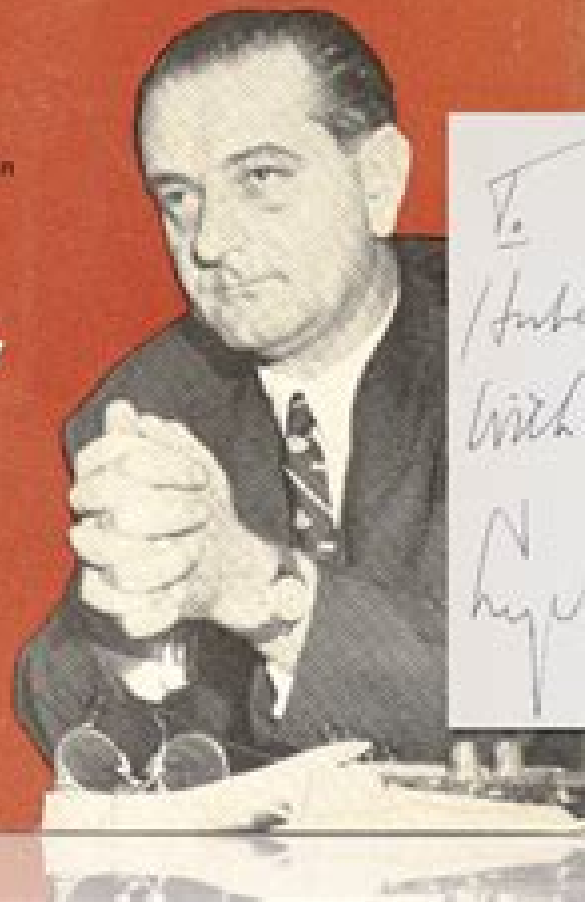


the LYNDON JOHNSON story

with a
foreword by
U. S. Senator
Lyndon B. Johnson

**BOOTH
MOONEY**



*Hubert Humphrey
With my best regards
Lyndon B. Johnson*

The Lyndon Johnson Story

Anne Quirk



The Lyndon Johnson Story:

The Passage of Power Robert A. Caro, 2012-05-01 WINNER OF THE NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD THE LOS ANGELES TIMES BOOK PRIZE THE MARK LYNTON HISTORY PRIZE THE AMERICAN HISTORY BOOK PRIZE One of the New York Times s 100 Best Books of the 21st Century A Kirkus Reviews Best Nonfiction Book of the Century Book Four of Robert A Caro s monumental The Years of Lyndon Johnson displays all the narrative energy and illuminating insight that led the Times of London to acclaim it as one of the truly great political biographies of the modern age A masterpiece The Passage of Power follows Lyndon Johnson through both the most frustrating and the most triumphant periods of his career 1958 to 1964 It is a time that would see him trade the extraordinary power he had created for himself as Senate Majority Leader for what became the wretched powerlessness of a Vice President in an administration that disdained and distrusted him Yet it was as well the time in which the presidency the goal he had always pursued would be thrust upon him in the moment it took an assassin s bullet to reach its mark By 1958 as Johnson began to maneuver for the presidency he was known as one of the most brilliant politicians of his time the greatest Senate Leader in our history But the 1960 nomination would go to the young senator from Massachusetts John F Kennedy Caro gives us an unparalleled account of the machinations behind both the nomination and Kennedy s decision to offer Johnson the vice presidency revealing the extent of Robert Kennedy s efforts to force Johnson off the ticket With the consummate skill of a master storyteller he exposes the savage animosity between Johnson and Kennedy s younger brother portraying one of America s great political feuds Yet Robert Kennedy s overt contempt for Johnson was only part of the burden of humiliation and isolation he bore as Vice President With a singular understanding of Johnson s heart and mind Caro describes what it was like for this mighty politician to find himself altogether powerless in a world in which power is the crucial commodity For the first time in Caro s breathtakingly vivid narrative we see the Kennedy assassination through Lyndon Johnson s eyes We watch Johnson step into the presidency inheriting a staff fiercely loyal to his slain predecessor a Congress determined to retain its power over the executive branch and a nation in shock and mourning We see how within weeks grasping the reins of the presidency with supreme mastery he propels through Congress essential legislation that at the time of Kennedy s death seemed hopelessly logjammed and seizes on a dormant Kennedy program to create the revolutionary War on Poverty Caro makes clear how the political genius with which Johnson had ruled the Senate now enabled him to make the presidency wholly his own This was without doubt Johnson s finest hour before his aspirations and accomplishments were overshadowed and eroded by the trap of Vietnam In its exploration of this pivotal period in Johnson s life and in the life of the nation The Passage of Power is not only the story of how he surmounted unprecedented obstacles in order to fulfill the highest purpose of the presidency but is as well a revelation of both the pragmatic potential in the presidency and what can be accomplished when the chief executive has the vision and determination to move beyond the pragmatic and initiate programs designed to transform a nation It is an

