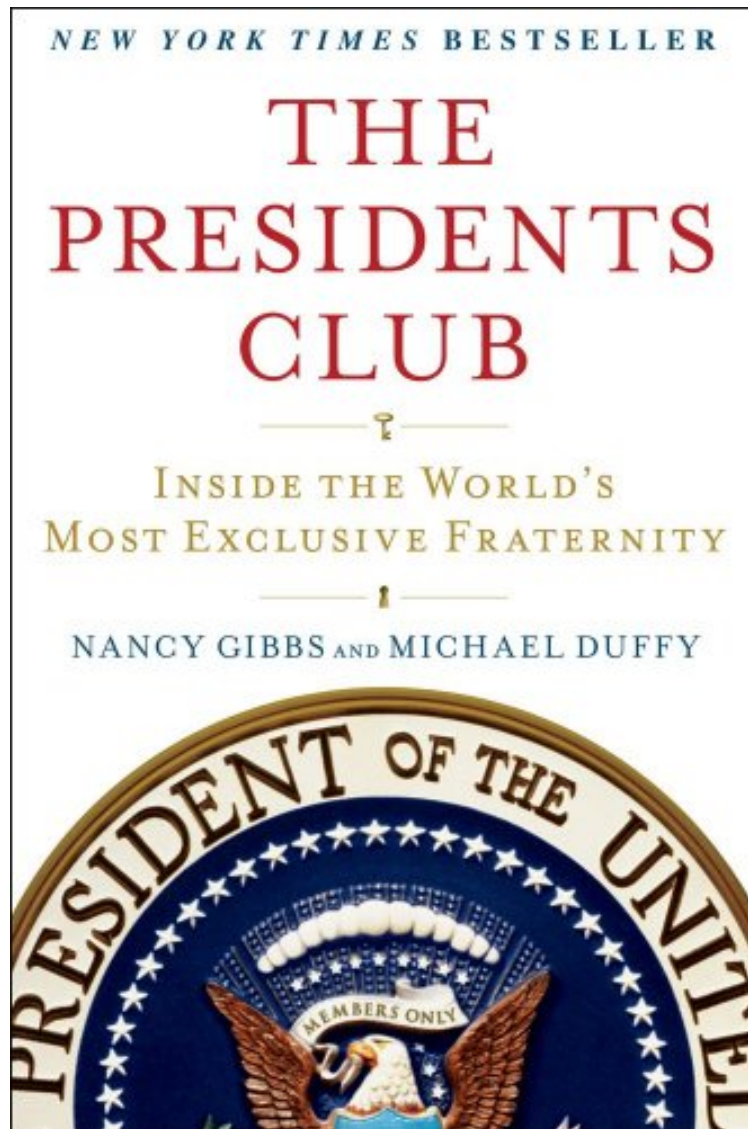


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The Presidents Club: Inside the World's Most Exclusive Fraternity

Nancy Gibbs, Michael Duffy

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Nancy Gibbs, Michael Duffy : The Presidents Club: Inside the World's Most Exclusive Fraternity before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Presidents Club: Inside the World's Most Exclusive Fraternity:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I LOVE THE PRESIDENTS CLUBBy Janie Junebug"The Presidents Club: Inside The World's Most Exclusive Fraternity" is a fascinating read. I enjoyed it tremendously, especially since I'm interested in American history and our presidents. As authors Nancy Gibbs and Michael Duffy

explain, the only members in the relatively modern invention of the club are the men who have been President of The United States. The authors explain that once a man joins the club (and perhaps some day we'll have a woman club member), the other members (for the most part) close ranks around him and do what they can to provide assistance. Gibbs and Duffy state that former presidents rarely criticize their successors because they are the only people who truly understand how difficult the job is. The authors write: "For the former presidents, the club can be a vital, sometimes surprising benefit of post-presidential life. They have relinquished power, but not influence; and so their influence becomes a piece of the sitting president's power. They can do more together than apart, and they all know it; so they join forces as needed, to consult, complain, console, pressure, protect, redeem." Here are some bits of information from the book that I found interesting: The club's formal beginning took place at the inauguration of Dwight Eisenhower when Herbert Hoover suggested to Harry Truman that they organize a former presidents club. "Fine," Truman replied. "You be the President of the club. And I will be the Secretary." Truman had already helped to rehabilitate Hoover's image by requesting his assistance with the problems of post-World War II Europe. When Johnson had to assume the presidency abruptly, Eisenhower became one of his most trusted confidantes. Johnson told Eisenhower that he was the best chief of staff Johnson had. In a breach of loyalty to our country and to his Commander in Chief, Nixon sabotaged Johnson's efforts to end the war in Vietnam. Nixon wanted the war to continue so he would be needed as the president who could achieve peace. The enmity between Ford and Carter ended during the plane trip back to the U.S. following Anwar Sadat's funeral. Ford and Carter then became close friends, and teamed up on many projects. Reagan taught Bill Clinton how to salute properly; Nixon became a close adviser to Clinton. When George W. Bush was elected and greeted his father, former President George H.W. Bush in the Oval Office, both men were so overcome by emotion that they couldn't speak. President George W. Bush asked his father and Bill Clinton to work together to raise funds to provide assistance following catastrophes. Bush (41) and Clinton went on to become such close friends that Bush 43 joked about Clinton recovering from heart surgery -- that Clinton "woke up surrounded by his loved ones: Hillary, Chelsea . . . my Dad." I learned many interesting tidbits of information about U.S. history and our presidents from this book. The Presidents Club has The Janie Junebug Highest Seal of Approval. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Rare Treat of a Book By MPD This is one of the most interesting books that I have ever read. It goes behind the scene and shows how presidents work together after all of the campaigning. I was truly amazed at how close Bill Clinton got to Richard Nixon and how Nixon helped him during his presidency. You can see it going on at the present time when Trump calls on Obama and they develop a relationship to help each other. The presidency is an unorthodox job by its nature so there are not many experienced people that you can call upon for advice and help. This was a wonderful book! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great read! Insightful! By dm Halfway through the book and it's fascinating and humbling what these great (or sometimes not so great) men go through in that Oval Office. Looking forward to finishing it. Recommended!

