborhood, they are sued for eviction on the basis that a restrictive covenant prevents their home from being sold to any non-Caucasians. November 7: The Little house is burned to the ground. No fire wagon is dispatched to the scene.</p> <p>1931 September 28: Earl Little is killed in what police term a streetcar accident. After Earl's death, his wife and children struggle to make ends meet and must apply for public assistance.</p> <p>1938 December 23: Louise Little is diagnosed as mentally ill and sent to the Kalamazoo State Mental Hospital, where she will stay for 26 years.</p> <p>1939 The state places the Little children with various foster families, and Malcolm, who has been kicked out of school in the seventh grade, is sent to a juvenile home in the nearly all-white community of Mason, Michigan. He does well at school there, earning straight A's and being elected president of his 8th-grade class, but his teacher discourages him about pursuing his goal of becoming a lawyer.</p> <p>1940 Summer: Fifteen-year-old Malcolm visits his half-sister Ella Collins in the Roxbury neighborhood of Boston and is entranced.</p> <p>1941 February: Ella Collins gains custody of Malcolm and he moves to Boston. Over the next few years, he works a number of odd jobs on railroads, in restaurants and bars, at shoeshine stands, and in a jewelry store.</p> <p>1943 October 25: Malcolm, who has responded to his draft</p>	<p>1929 January 15: Michael King, later known as Martin Luther King, Jr., is born at 501 Auburn Ave. in Atlanta, Georgia.</p> <p>1944 September 20: King begins his freshman year at Morehouse College in Atlanta.</p> <p>1946 August 6: The <i>Atlanta Constitution</i> publishes King's letter to the editor stating that black people "are entitled to the basic rights and opportunities of American citizens."</p> <p>1948 February 25: King is ordained and appointed assistant pastor at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. September 14: King begins his studies at Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pennsylvania.</p> <p>1951 May 6-8: King graduates from Crozer with a bachelor of divinity degree. September 13: King begins his graduate studies in systematic theology at Boston University.</p> <p>1953 June 18: King and Coretta Scott are married at the Scott home near Marion, Alabama.</p> <p>1954 September 1: King begins his pastorate at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama.</p> <p>1955 November 17: Yolanda Denise King, the Kings' first child, is born. December 1: Rosa Parks is arrested for refusing to vacate her seat and move to the rear of a city bus in Montgomery to make way for a white passenger December 5: At a mass meeting at Holt Street Baptist Church, the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA) is formed. King becomes its president.</p> <p>1956 January 30: At 9:15 p.m., while King speaks at a mass meeting, his home is bombed. His wife and daughter are not injured. Later King addresses an angry crowd that gathers outside the house, pleading for nonviolence. November 13: The U.S. Supreme Court affirms the lower court opinion in <i>Browder v. Gayle</i> declaring Montgomery and Alabama</p>

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<p>notice by loudly proclaiming that he wants to "fight for the Japanese" and kill whites, is found mentally unfit for military service and classified 4F.</p> <p>1944 Malcolm has his first run in with the courts. He is sentenced to four months in jail and one year of probation for larceny.</p> <p>1946 January: Malcolm tries to retrieve a stolen \$1000 watch from a pawnshop and is arrested and charged with grand larceny, breaking and entering, and firearms possession. He is convicted and receives an 8-to-10-years. February: At the age of 20, Malcolm is sent to jail in Massachusetts. He will remain behind bars until 1952.</p> <p>1948 Malcolm's siblings, four of whom have converted to Islam, introduce him to the words of the Nation of Islam's leader, Elijah Muhammad, who is himself in prison for sedition and violation of the draft laws. The two men correspond.</p> <p>1952 August 7: Malcolm is released on parole and goes to Detroit to live with his brother Wilfred. He quickly joins the Nation of Islam and attends meetings at Detroit's Temple No. 1. Malcolm rejects the surname "Little" as a slave name given to his family by white oppressors, and he becomes known as "Malcolm X." Dismayed that the Nation of Islam is not attracting more followers (at the time, total nationwide membership was about 400), Malcolm begins an intensive recruiting campaign with Elijah Muhammad's blessing. Soon membership in the Nation begins to soar.</p> <p>1953 August: Having tripled the membership of the Detroit temple in under a year, Malcolm is appointed assistant minister there. September: Elijah Muhammad sends Malcolm back to Boston to serve as first minister of its Temple No. 11.