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ROBERT A. CARO  
THE YEARS OF  
LYNDON  
JOHNSON



THE  
PATH TO  
POWER

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—THE WASHINGTON POST

# Path To Power The Years Of Lyndon Johnso

**Robert Dallek**



## **Path To Power The Years Of Lyndon Johnson:**

**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

**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 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 *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.

**Working** Robert A. Caro, 2019-04-09 One of the great reporters of our time and probably the greatest biographer, *The Sunday Times* London. From the two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Power Broker* and *The Years of Lyndon Johnson*, an unprecedented gathering of vivid, candid, deeply moving recollections about his experiences researching and writing his acclaimed books. Now in paperback, Robert Caro gives us a glimpse into his own life and work in these evocatively written personal pieces. He describes what it was like to interview the mighty Robert Moses and to begin discovering the extent of the political power Moses wielded; the combination of discouragement and exhilaration he felt confronting the vast holdings of the Lyndon B. Johnson Library in Austin, Texas; his encounters with witnesses including longtime residents wrenchingly displaced by the construction of Moses Cross Bronx Expressway and Lady Bird Johnson acknowledging the beauty and influence of one of LBJ's mistresses. He gratefully remembers how, after years of working in solitude, he found a writers' community at the New York Public Library and details the ways he goes about planning and composing his books. Caro recalls the moments at which he came to understand that he wanted to write not just about the men who wielded power but about the people and the politics that were shaped by that power. And he talks about the importance to him of the writing itself, of how he tries to infuse it with a sense of place and mood to bring characters and situations to life on the page. Taken together, these reminiscences, some previously published, some written expressly for this book, bring into focus the passion, the wry self-deprecation, and the integrity with which this brilliant historian has always approached his work. To understand more about Robert Caro's research, see the Sony Pictures Classic documentary *Turn Every Page*.

**Lyndon B. Johnson** Robert Dallek, 2005 This superb one-volume biography of Lyndon Baines Johnson is by the bestselling author of *An Unfinished Life*. John F. Kennedy 1917-1963

*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 Lone Star Rising Robert Dallek,1991-08-15 Like other great figures of 20th century American politics Lyndon Johnson defies easy understanding An unrivaled master of vote swapping back room deals and election day skulduggery he was nevertheless an outspoken New Dealer with a genuine commitment to the poor and the underprivileged With aides and colleagues he could be overbearing crude and vindictive but at other times shy sophisticated and magnanimous Perhaps columnist Russell Baker said it best Johnson was a character out of a Russian novel a storm of warring human instincts sinner and saint buffoon and statesman cynic and sentimentalist But Johnson was also a representative figure His career speaks volumes about American politics foreign policy and business in the forty years after 1930 As Charles de Gaulle said when he came to JFK s funeral Kennedy

was America's mask but this man Johnson is the country's real face In Lone Star Rising Robert Dallek winner of the prestigious Bancroft Prize for his study of Franklin D Roosevelt now turns to this fascinating sinner and saint to offer a brilliant definitive portrait of a great American politician Based on seven years of research in over 450 manuscript collections and oral histories as well as numerous personal interviews this first book in a two volume biography follows Johnson's life from his childhood on the banks of the Pedernales to his election as vice president under Kennedy We see Johnson the twenty three year old aide to a pampered millionaire Representative become a de facto Congressman and at age twenty eight the country's best state director of the National Youth Administration We see Johnson the human dynamo first in the House and then in 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 Dallek pays full due to Johnson's failings his obsession with being top dog his willingness to cut corners and worse to get there but he also illuminates Johnson's sheer brilliance as a politician the high regard in which key members of the New Deal including FDR held him and his genuine concern for minorities and the downtrodden No president in American history is currently less admired than Lyndon Johnson Bitter memories of Vietnam have sent Johnson's reputation into free fall and recent biographies have painted him as a scoundrel who did more harm than good Lone Star Rising attempts to strike a balance It does not neglect the tawdry side of Johnson's political career including much that is revealed for the first time But it also reminds us that Lyndon Johnson was a man of exceptional vision who from early in his career worked to bring the South into the mainstream of American economic and political life to give the disadvantaged a decent chance and to end racial segregation for the well being of the nation