epic story told with a depth of detail possible only through the peerless research that forms the foundation of Robert Caro's work confirming Nicholas von Hoffman's verdict that Caro has changed the art of political biography **The Path to Power**

Robert A. Caro, 1990-02-17 The Years of Lyndon Johnson is the political biography of our time No president no era of American politics has been so intensively and sharply examined at a time when so many prime witnesses to hitherto untold or misinterpreted facets of a life a career and a period of history could still be persuaded to speak The Path to Power Book One reveals in extraordinary detail the genesis of the almost superhuman drive energy and urge to power that set LBJ apart Chronicling the startling early emergence of Johnson's political genius it follows him from his Texas boyhood through the years of the Depression in the Texas hill Country to the triumph of his congressional debut in New Deal Washington to his heartbreaking defeat in his first race for the Senate and his attainment nonetheless of the national power for which he hungered We see in him from earliest childhood a fierce unquenchable necessity to be first to win to dominate coupled with a limitless capacity for hard unceasing labor in the service of his own ambition Caro shows us the big gangling awkward young Lyndon raised in one of the country's most desperately poor and isolated areas his education mediocre at best his pride stung by his father's slide into failure and financial ruin lunging for success moving inexorably toward that ultimate impossible goal that he sets for himself years before any friend or enemy suspects what it may be We watch him while still at college instinctively and ruthlessly creating the beginnings of the political machine that was to serve him for three decades We see him employing his extraordinary ability to mesmerize and manipulate powerful older men to mesmerize and sometimes almost enslave useful subordinates We see him carrying out before his thirtieth year his first great political inspiration tapping and becoming the political conduit for the money and influence of the new oil men and contractors who were to grow with him to immense power We follow close up the radical fluctuations of his relationships with the formidable Mr Sam Rayburn who loved him like a son and whom he betrayed and with FDR himself And we follow the dramas of his emotional life the intensities and complications of his relationships with his family his contemporaries his girls his wooing and winning of the shy Lady Bird his secret love affair over many years with the mistress of one of his most ardent and generous supporters Johnson driving his people to the point of exhausted tears equally merciless with himself Johnson bullying cajoling lying yet inspiring an amazing loyalty Johnson maneuvering to dethrone the unassailable old Jack Garner then Vice President of the United States as the New Deal's connection in Texas and seize the power himself Johnson raging Johnson hugging Johnson bringing light and indeed life to the worn Hill Country farmers and their old at thirty wives via the district's first electric lines We see him at once unscrupulous admirable treacherous devoted And we see the country that bred him the harshness and nauseating loneliness of the rural life the tragic panorama of the Depression the sudden glow of hope at the dawn of the Age of Roosevelt And always in the foreground on the move LBJ Here is Lyndon Johnson his Texas his Washington his America in a book that brings us as close as we have ever been to a true perception of political genius and the American political process