</p> <p>1954 June: Elijah Muhammad gives Malcolm his highest appointment to date, chief minister of Harlem's Temple No. 7. In Malcolm's words, "For Mr. Muhammad's teachings</p>	<p>bus segregation laws unconstitutional. December 21: Montgomery City Lines resumes full service on all routes. King is among the first passengers to ride the buses in an integrated fashion.</p> <p>1957 January 10-11: King is named chairman of the Southern Negro Leaders Conference on Transportation and Nonviolent Integration (later known as the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, SCLC). May 17: At the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., King delivers his first national address, "Give Us The Ballot," at the Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom. October 23: Coretta King gives birth to their second child, Martin, III.</p> <p>1958 September 20: During a book signing at Blumstein's Department Store in Harlem, New York, King is stabbed by Izola Ware Curry. He is rushed to Harlem Hospital where a team of doctors successfully remove a seven-inch letter opener from his chest.</p> <p>1959 February 3: King embarks on a month-long visit to India where he meets with Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and many of Gandhi's followers.</p> <p>1960 February 1: King moves from Montgomery to Atlanta to devote more time to SCLC and the freedom struggle. He becomes assistant pastor to his father at Ebenezer Baptist Church. October 19: King is arrested during a sit-in demonstration at Rich's department store in Atlanta. He is sentenced to four months hard labor for violating a suspended sentence he received for a 1956 traffic violation. He is released on \$2000 bond on 27 October.</p> <p>1961 January 31: Dexter Scott, King's third child, is born. May 21: After the initial group of Freedom Riders seeking to integrate bus terminals are assaulted in Alabama, King addresses a mass rally at a mob-besieged Montgomery church. October 16: King meets with President John F. Kennedy and urges him to issue a second Emancipation Proclamation to</p>

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<p>really to resurrect American black people, Islam obviously had to grow, to grow very big. And nowhere in America was such a single Temple potential available as in New York's five boroughs." Thanks in large part to Malcolm's charisma and tireless recruiting, within the next five years membership in the Nation of Islam swells to 40,000 and supports 49 temples.</p> <p>1956 Malcolm's future wife Betty Sanders becomes a member of the Harlem Temple and adopts the name "Betty X." They will marry two years later, after Malcolm proposes by phone from a Detroit gas station, and take up residence in East Elmhurst, Queens.</p> <p>1957 April 14: New York Temple member Johnson Hinton is savagely beaten by police. Hinton is eventually taken by ambulance to a nearby hospital, but the Muslims refuse to disperse, which alarms police. Satisfied that his demands have been met, Malcolm disperses the crowd with a wave of his hand. He later sues New York City for police brutality and wins the largest settlement in its history. Media coverage of the Hinton incident brings Malcolm national attention.</p> <p>1958 Malcolm and Betty X's first child, Attalah, is born.</p> <p>1959 Spring-Summer: Malcolm makes his first trips abroad, visiting Ghana, Sudan, Nigeria, Iran, Syria, Egypt, and the United Arab Republic.</p> <p>1961 Elijah Muhammad, who has moved from Chicago to Phoenix for health reasons, makes Malcolm national representative of the Nation of Islam. This creates resentment among Muhammad's inner circle who do not want Malcolm to be the next leader.</p> <p>1963 August 28: Malcolm observes the March on Washington, which he calls a "farce." Malcolm claims the demonstration was "run by whites in front of a statue of a president who has been dead for a hundred years and who didn't like us when he was alive."</p>	<p>eliminate racial segregation.</p> <p>1962 July 27-August 10: King is arrested at an Albany, Georgia prayer vigil and jailed. After spending two weeks in jail, King is released.</p> <p>1963 March 28: Bernice Albertine, King's fourth child, is born. April 16: Responding to clergymen's advice that African Americans wait patiently for justice, King pens his "Letter from Birmingham Jail." King and Abernathy were arrested on 12 April and released on 19 April. May 7: Conflict in Birmingham reaches its peak when high-pressure fire hoses force demonstrators from the business district. In addition to hoses, Police Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor employs dogs, clubs, and cattle prods to disperse four thousand demonstrators in downtown Birmingham. August 28: The March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom attracts more than two hundred thousand demonstrators to the Lincoln Memorial. Organized by A. Philip Randolph and Bayard Rustin, the march is supported by all major civil rights organizations as well as by many labor and religious groups. King delivers his "I Have a Dream" speech. After the march, King and other civil rights leaders meet with President John F. Kennedy and Vice-President Lyndon B. Johnson in the White House.