The New York Times bestselling history of the private relationships among the last thirteen presidents—the partnerships, private deals, rescue missions, and rivalries of those select men who served as commander in chief. The Presidents Club, established at Dwight Eisenhower's inauguration by Harry Truman and Herbert Hoover, is a complicated place: its members are bound forever by the experience of the Oval Office and yet are eternal rivals for history's favor. Among their secrets: How Jack Kennedy tried to blame Ike for the Bay of Pigs. How Ike quietly helped Reagan win his first race in 1966. How Richard Nixon conspired with Lyndon Johnson to get elected and then betrayed him. How Jerry Ford and Jimmy Carter turned a deep enmity into an alliance. The unspoken pact between a father and son named Bush. And the roots of the rivalry between Clinton and Barack Obama. Time magazine editors and presidential historians Nancy Gibbs and Michael Duffy offer a new and revealing lens on the American presidency, exploring the club as a hidden instrument of power that has changed the course of history.

.com Best Books of the Month, April 2012: It's hard to imagine a more obviously fascinating prism through which to look at American history and politics since the end of World War II. Starting with the surprisingly effective relationship of Harry S. Truman and Herbert Hoover, and following through "Obama and His Club," TIME Magazine's Executive Editor Nancy Gibbs and Washington Bureau Chief Michael Duffy trace the surprising, complicated story of "the world's most exclusive fraternity." Sitting presidents and their predecessors have at times proved remarkably simpatico, at others impossible thorns in each other's sides. The authors' extensive research demonstrates that ex-presidents have a penchant for morphing from consummate team players into irascible rogues, sometimes within weeks, as they strive both to remain relevant and to shape their own legacies. In Gibbs and Duffy's hands, their stories never fail to captivate. --Jason Kirk "This is essential reading for anyone interested in American politics." --Robert Dallek, bestselling author of "An Unfinished Life: John F. Kennedy, 1917-1963" "Michael Duffy and Nancy Gibbs have taken us inside one of the most powerful and unusual families in American life--the brotherhood of former presidents of the United States. Political junkies, historians, psychologists and main street citizens will find the tales of friendship, envy, conspiracy, competition and common cause irresistible." --Tom Brokaw, bestselling author of "The Greatest Generation" "Nancy Gibbs and Michael Duffy have given us a great gift: a

deeply reported, highly original, and wonderfully written exploration of a much-overlooked part of American history. The tiny world of U.S. presidents is our Olympus, and Gibbs and Duffy have chronicled the intimacies and rivalries of the gods." --Jon Meacham, bestselling author of "American Lion: Andrew Jackson in the White House" "A fabulous book . . . I absolutely love it." --Greta Van Susteren, FOX News "Michael Duffy and Nancy Gibbs offer more than a fresh and fascinating first look at the world's most exclusive men's club. It's a book of real substance about clashing egos and strange bedfellows at the top." --Jonathan Alter, bestselling author of "The Promise" "The Presidents Club" is magnetically readable, bursting with new information and behind-the-scenes details. It is also an important contribution to history, illuminating the event-making private relationships among our ex-Presidents and why we should do a far better job of drawing on their skills and experience." --Michael Beschloss, bestselling author of "The Conquerors" "This is a great scoop . . . Amazing." --Chris Matthews, NBC "This is a brilliant idea for a book, wonderfully written! At Eisenhower's inauguration, Hoover and Truman half-jokingly decided to form a 'President's Club.' With surprising reporting and insights, this book reveals the relationships and rivalries among the few men who know what it's like to be president. It gives a new angle on history by exploring the essence of the presidency." --Walter Isaacson, bestselling author of "Steve Jobs" and "Benjamin Franklin" "The Presidents Club" is a lucid and well-written glimpse into the modern presidency and its self-sustaining shadow organization. It's worth reading and rereading for its behind-the-scenes insights." --"USA Today" "Forget Rome's Curia, Yale's Skull and Bones and the Bilderbergs--the world's most exclusive club never numbers more than six. . . . Michael Duffy and Nancy Gibbs have penetrated thick walls of secrecy and decorum to give us the most intimate, revealing, and poignant account of the constitutional fifth wheel that is the ex-presidency. Readers are in for some major surprises, not to mention a history they won't be able to put down." --Richard Norton Smith, author of "Patriarch: George Washington and the New American Nation" About the Author Nancy Gibbs is the deputy managing editor of Time magazine and coauthor with Michael Duffy of the New York Times bestseller The Preacher and the Presidents: Billy Graham in the White House. Michael Duffy is Times executive editor and Washington bureau chief and directs coverage of presidents, politics, and national affairs for the magazine.