# ROBERT A. CARO THE YEARS OF LYNDON JOHNSON

## PASSAGE PASSAGE POWER

"Brilliant.... Important.... Remarkable..... In sparkling detail.

Caro shows Johnson's genius for getting to people—friends, foes and

everyone in between—and how he used it to achieve his goals."

—PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON, The New York Times Book Review

### **The Passage Of Power The Years Of Lyndon Johnson Iv**

**Duane Tananbaum** 

#### The Passage Of Power The Years Of Lyndon Johnson Iv:

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 guarters of the twentieth century 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 logiammed 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, 1982-11-12 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 Raybum 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 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

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Robert A. Caro's The Years of Lyndon Johnson Set Robert A. Caro, 2013-04-09 The political biography of our time now available in a four volume hardcover set Robert A Caro s life of Lyndon Johnson is one of the richest most intensive and most revealing examinations ever undertaken of an American president It is the magnum opus of a writer perfectly suited to his task the Pulitzer Prize winning biographer historian chronicler also of Robert Moses in The Power Broker whose inspired research and profound understanding of the nature of ambition and the dynamics of power have made him a peerless explicator of political lives Taken together the installments of Mr Caro's monumental life of Johnson form a revealing prism by which to view the better part of a century in American life and politics during which the country experienced tumultuous and divisive social change Gripping Michiko Kakutani The New York Times By writing the best presidential biography the country has ever seen Caro has forever changed the way we think and read American history It s his immense talent as a writer that has made his biography of Johnson one of America's most amazing literary achievements As absorbing as a political thriller A masterpiece unlike any other work of American history published in the past It s true that there will never be another Lyndon B Johnson but there will never be another Robert A Caro either NPR One of the truly great political biographies of the modern age A masterpiece The Times London The Path to Power reveals 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 National Book Critics Circle Award in Nonfiction

Means of Ascent follows Johnson through his service in World War II to the foundation of his long concealed fortune and the facts behind the myth he created about it The explosive heart of the book is Caro's revelation of the true story of the fiercely contested 1948 senatorial election which Johnson had to win or face certain political death and which he did win by 87 votes that changed history 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 National Book Critics Circle Award in Biography Master of the Senate carries Johnson's story through his twelve remarkable years in the Senate It is an 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 In a breathtaking tour de force Caro details Johnson's amazing triumph in maneuvering to passage the first civil rights legislation since 1875 Pulitzer Prize in Biography Los Angeles Times Book Award in Biography National Book Award in Nonfiction The Passage of Power is an unparalleled account of the battle between Johnson and John Kennedy for the 1960 presidential nomination of the machinations behind Kennedy's decision to offer Johnson the vice presidency of Johnson's powerlessness and humiliation in that role and of the savage animosity between Johnson and Robert Kennedy In Caro's description of the Kennedy assassination which The New York Times called the most riveting ever we see the events of November 22 1963 for the first time through Lyndon Johnson's eyes And we watch as his political genius enables him to grasp the reins of the presidency with total command and within weeks make it wholly his own surmounting unprecedented obstacles in order to fulfill the highest purpose of the office National Book Critics Circle Award in Biography Brilliant Important Remarkable In sparkling detail Caro shows Johnson's genius for getting to people friends foes and everyone in between and how he used it to achieve his goals With this fascinating and meticulous account Robert Caro has once again done America a great service President Bill Clinton The New York Times Book Review front cover The politicians political book of choice An encyclopedia of dirty tricks that would make Machiavelli seem na ve London Literary Review Making ordinary politics and policymaking riveting and revealing is what makes Caro a genius Combined with his penetrating insight and fanatical research Caro s Churchill like prose elevates the life of a fairly influential president to stuff worthy of Shakespeare Robert Caro stands alone as the unquestioned master of the contemporary American political biography The Boston Globe LBI's America Mark Atwood Lawrence, Mark K. Updegrove, 2023-10-19 Delves into the life and presidency of LBJ illustrating how his policies laid the foundations of contemporary America The Oxford Handbook of Political Leadership R. A. W. Rhodes, Paul 't Hart, 2014-05-29 Political leadership has made a comeback It was studied intensively not only by political scientists but also by political sociologists and psychologists Sovietologists political anthropologists and by scholars in comparative and development studies from the 1940s to the 1970s Thereafter the field lost its way with the rise of structuralism neo institutionalism and rational choice approaches to the study of politics government and governance Recently however

