Malcom X, Message to the Grassroots

* Down to earth in a language that everyone can easily understand
* America’s problem is “us”
* The only reason she has a problem is she doesn’t want us here -- you pose a serious problem for america because you aren’t wanted
  + Once you face this as a fact, then you can start plotting a course that will make you appear intelligent instead of unintelligent
* “You’re nothing but an ex-slave”
* You didn’t come here on the mayflower, you came here on a slave ship
* Once we realize we have a common oppressor, we come together
* Once the white man was excluded everyone else fell in line
* Don’t let the enemy know you have a disagreement
  + Argue privately and then on the streets show a united front
* All bloodshed is based on land
  + When white man sent you to korea, you bled - you bleed for white people, but when it comes to defending ourselves we haven’t got any blood
  + If violence is wrong in america, it is wrong abroad
* When you’ve got problems you have to examine the historical method used all over the world by others who have problems similar to yours
* You don’t have a peaceful revolution
* Revolution is bloody, revolution is hostile, revolution knows no compromise, revolution overturns and destroys everything that gets in its way
* House negro vs field negro
  + House negro loves master more than master loves himself
  + Field negro - masses, caught hell
* Our religion teaches us to be intelligent, peaceful, courteous, obey the law and respect everyone, but if someone lays a hand on you, send him to the cemetery
* Grassroots revolution is out there in the streets
* Cofee that is too strong, black, you integrate it with cream to weaken it

Ballot or the Bullet

* We aren’t anti-white, we’re anti-exploitation, anti-degradation, anti-oppression
  + If the white man wants us to not be anti-him, let him stop oppressing and exploiting and degrading us
* If you fight here, you will at least know what you’re fighting for
* Sitting at the table doesn’t mean you’re a diner, unless you eat some of what’s on that plate
* I’m speaking as a victim of this american system.
* One of them makes believe he’s for you, and he’s got it fixed where the other one is so tight against you, he never has to keep his promise
* Gerrymandering, when areas become too concentrated with black people and they begin to gain too much political power the man changes the district lines
* How can you thank a man for giving you what’s already yours? How can you then thank him for giving you only part of whats already yours?
* Not only did we give free labor, we gave our blood
* Every time he had a call to arms, we were the first ones in uniform. We died on every battlefield the white man had.
* Don’t go out and get violent but you shouldnt be unviolent unless you run into some nonviolence
* Atrocities brought up in UN in different countries but the negro problem is never brought up before the UN
* Civil rights keeps you in his pocket. Civil rights means you’re asking Uncle Sam to treat you right. Human rights are something you were born with, your god-given rights, rights recognized by all nations of this earth.
* Get together with voting power
* Just stop being a negro, that will show you how silly the white man is
* Dealing w/ a man whose bias and prejudice are making him lose his mind, his intelligece every day. He looks around and sees what’s taking place on this earth and sees the pendulum of time is swinging in your direction.
* Modern warfare today won’t work, this is the day of guerilla
* A ballot is like a bullet, you don’t throw your ballots until you see a target, and if that target is not within your reach, keep your ballot in your pocket.
* Everytime you take a dollar and spend it out of your community, your community will get poorer and poorer
  + You wonder why where you live is always a ghetto or a slum area
* Social philosophy of black nationalism
  + Get together to remove evils, vices, alcoholism, drug addiction, and any other evils that are destorying the moral fiber of our community
* Uncle sam has no conscience, america’s conscience is bankrupt, they don’t know what morals are
  + If he had a conscience, he’d straighten this thing out with no pressure being put upon him
* We have to come together with warmth so we can develop unity and harmony that’s necessary to get this problem solved outselves
* Join any organization that has a gospel that’s for the uplift of the black man
* A segregated school does not mean all black, it means a school that is controlled by people who have no real interest in it
  + When you’re under someone else’s control, you’re segregated
* We don’t do anything illegal
  + Don’t go out shooting people, but at any time see the government go down and can’t find who did it