The Path to Power Robert A. Caro, 2011-11-23 The Years of Lyndon Johnson is the political biography of our time No president no era of American politics has been so intensively and sharply examined at a time when so many prime witnesses to hitherto untold or misinterpreted facets of a life a career and a period of history could still be persuaded to speak The Path to Power Book One reveals in extraordinary detail the genesis of the almost superhuman drive energy and urge to power that set LBJ apart Chronicling the startling early emergence of Johnson s political genius it follows him from his Texas boyhood through the years of the Depression in the Texas hill Country to the triumph of his congressional debut in New Deal Washington to his heartbreaking defeat in his first race for the Senate and his attainment nonetheless of the national power for which he hungered We see in him from earliest childhood a fierce unquenchable necessity to be first to win to dominate coupled with a limitless capacity for hard unceasing labor in the service of his own ambition Caro shows us the big gangling awkward young Lyndon raised in one of the country s most desperately poor and isolated areas his education mediocre at best his pride stung by his father s slide into failure and financial ruin lunging for success moving inexorably toward that ultimate impossible goal that he sets for himself years before any friend or enemy suspects what it may be We watch him while still at college instinctively and ruthlessly creating the beginnings of the political machine that was to serve him for three decades We see him employing his extraordinary ability to mesmerize and manipulate powerful older men to mesmerize and sometimes almost enslave useful subordinates We see him carrying out before his thirtieth year his first great political inspiration tapping and becoming the political conduit for the money and influence of the new oil men and contractors who were to grow with him to immense power We follow close up the radical fluctuations of his relationships with the formidable Mr Sam Rayburn who loved him like a son and whom he betrayed and with FDR himself And we follow the dramas of his emotional life the intensities and complications of his relationships with his family his contemporaries his girls his wooing and winning of the shy Lady Bird his secret love affair over many years with the mistress of one of his most ardent and generous supporters Johnson driving his people to the point of exhausted tears equally merciless with himself Johnson bullying cajoling lying yet inspiring an amazing loyalty Johnson maneuvering to dethrone the unassailable old Jack Garner then Vice President of the United States as the New Deal s connection in Texas and seize the power himself Johnson raging Johnson hugging Johnson bringing light and indeed life to the worn Hill Country farmers and their old at thirty wives via the district s first electric lines We see him at once unscrupulous admirable treacherous devoted And we see the country that bred him the harshness and nauseating loneliness of the rural life the tragic panorama of the Depression the sudden glow of hope at the dawn of the Age of Roosevelt And always in the foreground on the move LBJ Here is Lyndon Johnson his Texas his Washington his America in a book that brings us as close as we have ever been to a true perception of political genius and the American political process *The Lyndon Johnson Story* Booth Mooney, 1967 **Lyndon Johnson and the American Dream** Doris Kearns Goodwin, 2015-08-04 With a new foreword The New York Times bestselling biography of