students of politics have returned to studying the role of individual leaders and the exercise of leadership to explain political outcomes The list of topics is nigh endless elections conflict management public policy government popularity development governance networks and regional integration In the media age leaders are presented and stage managed spun DDLas the solution to almost every social problem Through the mass media and the Internet citizens and professional observers follow the rise impact and fall of senior political officeholders at closer quarters than ever before This Handbook encapsulates the resurgence by asking where are we today It orders the multidisciplinary field by identifying the distinct and distinctive contributions of the disciplines It meets the urgent need to take stock It brings together scholars from around the world encouraging a comparative perspective to provide a comprehensive coverage of all the major disciplines methods and regions It showcases both the normative and empirical traditions in political leadership studies and juxtaposes behavioural institutional and interpretive approaches It covers formal office based as well as informal emergent political leadership and in both democratic and undemocratic polities The Times They Were a-Changin' Robert S McElvaine, 2022-06-07 An award winning historian on the transformative year in the sixties that continues to reverberate in our lives and politics for readers of Heather Cox Richardson If 1968 marked a turning point in a pivotal decade 1964 or rather the long 1964 from JFK s assassination in November 1963 to mid 1965 was the time when the sixties truly arrived It was then that the United States began a radical shift toward a much more inclusive definition of American with a greater degree of equality and a government actively involved in social and economic improvement It was a radical shift accompanied by a cultural revolution The same month Bob Dylan released his iconic ballad The Times They Are a Changin January 1964 President Lyndon Johnson announced his War on Poverty Spurred by the civil rights movement and a generation pushing for change the Civil Rights Act the Voting Rights Act and the Immigration and Nationality Act were passed during this period This was a time of competing definitions of freedom Freedom from racism freedom from poverty White youth sought freedoms they associated with black culture captured imperfectly in the phrase sex drugs and rock n roll Along with freedom from racist oppression black Americans sought the opportunities associated with the white middle class white freedom Women challenged rigid gender roles And in response to these freedoms the changing mores and youth culture the contrary impulse found political expression in such figures as Barry Goldwater and Ronald Reagan proponents of what was presented as freedom from government interference Meanwhile a nonevent in the Tonkin Gulf would accelerate the nation's plunge into the Vietnam tragedy In narrating 1964 s moment of reckoning when American identity began to be reimagined McElvaine ties those past battles to their legacy today Throughout he captures the changing consciousness of the period through its vibrant music film literature and personalities THE YEARS OF LYNDON JOHNSON: THE PASSAGE OF POWER. Robert Caro, The Presidential Image Iwan Morgan, Mark White, 2020-04-02 Presidential Image has become an integral part of the campaign presidency and legacy of Modern American presidents Across the 20th century to the age of Trump presidential image has

dominated media coverage and public consciousness winning elections gaining support for their leadership in office and shaping their reputation in history Is the creation of the presidential image part of a carefully conceived public relations strategy or result of the president's critics and opponents Can the way the media interpret a presidents actions and words alter their image And how much influence do cultural outputs contribute to the construction of a presidential image Using ten presidential case studies this edited collection features contributions from scholars and political journalists from the UK and America to analyse aspects of Presidential Image that shaped their perceived effectiveness as America's leader and to explore this complex controversial and continuous element of modern presidential politics **Honest Answers about the** Murder of President John F. Kennedy Vincent Michael Palamara, 2021-03-19 Thousands of books and articles have been written about the murder of JFK many of which are large in volume and short on facts Quite often these works try to reinvent the wheel attempting to cover every single area of the assassination as well as many tangential and unessential points as well The reader is often left exhausted and confused The sheer volume of pages conflicting facts and theories leaves one unsatisfied and guite frankly not sure exactly what did happen on 11 22 63 This book seeks to separate the wheat from the chaff It is 55 plus years later it is time for real honest answers in an easy to read and understand format Proof of a conspiracy no theories to the point a perspective on the assassination for the millennial age and beyond Based on years decades of primary source research and having read countless books on the subject 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 The Double Game James Cameron, 2018 How did the United States move from a position of nuclear superiority over the Soviet Union at the beginning of the 1960s to one of nuclear parity under the doctrine of mutual assured destruction in 1972 Drawing on declassified records of conversations three presidents had with their most trusted advisors James Cameron offers an original answer to this question John F Kennedy Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon struggled to reconcile their personal convictions about the nuclear arms race with the views of the public and Congress In doing so they engaged in a double game hiding their true beliefs behind a fa ade of strategic language while grappling in private with the complex realities of the nuclear age Cameron shows how despite reservations about the nuclear buildup Kennedy and Johnson pushed ahead with an anti ballistic missile ABM system for the United States fearing the domestic political consequences of scrapping both the system and the popular doctrine of strategic superiority that underpinned it By contrast the abrupt decline in US public and congressional support in 1969 forced Nixon to give up America's first ABM and the US lead in offensive ballistic missiles through agreements with the Soviet Union despite his conviction that the US needed a nuclear edge to maintain the security of the West By placing this dynamic at the center of the story The Double Game provides a new overarching interpretation of this pivotal period in the development of US nuclear policy and a window onto current debates over nuclear superiority deterrence and the future of American grand 50 Politics Classics: Freedom Equality Power Tom Butler-Bowdon, 2015-05-07 Explore politics through 50 classic strategy books and influential writers who produced mind changing ideas and world changing political thought Giants J. Michael Martinez, 2020-05-26 The Congress of the United States operates in the shadow of the American presidency which can make the legislative branch appear less important than the executive in our constitutional system of government And yet Congress is a co equal branch of government deriving its powers from Article I of the United States Constitution Love it or hate it the institution is a source of incredible power It behooves all Americans to learn more about Congress Although a single slender volume cannot provide information on all there is to know about Congress it can begin the journey In Congressional Giants political scientist J Michael Martinez explores the careers and achievements of 14 influential leaders of Congress men who either held formal positions within the chambers of Congress such as speaker of the House of Representatives or Senate majority leader or who served on important committees to determine how they shaped the course of American history **Hidden Power** James Cockayne, 2017-10-01 An exploration of a world in which states and mafias compete in a market for government and not only states but also some criminal groups make war Human Nature, Interest, and Power Tex Sample, 2013-10-17 This book criticizes three basic concepts in Reinhold Niebuhr's social thought his views of human nature interest and power Attention is directed especially at the way Niebuhr's concepts lack sufficient historicity obscure social and political dynamics and finally lack adequate descriptive power An alternative to each of these

