



Nixon's Secrets: How the Former President Blackmailed the Government

Roger Stone , Mike Colapietro (With)

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Learn the inside scoop on Watergate, the Ford Pardon, and the 18 ½ minute Gap.

Roger Stone, the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Man Who Killed Kennedy*, gives us the inside scoop on how Nixon avoided prosecution after the Watergate scandal. Using Gen Al Haig as his agent, Nixon let Vice President Ford know that he would expose the CIA's involvement in the JFK assassination and Ford's role in altering autopsy records for the Warren Commission if he went to trial in the Watergate scandal. "Tell them if Dick Nixon's going down I'm taking everyone down with me, that prick [CIA Director Richard] Helms, Lyndon, and Jerry Ford are going down with me" was the way Haig phrased it.

Thus Nixon would use this information to avoid prosecution and jail to blackmail Gerald Ford for a full, free and unconditional pardon. Nixon's secret would not only destroy his presidency—it would save him from prison.

Stone examines the bungled Watergate break-in to determine what exactly Nixon's agents were looking for and how the CIA infiltrated the burglar team and sabotaged the break-in to gain leverage over Nixon who was demanding the CIA turn over the records of the Bay of Pigs and Kennedy Assassination. He also explains the 18 1/2 minute gap in the White House Tapes, although the point is moot as the government has still redacted all references to the Bay of Pigs, the Kennedy Assassination, and the CIA from the publicly released Nixon tapes and the Obama Administration's fighting in Federal Court to keep the CIA's Bay of Pigs records sealed.

Nixon's Secrets: How the Former President Blackmailed the Government Details

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From Reader Review Nixon's Secrets: How the Former President Blackmailed the Government for online ebook

Dale Stonehouse says

Evidently the printed version was copied from the ebook and it didn't work properly. There are so many errors it was difficult to make sense of it at times. Otherwise it was OK.

Daniel says

First off, the premise of the book is the key factor that caught my attention. Even though I normally do not go for conspiracy theory kind of books, I do like books about the US presidents so I had some hopes for this book. However, the my main critique of this book is the grammar and the editing. It has multiple GLARING grammatical issues to the point where it took away from the actual reading of the book. Further, I felt as if he used his opinion as fact. It was just a poorly written book filled with erroneous statements. UGH! I couldn't even FINISH the book...

Steve says

Interesting political bio that goes where most bios don't dare to go. This is due to Stone being a political operative (Republican) and not an historian. He has no problem, for example, telling you that Jeb Stuart Macgruder was a "dick." When it comes to Nixon, Stone is a fan who Nixon stayed in touch with after Watergate. He even has a tattoo of Nixon on his back. That said, Stone doesn't avoid Nixon's dark side (the paranoia, the temper, the drinking, the Chinese mistress (that's a new one for me), etc.), which really makes for a refreshing read from a true insider. It's as close to Nixon as you can get. On top of that, the book is a gold mine for other titles on Nixon. Stone has read just about everything.

The book also has a number of great gossip stories, and one huge accusation. That accusation is that LBJ had Kennedy killed (Stone has a separate book devoted to that charge). Not sure what to think about that, but when you read it within the context of Stone's book and voice, it does seem possible, and more probable than Prouty's vague "power elite." Stone's voice seems trustworthy. But the book does have problems and is in bad need of a re-do. I'm no typo Nazi, but there are a quite a few in the book. More troubling are the language repetitions. I often found myself reading portions of paragraphs that had appeared earlier. These were not exactly in error, since I would page back and re-read the previous language, and see (usually) a different emphasis, but it's the kind of thing you smooth out in the drafting phase. I hope Stone (and his co-writer) make the effort, because this is an important book on Nixon.

M Pye says

Impossible to read. Typos and grammatical errors abound! I will avoid Roger Stone and Mike Colapietro from now on.

Scott Henry says

I really wanted to like this book and say I enjoyed it. It was informative and interesting but this mans writing style or lack of it was very distracting. Repetitive and lots of references to the other books he's written. If anyone was in need of an editor this man was definitely in need of one.