</p> <p>1964 January 18: President Lyndon B. Johnson meets with King, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, and James Farmer and seeks support for his War on Poverty initiative. March 26: King meets Malcolm X in Washington, D.C. for the first and only time. June 11: King is arrested and jailed for demanding service at a white-only restaurant in St. Augustine, Florida. December 10: King receives the Nobel Peace Prize at a ceremony in Oslo, Norway. He declares that "every penny" of the \$54,000 award will be used in the ongoing civil rights struggle.</p> <p>1965 The King family moves to their new home at 234 Sunset Avenue in Atlanta. March 7: In an event that will become known as "Bloody</p>

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<p>1964 March: Suspended "indefinitely" by the Nation of Islam. The Nation of Islam requests, via certified mail, that he surrender all its property, including Malcolm's house in Queens. Malcolm predicts that Black Muslim leaders will murder him because "I know where the bodies are buried." March: While in Washington to observe a Senate filibuster against the Civil Rights Bill, Malcolm has a chance meeting with Martin Luther King Jr. and a photographer snaps the only picture ever taken of the two men together. April: Malcolm delivers his famous election year "Ballot or the Bullet" speech, then leaves for a five-week tour of Egypt, Lebanon, Liberia, Senegal, Nigeria, Ghana, and Saudi Arabia, where he makes a pilgrimage to Mecca and receives a new Islamic name: El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, as well as expresses a somewhat different attitude about race. In Mecca, Malcolm writes, he witnessed "pilgrims of all colors from all parts of this earth displaying a spirit of unity and brotherhood like I've never seen before." While still determined to bring charges for mistreatment of African Americans against the United States in the United Nations, Malcolm opines that studying Islam might cause white Americans to turn away from their racism. Summer-Fall: Although celebrated as a leader abroad, Malcolm finds himself under increased attack at home; the Nation of Islam begins eviction proceedings against him, his brother Philbert denounces him, and his life is threatened.</p> <p>1965 February 14: Malcolm's home in East Elmhurst is firebombed Malcolm X says that it is "upon the orders of Elijah Muhammad." His family is evicted four days later.</p> <p>February 21: Malcolm X is assassinated while speaking at an OAAU rally in Harlem; three members of the Nation of Islam are later convicted.</p> <p>February 27: Actor Ossie Davis leads the funeral service for Malcolm X; 1500 people attend. He is buried at Ferncliff Cemetery in Hartsdale, New York. Later that year, <i>The Autobiography of Malcolm X</i> is published, and Betty Shabazz, who was pregnant at the time of Malcolm's murder, gives birth to his last two daughters.</p>	<p>Sunday," voting rights marchers are beaten at the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama as they attempt to march to Montgomery.</p> <p>March 17-25: King, James Forman, and John Lewis lead civil rights marchers from Selma to Montgomery after a U.S. District judge upholds the right of demonstrators to conduct an orderly march.</p> <p>August 12: King publicly opposes the Vietnam War at a mass rally at the Ninth Annual Convention of SCLC in Birmingham.</p> <p>1966 January 26: King and his wife move into an apartment at 1550 South Hamlin Avenue in Chicago to draw attention to the city's poor housing conditions.</p> <p>February 23: In Chicago, King meets Nation of Islam leader Elijah Muhammad.</p> <p>1967 December 4: King publicly reveals his plans to organize a mass civil disobedience campaign, the Poor People's Campaign, in Washington, D.C., to force the government to end poverty.</p> <p>1968 March 28: King leads a march of six thousand protesters in support of striking sanitation workers in Memphis. The march descends into violence and looting, and King is rushed from the scene.</p> <p>April 3: King returns to Memphis, determined to lead a peaceful march. During an evening rally at Mason Temple in Memphis, King delivers his final speech, "I've Been to the Mountaintop."</p> <p>April 4: King is shot and killed while standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis.</p> <p>April 9: King is buried in Atlanta.</p>