President Lyndon Johnson from the Pulitzer Prize winning author of *Team of Rivals* Featuring a 2018 foreword by the Pulitzer Prize winning political historian that celebrates a reappraisal of Lyndon Johnson's legacy five decades after his presidency from the vantage point of our current profoundly altered political culture and climate Doris Kearns Goodwin's extraordinary and insightful biography draws from meticulous research in addition to the author's time spent working at the White House from 1967 to 1969 After Johnson's term ended Goodwin remained his confidante and assisted in the preparation of his memoir *In Lyndon Johnson and the American Dream* she traces the 36th president's life from childhood to his early days in politics and from his leadership of the Senate to his presidency analyzing his dramatic years in the White House including both his historic domestic triumphs and his failures in Vietnam Drawing on personal anecdotes and candid conversation with Johnson Goodwin paints a rich and complicated portrait of one of our nation's most compelling politicians in the most penetrating fascinating political biography I have ever read *The New York Times* **Lyndon B. Johnson** Robert Dallek, 2004-01-08 Robert Dallek's brilliant two volume biography of Lyndon Johnson has received an avalanche of praise Michael Beschloss in *The Los Angeles Times* said that it succeeds brilliantly *The New York Times* called it rock solid and *The Washington Post* hailed it as invaluable And Sidney Blumenthal in *The Boston Globe* wrote that it was dense with astonishing incidents Now Dallek has condensed his two volume masterpiece into what is surely the finest one volume biography of Johnson available Based on years of research in over 450 manuscript collections and oral histories as well as numerous personal interviews this biography follows Johnson the human dynamo from the Texas hill country to the White House We see LBJ in the House and the Senate whirl his way through sixteen and eighteen hour days talking urging demanding reaching for influence and power in an uncommonly successful congressional career Then in the White House we see Johnson as the visionary leader who worked his will on Congress like no president before or since enacting a range of crucial legislation from Medicare and environmental protection to the most significant advances in civil rights for black Americans ever achieved And we see the depth of Johnson's private anguish as he became increasingly ensnared in Vietnam In these pages Johnson emerges as a man of towering intensity and anguished insecurity of grandiose ambition and grave self doubt a man who was brilliant crude intimidating compassionate overbearing driven A tornado in pants Gracefully written and delicately balanced this *The Years of Lyndon Johnson: The path to power* Robert A. Caro, 1992 This biography tells the story of the rise to national power of a desperately poor young man from the Texas Hill Country The book is part of a four volume biography of Lyndon Baines Johnson the successor to President John F Kennedy *Lyndon B. Johnson, a Biography* Harry Provenance, 1964 **Means of Ascent** Robert A. Caro, 2011-11-23 In *Means of Ascent* Book Two of *The Years of Lyndon Johnson* Robert A Caro brings alive Lyndon Johnson in his wilderness years Here Johnson's almost mythic personality part genius part behemoth at once hotly emotional and icily calculating is seen at its most nakedly ambitious This multifaceted book carries the President to be from the aftermath of his devastating defeat in his 1941 campaign for the Senate the despair

it engendered in him and the grueling test of his spirit that followed as political doors slammed shut through his service in World War II and his artful embellishment of his record to the foundation of his fortune and the actual facts behind the myth he created about it The culminating drama the explosive heart of the book is Caro's illumination based on extraordinarily detailed investigation of one of the great political mysteries of the century Having immersed himself in Johnson's life and world Caro is able to reveal the true story of the fiercely contested 1948 senatorial election for years shrouded in rumor which Johnson was not believed capable of winning which he had to win or face certain political death and which he did win by 87 votes the 87 votes that changed history Telling that epic story in riveting and eye opening detail Caro returns to the American consciousness a magnificent lost hero He focuses closely not only on Johnson whom we see harnessing every last particle of his strategic brilliance and energy but on Johnson's unbeatable opponent the beloved former Texas Governor Coke Stevenson who embodied in his own life the myth of the cowboy knight and was himself a legend for his unfaltering integrity And ultimately as the political duel between the two men quickens carrying with it all the confrontational and moral drama of the perfect Western Caro makes us witness to a momentous turning point in American politics the tragic last stand of the old politics versus the new the politics of issue versus the politics of image mass manipulation money and electronic dazzle

Lyndon B. Johnson and American Liberalism Bruce J. Schulman, 2018-12-13 Whether admired or reviled Lyndon B Johnson and his tumultuous administration embodied the principles and contradictions of his era Taking advantage of newly released evidence this second edition incorporates a selection of fresh documents including transcripts of Johnson's phone conversations and conservative reactions to his leadership to examine the issues and controversies that grew out of Johnson's presidency and have renewed importance today The voices of Johnson his aides his opponents and his interpreters address the topics of affirmative action the United States role in world affairs civil rights Vietnam the Great Society and the fate of liberal reform Additional photographs of Johnson in action complement Bruce J Schulman's rich biographical narrative and a chronology an updated bibliographical essay and new questions for consideration provide pedagogical support **The Lyndon Johnson Story** Booth Money, 2018-03-02 This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it This work was reproduced from the original artifact and remains as true to the original work as possible Therefore you will see the original copyright references library stamps as most of these works have been housed in our most important libraries around the world and other notations in the work This work is in the public domain in the United States of America and possibly other nations Within the United States you may freely copy and distribute this work as no entity individual or corporate has a copyright on the body of the work As a reproduction of a historical artifact this work may contain missing or blurred pages poor pictures errant marks etc Scholars believe and we concur that this work is important enough to be preserved reproduced and made generally available to the public We appreciate your support of the preservation process and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge

alive and relevant **The Passage of Power** Robert A. Caro, 2014-01-15 Hailed as the greatest biography of our era The Times Robert Caro's monumental work on American President Lyndon Johnson is a breathtakingly dramatic story told with consummate artistry and ardor The New York Times and a work of greatness of such acute observation of politics that its insights are applicable far beyond its time and place Independent This the series crowning volume Economist spans the years 1958 to 1964 arguably the most crucial years in the life of Johnson and pivotal years for American history This era saw some of the most frustrating moments of Johnson's career but also some of his most triumphant His battle with the Kennedy brothers over the 1960 Democratic nomination for president was a bitter one and the ensuing years of Johnson's vice presidency were marked with humiliation But thrust into power following the assassination of J F Kennedy Johnson grasped the presidential role with unprecedented skill Caro provides a fresh perspective on Kennedy's assassination from Johnson's viewpoint and penetrates deep into what it was like for him to assume a position of such power at a time of national crisis The Passage of Power documents Johnson's extraordinary early presidency forcing previously abandoned bills on the budget and civil rights through an uncooperative Congress and striving to achieve what he saw to be the highest standard of office Caro shows a delicacy of touch and a profoundness of insight into the state of a nation under the hand of a political master Collectively these volumes constitute a major history of America in the first three quarters of the twentieth century

Master of the Senate Robert A. Caro, 2002-04-23 Master of the Senate Book Three of The Years of Lyndon Johnson carries Johnson's story through one of its most remarkable periods his twelve years from 1949 to 1960 in the United States Senate A Los Angeles Times Best Nonfiction Book of the Last 30 Years At the heart of the book is its unprecedented revelation of how legislative power works in America how the Senate works and how Johnson in his ascent to the presidency mastered the Senate as no political leader before him had ever done It was during these years that all Johnson's experience from his Texas Hill Country boyhood to his passionate representation in Congress of his hardscrabble constituents to his tireless construction of a political machine came to fruition Caro introduces the story with a dramatic account of the Senate itself how Daniel Webster Henry Clay and John C Calhoun had made it the center of governmental energy the forum in which the great issues of the country were thrashed out And how by the time Johnson arrived it had dwindled into a body that merely responded to executive initiatives all but impervious to the forces of change Caro anatomizes the genius for political strategy and tactics by which in an institution that had made the seniority system all powerful for a century and more Johnson became Majority Leader after only a single term the youngest and greatest Senate Leader in our history how he manipulated the Senate's hallowed rules and customs and the weaknesses and strengths of his colleagues to change the unchangeable Senate from a loose confederation of sovereign senators to a whirring legislative machine under his own iron fisted control Caro demonstrates how Johnson's political genius enabled him to reconcile the unreconcilable to retain the support of the southerners who controlled the Senate while earning the trust or at least the cooperation of the liberals led by Paul Douglas

