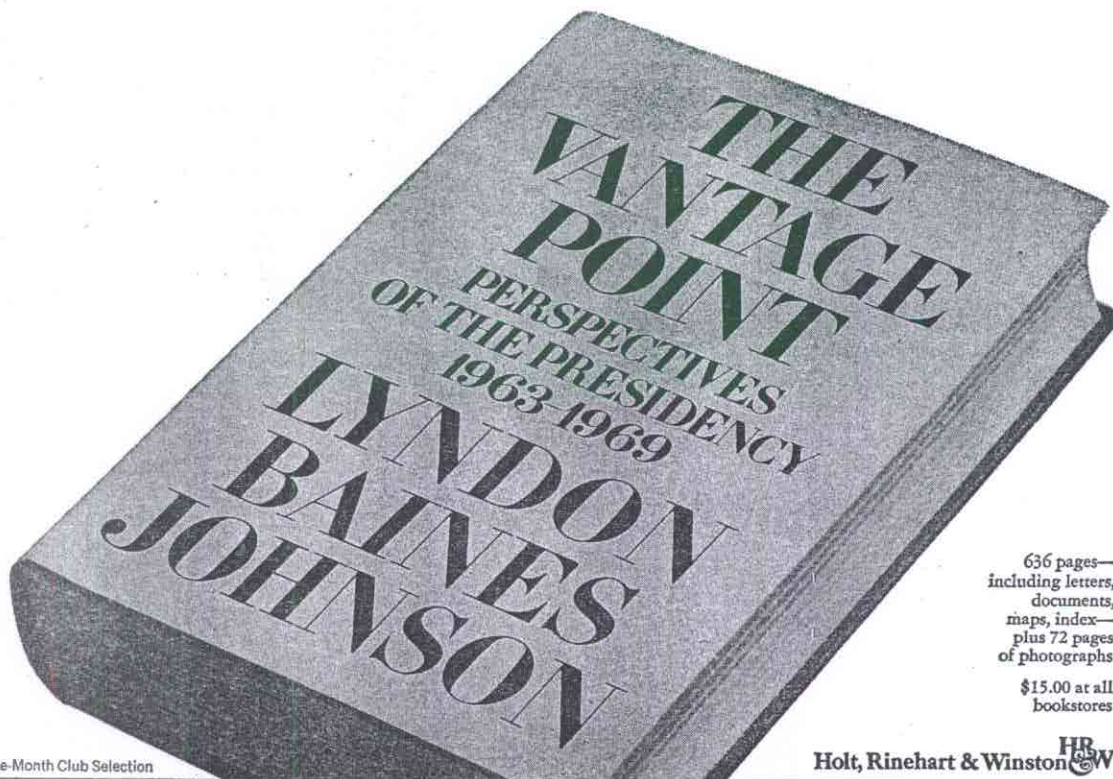


"No one can experience with the President of the United States the glory and agony of his office. No one can share the majestic view from his pinnacle of power. No one can share the burden of his decisions or the scope of his duties.... So his experience is unique among his fellow Americans.

"For better or worse, then, this is a book that only a President could have written. That is the sole excuse for its existence. I make no pretense of having written a complete and definitive history of my Presidency. I have tried, rather, to review that period from a President's point of view—reflecting a President's personal and political philosophy, a President's experience and knowledge, a President's aspirations, and a President's response to the demands that were made on him.

"I have not written these chapters to say, 'This is how it was,' but to say, 'This is how I saw it from my vantage point.'"



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