For Malcolm: Poems On The Life And The Death Of Malcolm X

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He knows that Malcolm lives today precisely because of his unflinching denunciation of the quicksand on which black people stand and face their antagonists. In a chapter, “The Malcolm Legacy,” Goldman writes that what interested Malcolm first was the decolonization of the black mind—the wakening of a proud, bold, impolite new consciousness of color and everything color means in white America. He is right, for Malcolm saw the erosion of our spirit as the cymbals of racism deafened us. He knew that we believed deeply that we were less than men because we could not see our beauty. And he unders Margaret Walker focuses on Malcolm X’s death her poem was meant to pay homage and perhaps even respect to Malcolm X. There are some similarities found between her poem and Robert Hayden’s poem. Her central theme is death. She uses sonnet form to paint a picture of the funeral of Malcolm X and also creates emotion through her descriptive language. Walker’s description of Malcolm’s body shows that his religion was an important part of his life. Walker just as Hayden used metaphorical language in her poem to describe what Malcolm and his words meant to people.