and Hubert Humphrey without whom he could not achieve his goal of winning the presidency He shows the dark side of Johnson s ambition how he proved his loyalty to the great oil barons who had financed his rise to power by ruthlessly destroying the career of the New Dealer who was in charge of regulating them Federal Power Commission Chairman Leland Olds And we watch him achieve the impossible convincing southerners that although he was firmly in their camp as the anointed successor to their leader Richard Russell it was essential that they allow him to make some progress toward civil rights In a breathtaking tour de force Caro details Johnson s amazing triumph in maneuvering to passage the first civil rights legislation since 1875 Master of the Senate told with an abundance of rich detail that could only have come from Caro s peerless research is both a galvanizing portrait of the man himself the titan of Capital Hill volcanic mesmerizing and a definitive and revelatory study of the workings and personal and legislative power *The Passage of Power* Robert A. Caro, 2013-05-07 WINNER OF THE NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD THE LOS ANGELES TIMES BOOK PRIZE THE MARK LYNTON HISTORY PRIZE THE AMERICAN HISTORY BOOK PRIZE Book Four of Robert A Caro s monumental The Years of Lyndon Johnson displays all the narrative energy and illuminating insight that led the Times of London to acclaim it as one of the truly great political biographies of the modern age A masterpiece The Passage of Power follows Lyndon Johnson through both the most frustrating and the most triumphant periods of his career 1958 to 1964 It is a time that would see him trade the extraordinary power he had created for himself as Senate Majority Leader for what became the wretched powerlessness of a Vice President in an administration that disdained and distrusted him Yet it was as well the time in which the presidency the goal he had always pursued would be thrust upon him in the moment it took an assassin s bullet to reach its mark By 1958 as Johnson began to maneuver for the presidency he was known as one of the most brilliant politicians of his time the greatest Senate Leader in our history But the 1960 nomination would go to the young senator from Massachusetts John F Kennedy Caro gives us an unparalleled account of the machinations behind both the nomination and Kennedy s decision to offer Johnson the vice presidency revealing the extent of Robert Kennedy s efforts to force Johnson off the ticket With the consummate skill of a master storyteller he exposes the savage animosity between Johnson and Kennedy s younger brother portraying one of America s great political feuds Yet Robert Kennedy s overt contempt for Johnson was only part of the burden of humiliation and isolation he bore as Vice President With a singular understanding of Johnson s heart and mind Caro describes what it was like for this mighty politician to find himself altogether powerless in a world in which power is the crucial commodity For the first time in Caro s breathtakingly vivid narrative we see the Kennedy assassination through Lyndon Johnson s eyes We watch Johnson step into the presidency inheriting a staff fiercely loyal to his slain predecessor a Congress determined to retain its power over the executive branch and a nation in shock and mourning We see how within weeks grasping the reins of the presidency with supreme mastery he propels through Congress essential legislation that at the time of Kennedy s death seemed hopelessly logjammed and seizes on a dormant Kennedy program to

create the revolutionary War on Poverty Caro makes clear how the political genius with which Johnson had ruled the Senate now enabled him to make the presidency wholly his own This was without doubt Johnson's finest hour before his aspirations and accomplishments were overshadowed and eroded by the trap of Vietnam In its exploration of this pivotal period in Johnson's life and in the life of the nation *The Passage of Power* is not only the story of how he surmounted unprecedented obstacles in order to fulfill the highest purpose of the presidency but is as well a revelation of both the pragmatic potential in the presidency and what can be accomplished when the chief executive has the vision and determination to move beyond the pragmatic and initiate programs designed to transform a nation It is an epic story told with a depth of detail possible only through the peerless research that forms the foundation of Robert Caro's work confirming Nicholas von Hoffman's verdict that Caro has changed the art of political biography

Great Society Nancy A. Colbert, 2002 Discusses the personal life and political career of the man who served as senator from Texas vice president and thirty sixth president of the United States

