

# Lady Bird Johnson: A Legacy of Conservation and Public Service



## Lady Bird Johnson, That's Who!: The Story of a Cleaner and Greener America by Abby Colich

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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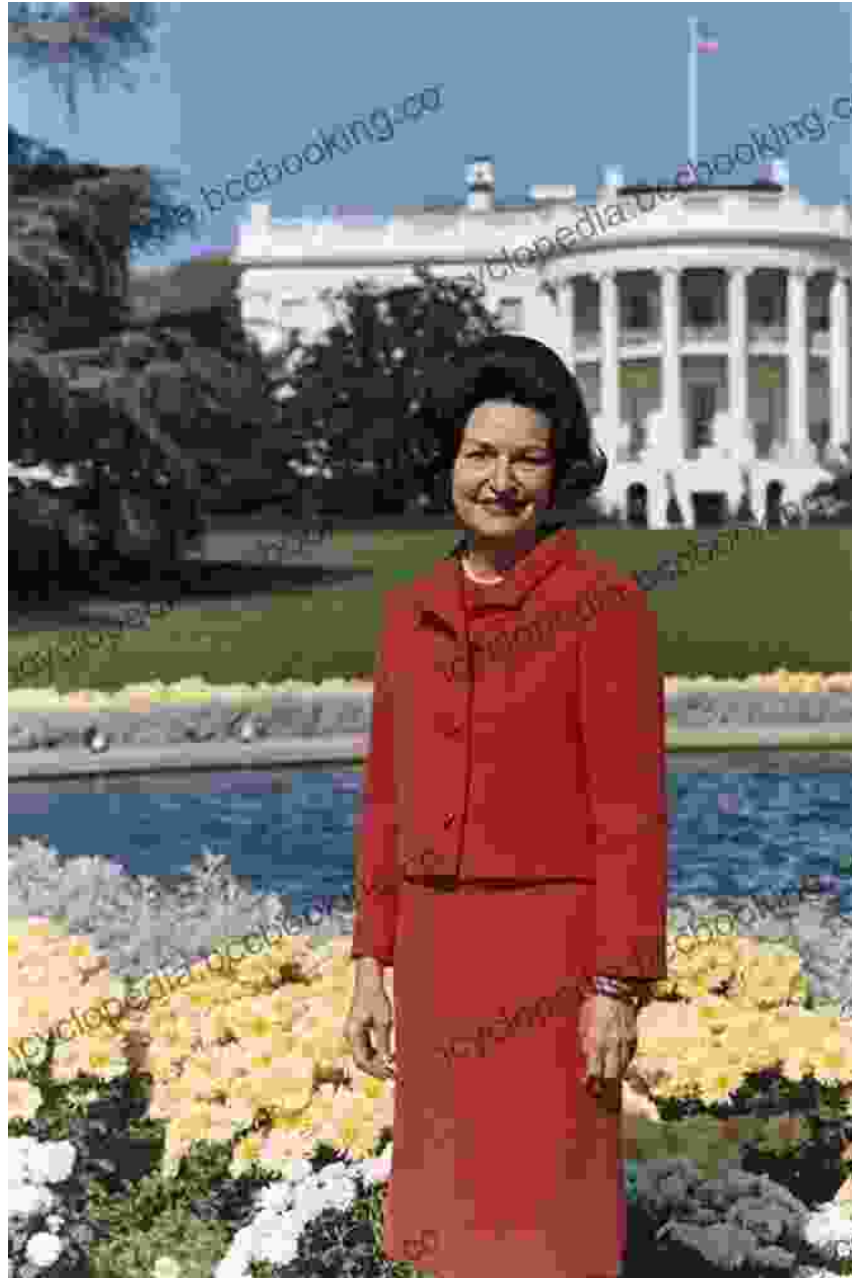
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## **Early Life and Marriage**

Lady Bird Johnson, born Claudia Alta Taylor, was raised in a small town in Texas. From a young age, she developed a deep love for nature and a passion for education. After graduating from college, she married Lyndon B. Johnson, who would later become the 36th President of the United States.

## **First Lady of the United States**

As First Lady, Lady Bird Johnson played an active role in her husband's presidency. She was particularly passionate about conservation and environmentalism, and she launched several initiatives to beautify American cities and protect natural resources.

One of her most notable achievements was the Highway Beautification Act of 1965, which aimed to reduce litter and preserve the scenic beauty of America's roadsides. She also established the National Wildflower Research Center to promote the conservation of native wildflowers.

## **Conservation and Environmentalism**

Lady Bird Johnson's commitment to conservation extended beyond her years as First Lady. She co-founded the National Environmental Education and Training Foundation (NEETF), which provides educational resources to support environmental stewardship.

She also served as Honorary Lifetime Chairman of the National Audubon Society, one of the oldest and largest environmental organizations in the United States. Throughout her life, she advocated for the protection of wildlife, habitat conservation, and sustainable land use practices.

## **Public Service and Legacy**

In addition to her work in conservation, Lady Bird Johnson was deeply involved in public service. She served as a member of the Presidential Council on Natural Beauty, which advised the President on environmental issues.

She also founded the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Texas, a botanical garden and research center dedicated to the conservation and appreciation of native plants.

Lady Bird Johnson's legacy lives on through the numerous organizations and initiatives she dedicated herself to. She was a visionary leader who inspired generations of Americans to care for the environment and to work towards a more sustainable and beautiful world.

### **Awards and Recognition**

Lady Bird Johnson received numerous awards and recognitions for her work in conservation and public service, including:

- \* Presidential Medal of Freedom (1984) \* Congressional Gold Medal (1982)
- \* Audubon Medal (1971) \* National Cotton Council Environmental Conservation Award (1976)

Her legacy is also commemorated through the Lady Bird Johnson National Grassland, established in Texas in 1996, and the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, which continues to inspire and educate visitors about the importance of native plants and conservation.

Lady Bird Johnson was an extraordinary woman who dedicated her life to making the world a more beautiful and sustainable place. Through her tireless work in conservation, environmentalism, and public service, she left an enduring legacy that continues to inspire and guide us today. Her passion for nature, her commitment to community, and her belief in the power of education serve as a testament to her unwavering spirit and her unwavering determination to make a positive difference in the world.



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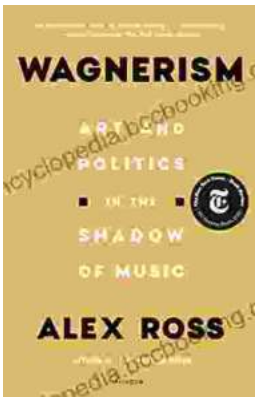
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