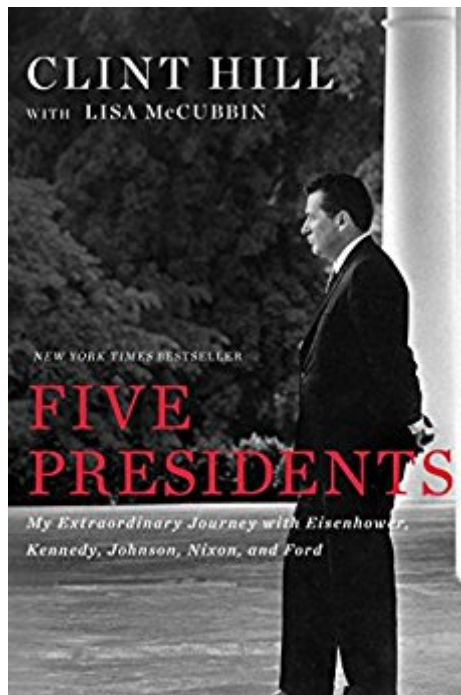


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Five Presidents: My Extraordinary Journey With Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, And Ford



Synopsis

A rare and fascinating portrait of the American presidency from the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Mrs. Kennedy and Me* and *Five Days in November*. Secret Service agent Clint Hill brings history intimately and vividly to life as he reflects on his seventeen years protecting the most powerful office in the nation. Hill walked alongside Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard M. Nixon, and Gerald R. Ford, seeing them through a long, tumultuous era—the Cold War; the Cuban Missile Crisis; the assassinations of John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Robert F. Kennedy; the Vietnam War; Watergate; and the resignations of Spiro Agnew and Richard M. Nixon. Some of his stunning, never-before-revealed anecdotes include: -Eisenhower's reaction at Russian Prime Minister Khrushchev's refusal to talk following the U-2 incident -The torture of watching himself in the Zapruder film in a Secret Service training -Johnson's virtual imprisonment in the White House during violent anti-Vietnam protests -His decision to place White House files under protection after a midnight phone call about Watergate -The challenges of protecting Ford after he pardoned Nixon With a unique insider's perspective, Hill sheds new light on the character and personality of these five presidents, revealing their humanity in the face of grave decisions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Clint Hill has done it again! This incredible book is a MUST READ for anyone with the slightest interest in history. Five Presidents is a rare window into the personalities and characters of five uniquely different presidents written by the Secret Service agent who was there not to judge them, but to protect them. He saw the strengths and weaknesses of these men as they wrestled with life and death decisions. The 60's and 70's were extremely turbulent decades for America's presidency and it was the only time in our history when five presidents in a row over a span of 20 years failed to serve two full terms -- due to assassination, protests over an unpopular war, threat of impeachment, pardon of his predecessor's crimes, incompetence. And Clint Hill was there an arm's length away. There is no hearsay, no editorializing, no opinion, no political point of view--only what he saw and what he heard as history unfolded before his eyes, and you feel like you are right there with him. He was there for the birth of a son, the death of a son and was splattered with a president's blood. He felt Lyndon's hot breath and the poke of his finger as he bullied and intimidated those around him. He portrays how these men spent their private time, their leisure time, and how they treated the people around them. He reveals what it was like to be with Ike on the golf course, how JFK loved to sail and truly seemed to care about his family, how LBJ treated guests at his ranch, how Nixon's paranoia led to his downfall, how Ford's decency calmed the nation. He saw how Eisenhower was worshiped as a hero around the world. Mr. Hill sacrificed his own life, marriage, fatherhood, and emotional health to protect these five presidents.

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