Master of the Senate Robert A. Caro, 2009-07-22 Master of the Senate Book Three of The Years of Lyndon Johnson carries Johnson's story through one of its most remarkable periods his twelve years from 1949 to 1960 in the United States Senate A Los Angeles Times Best Nonfiction Book of the Last 30 Years At the heart of the book is its unprecedented revelation of how legislative power works in America how the Senate works and how Johnson in his ascent to the presidency mastered the Senate as no political leader before him had ever done It was during these years that all Johnson's experience from his Texas Hill Country boyhood to his passionate representation in Congress of his hardscrabble constituents to his tireless construction of a political machine came to fruition Caro introduces the story with a dramatic account of the Senate itself how Daniel Webster Henry Clay and John C Calhoun had made it the center of governmental energy the forum in which the great issues of the country were thrashed out And how by the time Johnson arrived it had dwindled into a body that merely responded to executive initiatives all but impervious to the forces of change Caro anatomizes the genius for political strategy and tactics by which in an institution that had made the seniority system all powerful for a century and more Johnson became Majority Leader after only a single term the youngest and greatest Senate Leader in our history how he manipulated the Senate's hallowed rules and customs and the weaknesses and strengths of his colleagues to change the unchangeable Senate from a loose confederation of sovereign senators to a whirring legislative machine under his own iron fisted control Caro demonstrates how Johnson's political genius enabled him to reconcile the unreconcilable to retain the support of the southerners who controlled the Senate while earning the trust or at least the cooperation of the liberals led by Paul Douglas and Hubert Humphrey without whom he could not achieve his goal of winning the presidency He shows the dark side of Johnson's ambition how he proved his loyalty to the great oil barons who had financed his rise to power by ruthlessly destroying the career of the New Dealer who was in charge of regulating them Federal Power Commission Chairman Leland Olds And we watch him achieve the impossible convincing southerners that although he was firmly in their

camp as the anointed successor to their leader Richard Russell it was essential that they allow him to make some progress toward civil rights In a breathtaking tour de force Caro details Johnson s amazing triumph in maneuvering to passage the first civil rights legislation since 1875 Master of the Senate told with an abundance of rich detail that could only have come from Caro s peerless research is both a galvanizing portrait of the man himself the titan of Capital Hill volcanic mesmerizing and a definitive and revelatory study of the workings and personal and legislative power *The Passage of Power* Robert A. Caro, 2013-05-07 WINNER OF THE NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD THE LOS ANGELES TIMES BOOK PRIZE THE MARK LYNTON HISTORY PRIZE THE AMERICAN HISTORY BOOK PRIZE One of the New York Times s 100 Best Books of the 21st Century Book Four of Robert A Caro s monumental The Years of Lyndon Johnson displays all the narrative energy and illuminating insight that led the Times of London to acclaim it as one of the truly great political biographies of the modern age A masterpiece The Passage of Power follows Lyndon Johnson through both the most frustrating and the most triumphant periods of his career 1958 to 1964 It is a time that would see him trade the extraordinary power he had created for himself as Senate Majority Leader for what became the wretched powerlessness of a Vice President in an administration that disdained and distrusted him Yet it was as well the time in which the presidency the goal he had always pursued would be thrust upon him in the moment it took an assassin s bullet to reach its mark By 1958 as Johnson began to maneuver for the presidency he was known as one of the most brilliant politicians of his time the greatest Senate Leader in our history But the 1960 nomination would go to the young senator from Massachusetts John F Kennedy Caro gives us an unparalleled account of the machinations behind both the nomination and Kennedy s decision to offer Johnson the vice presidency revealing the extent of Robert Kennedy s efforts to force Johnson off the ticket With the consummate skill of a master storyteller he exposes the savage animosity between Johnson and Kennedy s younger brother portraying one of America s great political feuds Yet Robert Kennedy s overt contempt for Johnson was only part of the burden of humiliation and isolation he bore as Vice President With a singular understanding of Johnson s heart and mind Caro describes what it was like for this mighty politician to find himself altogether powerless in a world in which power is the crucial commodity For the first time in Caro s breathtakingly vivid narrative we see the Kennedy assassination through Lyndon Johnson s eyes We watch Johnson step into the presidency inheriting a staff fiercely loyal to his slain predecessor a Congress determined to retain its power over the executive branch and a nation in shock and mourning We see how within weeks grasping the reins of the presidency with supreme mastery he propels through Congress essential legislation that at the time of Kennedy s death seemed hopelessly logjammed and seizes on a dormant Kennedy program to create the revolutionary War on Poverty Caro makes clear how the political genius with which Johnson had ruled the Senate now enabled him to make the presidency wholly his own This was without doubt Johnson s finest hour before his aspirations and accomplishments were overshadowed and eroded by the trap of Vietnam In its exploration of this pivotal period in Johnson s life and in the life of the nation The