*Walter Lippmann and the American Century* Ronald Steel, 2017-09-29 Walter Lippmann began his career as a brilliant young man at Harvard studying under George Santayana taking tea with William James a radical outsider arguing socialism with anyone who would listen and he ended it in his eighties writing passionately about the agony of rioting in the streets war in Asia and the collapse of a presidency In between he lived through two world wars and a depression that shook the foundations of American capitalism Walter Lippmann 1889-1974 has been hailed as the greatest journalist of his age For more than sixty years he exerted unprecedented influence on American public opinion through his writing especially his famous newspaper column Today and Tomorrow Beginning with The New Republic in the halcyon days prior to Woodrow Wilson and the First World War millions of Americans gradually came to rely on Lippmann to comprehend the vital issues of the day In this absorbing biography Ronald Steel meticulously documents the philosophers and politics the friendships and quarrels the trials and triumphs of this man who for six decades stood at the center of American political life Lippmann's experience spanned a period when the American empire was born matured and began to wane a time some have called the American Century No one better captured its possibilities and wrote about them so wisely and so well no one was more the mind the voice and the conscience of that era than Walter Lippmann journalist moralist public philosopher **Morrison's**

**Mission: A Lowy Institute Paper: Penguin Special** Paul Kelly, 2022-02 When he became Prime Minister in 2018 Scott Morrison was a foreign policy amateur confronted by unprecedented challenges an assertive Beijing and a looming rivalry between the two biggest economies in world history the United States and China Morrison plunged into foreign and security policy by making highly contentious changes that will be felt for decades not least the historic decision to build nuclear powered submarines Featuring interviews with Morrison and members of his cabinet this book tells the story of the Prime Minister's foreign policy convictions and calculations and what drove his attitudes towards China America and the Indo Pacific

*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 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 Indomitable Will Mark Updegrove, 2012-03-13 Nearly fifty years after being sworn in as president of the United States in the wake of John F Kennedy's assassination Lyndon Baines Johnson remains a largely misunderstood figure His force of personality mastery of power and the political process and boundless appetite for social reform made him one of the towering figures of his time But he was one of the most protean and paradoxical of presidents as well Because of his flawed nature and inherent contradictions some claimed there were as many LBJs as there were people who knew him Intent on fulfilling the promise of America Johnson launched a revolution in civil rights federal aid to education and health care for the elderly and indigent and expanded immigration and environmental protection A flurry of landmark laws he would sign an unparalleled 207 during his five years in office including the Civil Rights Act of 1964 Voting Rights Act of 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act Head Start and Medicare are testaments to the triumph of his will His War on Poverty alone brought the U S poverty rate down from 20 percent to 12 percent the biggest one time drop in American history As president he was known for getting things done At the same time Johnson's presidency and the fulfillment of its own promise was blighted by his escalation of an ill fated war in Vietnam that tore at the fabric of America and saw the loss of 36 000 U S troops by the end of his term Presidential historian Mark K Updegrove offers an intimate portrait of the endlessly fascinating LBJ his extraordinarily eventful presidency and the turbulent times in which he served We see Johnson in his many guises and dimensions the virtuoso deal maker using every inch of his six foot three inch frame to intimidate his subjects the relentless reformer willing to lose southern Democrats from his party for a generation in his pursuit of civil rights for all Americans and the embattled commander in chief agonizing over the fate of his boys in Vietnam including his two sons in law yet steadfast in his determination to thwart Communist aggression through war or an honorable peace Through original interviews and personal accounts from White House aides and Cabinet members political allies and foes and friends and family from Robert McNamara to Barry Goldwater Lady Bird Johnson to Jacqueline Kennedy as well as through Johnson's own candid reflections and historic White House telephone conversations Indomitable Will reveals LBJ as never before For it is through firsthand narrative more than anything writes Updegrove that Lyndon Johnson who teemed with vitality in his sixty four years and remains enigmatic nearly four decades after his passing comes to life *Dallas, November 22, 1963* Robert A. Caro, 2013-10-01 This account of the Kennedy assassination the most riveting ever says The New York Times is taken from Robert A Caro's brilliant and bestselling *The Passage of Power* Here is that tragic day in Dallas alive with startling details reported for the first time by the two time Pulitzer Prize winning author Just as scandals that

