

# The New York Times

**Published online: 'Banned Books, Parisian Spaghetti Dinners and Other Letters to the Editor'**

**December 30, 2021; Updated: December 31, 2021**

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**Published print edition: Sunday Book Review**

**January 2, 2022**

To the Editor:

Aside from his notable contributions in spreading an awareness of Black American history, Alex Haley's dedication as an instructor impressed me immeasurably when I read Michael Patrick Hearn's recollection of Haley's enormous, inspiring faith in students while he was a writer in residence at Hamilton College in upstate New York.

The profound effect Haley had on the author of this revealing essay leads me to follow the Hamilton tradition of showing my approval to both men not by applauding but by snapping my fingers, in keeping with the thunderous snaps Haley's lectures received.

John Esposito  
New Providence, N.J.