Passage of Power is not only the story of how he surmounted unprecedented obstacles in order to fulfill the highest purpose of the presidency but is as well a revelation of both the pragmatic potential in the presidency and what can be accomplished when the chief executive has the vision and determination to move beyond the pragmatic and initiate programs designed to transform a nation. It is an epic story told with a depth of detail possible only through the peerless research that forms the foundation of Robert Caro's work confirming Nicholas von Hoffman's verdict that Caro has changed the art of political biography.

Larger than Life: Lyndon B. Johnson and the Right to Vote Anne Quirk, 2021-07-27 An accessible informed and timely biography of Lyndon Johnson that centers his life and presidency around the passage of the Voting Rights Act. Keenly known for both his triumphs and his failures, Lyndon B. Johnson was one of the most complex and compelling presidents in US history. Anne Quirk's biography alternates between chapters that follow LBJ's childhood in rural Texas, learning politics from his parents, his time teaching Mexican American students at a small town school, and his days in Congress as majority leader and as vice president, and chapters that cover his work alongside civil rights leaders and the passage of the Voting Rights Act. An epilogue discusses the Supreme Court's 2013 ruling that struck down key portions of the act. With engaging storytelling, Quirk paints a rich portrait of Johnson's presidency, celebrating the accomplishments of his Great Society programs while refusing to shy away from his catastrophic decisions regarding Vietnam and the summer riots of 1967. *Larger Than Life* presents striking parallels to today's political arena: an outsize character presiding over a divided nation but to different ends.

The Thirty-first of March Horace Busby, Hugh Sidey, 2023-04-11 An intimate retelling of Lyndon B. Johnson's politics and presidency by one of his closest advisors. Horace Busby was one of LBJ's most trusted advisors; their close working and personal relationship spanned twenty years. In *The Thirty First of March*, he offers an indelible portrait of a president and a presidency at a time of crisis. From the aftereffects of the Kennedy assassination, when Busby was asked by the newly sworn-in president to sit by his bedside during his first troubled nights in office, to the concerns that defined the Great Society: civil rights, the economy, social legislation, housing, and the Vietnam War, Busby not only articulated and refined Johnson's political thinking, he also helped shape the most ambitious far-reaching legislative agenda since FDR's New Deal. Here is Johnson the politician, Johnson the schemer, Johnson who advised against JFK's choice of an open limousine that fateful day in Dallas, and Johnson the father, sickened by the deaths of young men fighting and dying in Vietnam on his orders. *The Thirty first of March* is a rare glimpse into the inner sanctum of Johnson's presidency as seen through the eyes of one of the people who understood him best.

Master of the Senate Robert A. Caro, 2019-07-04 The greatest biography of our era. Essential reading for those who want to comprehend power and politics. *The Times*. Robert A. Caro's legendary multi-award-winning biography of US President Lyndon Johnson is a uniquely riveting and revelatory account of power, political genius, and the shaping of twentieth-century America. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award, *Master of the Senate* takes Johnson's story through one of its most remarkable periods: his twelve years from

1949 to 1960 in the United States Senate Once the most august and revered body in politics by the time Johnson arrived the Senate had become a parody of itself and an obstacle that for decades had blocked desperately needed liberal legislation Caro shows how Johnson's brilliance charm and ruthlessness enabled him to become the youngest and most powerful Majority Leader in history and how he used his incomparable legislative genius seducing both Northern liberals and Southern conservatives to pass the first Civil Rights legislation since Reconstruction

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