might end his career are about to break over Lyndon Johnson's head the motorcade containing the presidential party is making its slow and triumphant way along the streets of Dallas In Caro's breathtakingly vivid narrative we witness the shots the procession speeding to Parkland Memorial Hospital the moment when Kennedy aide Lawrence O'Donnell tells Johnson He's gone and Johnson's iconic swearing in on Air Force One Compelling An eBook short **LBJ's 1968** Kyle Longley,2018-02-22 1968 was an unprecedented year in terms of upheaval on numerous scales political military economic social cultural In the United States perhaps no one was more undone by the events of 1968 than President Lyndon Baines Johnson Kyle Longley leads his readers on a behind the scenes tour of what Johnson characterized as the year of a continuous nightmare Longley explores how LBJ perceived the most significant events of 1968 including the Vietnam War the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr and Robert Kennedy and the violent Democratic National Convention in Chicago His responses to the crises were sometimes effective but often tragic and LBJ's refusal to seek re-election underscores his recognition of the challenges facing the country in 1968 As much a biography of a single year as it is of LBJ LBJ's 1968 vividly captures the tumult that dominated the headlines on a local and global level *Flawed Giant* Robert Dallek,1998-04-16 *Flawed Giant* the monumental concluding volume to Robert Dallek's biography of Lyndon Baines Johnson provides the most thorough engrossing account ever published of Johnson's years in the national spotlight Drawing on hours of newly released White House tapes and dozens of interviews with people close to the President Dallek reveals LBJ as a visionary leader who worked his will on Congress like no chief executive before or since and also displays the depth of his private anguish as he became increasingly ensnared in Vietnam Writing in a clear thoughtful and evenhanded style Dallek reveals both the greatness and the tangled complexities of one of the most extravagant characters ever to ascend to the White House

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 **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

*Tumultuous Years* Robert J. Donovan,1982      **Waldo Emerson** Gay Wilson Allen,1981 A detailed biography of Emerson s life which also analyzes the development of his poetry and prose      **This Town** Mark Leibovich,2014-04-29 The 1 New York Times bestseller Washington D C might be loathed from every corner of the nation yet these are fun and busy days at

this nexus of big politics big money big media and big vanity There are no Democrats and Republicans anymore in the nation's capital just millionaires Through the eyes of Leibovich we discover how the funeral for a beloved newsman becomes the social event of the year how political reporters are fetishized for their ability to get their names into the predawn e mail sent out by the city's most powerful and puzzled over journalist how a disgraced Hill aide can overcome ignominy and maybe emerge with a more potent brand than many elected members of Congress And how an administration bent on changing Washington can be sucked into the ways of This Town with the same ease with which Tea Party insurgents can once elected settle into it like a warm bath Outrageous fascinating and very necessary This Town is a must read whether you're inside the highway which encircles DC or just trying to get there

**The Years of Lyndon Johnson: The path to power** Robert A. Caro, 1983 In the second volume the author reveals some of the more extreme grotesqueries of American politics For this is the time when Johnson created for himself a much exaggerated record as a war hero when he and his wife Lady Bird made themselves rich by juggling radio station licences And it is the time when Johnson fought for and won by 87 dubious votes his first seat in the US Senate in an election whose corruption was legendary even by Texas standards

Fuel your quest for knowledge with is thought-provoking masterpiece, **Path To Power The Years Of Lyndon Johnso** . This educational ebook, conveniently sized in PDF ( \*), is a gateway to personal growth and intellectual stimulation. Immerse yourself in the enriching content curated to cater to every eager mind. Download now and embark on a learning journey that promises to expand your horizons. .

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