Glenn Meinhardt says

For Sale (I mean, you can have it unless I throw it away before you come and get it): A book about Nixon: "Nixon's Secrets" by Roger Stone (with Mike Colapietro), published by Skyhorse Publishing and, I am assuming, there was no editor. It is horrible. It is plagued with distracting typos, which evolve into questionable facts, and then into blatant falsehoods. They don't seem intentional, just extremely sloppy research (or editing I suppose), which of course makes the book useless as a work of nonfiction. A prime example is the last paragraph I read that refers to a show called "Roland and Martin's Laugh-In". (It was Rowan and Martin). This was the last straw, and it occurred on page 306 of a nearly 700 page book. Other examples are quotes that are attributed to different sources, (one in the text and another in a photo). My first clue that the book was questionable was when I came across references for parts of the text that are mundane or even irrelevant to the message (that Nixon invited guests to a party), yet no references for stunning claims (LBJ is responsible for killing Kennedy). There must be a name for this ploy - using a generous number references attached to meaningless facts to impart credibility on adjacent claims that don't have references. It is pretty obvious in this book. I want my money back.

Mark Comer says

Could not finish it. A book in desperate need of an editor as the writing was at times clumsy and repetitive. Frustrated that the author, who in the intro said he wanted balance, make this a very biased narrative that drops disparaging innuendos on those who opposed Richard Nixon like cigarette butts in the gutter (to use a visual back in the day). In my opinion, it makes it hard to claim credibility when that happens. That said, some of the first person perspectives of the time were interesting.

Wilson Trivino says

With the 40 year mark since the resignation of Richard Nixon, a new generation is reexamining the life and times of this very complex politico.

Roger Stone, who was a friend and advisor to Nixon, has penned a book, Nixon's Secrets, that shares a personal side to Richard Nixon. This work showcases a better portrait of this remarkable leader.

Stone notes how Nixon was ahead of his time in understanding the changing world and his public image did not reflect the private man. Nixon was an introvert working in an extrovert business.

Nixon was a fighter and his Quaker roots gave him the foundation needed to withstand some hard times.

Nixon was able to revive from the political wilderness many times.

Stone makes the case that Nixon's comeback to the Presidency was made possible by the assassination of

JFK, even though Kennedy stole the election. How Eisenhower used Nixon as a political attack dog and made him do the dirty work. Nixon also campaigned harder for Goldwater than Goldwater did for himself. This 600 plus page book is a valuable resource and fascinating read on the perspective on the first true comeback kid.

I loved the behind the scenes portraits of some of the early political days before my time with the showcase of the true nature of the complexity of using political power and getting things done. Roger Stone has done a great service in preserving these ideas for the ages. Read this book.

Michael says

Gave me a lot of insight into Nixon's life and political career. Nixon's prime was really before I was born so it was nice being able to get a lot more context on some of these things. The only issue is that some of the things brought up in the book would definitely require a bit more research before I completely believe them - since I did this on audiobook I didn't readily have any references available, and I am not sure if the physical book has citations.

Mary says

The book provides some additional info into the Nixon mystique. Unfortunately, the author tends to ramble and is clearly not an impartial observer.

I listened to the audio version and the narrator was uninspired.

With that said, after having read several books about Nixon, the author includes several references worth exploring.

Jared Komoroski says

Nixon is still an enigma to me.

Diana Kelly says

I LOVE Nixon, but this was the most poorly written book I've ever read. One or more typos appeared on just about every page, and the information was totally disjointed. The numerous errors and organizational chaos was too distracting to get much out of it.

Justin Jackson says

Great book! Nixon was misunderstood man.

If you really want to understand Nixon you should definitely read this book, you want be disappointed. Make you see him in a different light.

Quinn says

This is coming from a former aide to Nixon himself. He was the youngest aide, at 19, working for Nixon in 1968 campaign. He may have liked Nixon at one point, he has a tattoo if Nixon on his back, but now he lays his secrets bare.

Andrew says

Nixon reconsidered

I loved this book. Written from a perspective I hadn't heard before. This could only be achieved by someone who was actually there. I found the first half of the book slow moving. These were largely accounts of his earlier political career. The second half of the book went very quickly. Highly entertaining. Made me reconsider my opinion on watergate, JFK assassination and the bay of pigs. Nixon's political comeback also in the second half of the book was very interesting. I think Nixon is an American hero.