concepts is offered and used as a way to open up social thought to more complex analysis more concrete and material uses and a discussion of implications for alternative direction and action The Dillon Era Richard Aldous, 2023-10-02 C Douglas Dillon heir to a vast investment banking fortune and one of the richest men in America during his political career was a Republican who served in a Democratic administration and became one of the greatest modern treasury secretaries He believed in bipartisanship and public duty a sensibility that has all but faded from the current political climate With exclusive access to the family s archive in The Dillon Era Richard Aldous sets fresh eyes on a well documented period in recent American history unfolding a deeply influential but somewhat overlooked political career In 1953 President Eisenhower appointed Dillon as ambassador to Paris and he promoted him to second in command in the State Department in 1958 Tapped by Presidents Kennedy and Johnson for treasury secretary to reassure Wall Street that the nation s finances were in safe hands Dillon would become one of President Kennedy's closest advisors and perhaps the only cabinet member who was a personal friend His impact on the Kennedy and Johnson administrations was immense not least in delivering the most comprehensive income tax cuts the nation had ever seen Overseas he worked to sustain political cooperation as the Bretton Woods system threatened to unravel By the time he left office in 1965 the Washington Post recognized Dillon as by far the best Secretary of the Treasury of the postwar period and European Economic Community president Walter Hallstein hailed a new Dillon era Dillon advocated for evolution and reform over radicalism and he placed the national interest above party interest The Dillon Era throws new light on the postwar period identifying Dillon as a pivotal figure in American policymaking during these crucial years of the Cold War Herbert H. Lehman Duane Tananbaum, 2016-12-20 This new biography of Herbert Lehman the first in a half century fills the void left by historians and political scientists who have neglected one of the truly great liberal icons of the mid twentieth century Based on extensive research in archival sources Herbert H Lehman restores this four term Governor of New York US Senator national and international humanitarian and political reformer to his rightful place among the pantheon of liberal heroes of his era By focusing on Lehman's interactions with Al Smith Franklin Roosevelt Harry Truman Lyndon Johnson and John Kennedy Duane Tananbaum shows how Lehman succeeded politically despite his refusal to compromise with his conscience In his thirty five years of public service Herbert Lehman fought the Republicans in the State Legislature to provide economic security for New Yorkers during the Great Depression and he battled the bureaucrats in the Roosevelt and Truman administrations and the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to feed the starving people in Europe and Asia during and after World War II His efforts on behalf of the welfare state civil rights legislation and immigration reform helped keep the liberal agenda alive until Congress and the nation were ready to enact it into law as part of Lyndon Johnson's Great Society in 1964 1965

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#### The Passage Of Power The Years Of Lyndon Johnson Iv Introduction

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