ABC's *Good Morning America*
11/19/26
8:02:04 a.m. [TEASE]
9 seconds

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS: Very different story, I sat down with Bob Woodward, the legendary journalist who has covered every president from Nixon to Trump. Now he's reporting on himself. He's got a lot to uncover.

ROBIN ROBERTS: Wow.

STEPHANOPOULOS: That's coming up.

MICHAEL STRAHAN: I'm looking forward to that.

(....)

8:36:55 a.m. [TEASE]
11 seconds

ROBERTS: Okay, coming up, George's conversation — oh my goodness — legendary journalist Bob Woodward.

SAM CHAMPION: Wow.

ROBERTS: Now uncovering a very different story.

STEPHANOPOULOS: Yeah, reporting on himself!

ROBERTS: Oh, wow.

(....)

8:39:51 a.m.
4 minutes and 56 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Bob Woodward Talks New Memoir]

STEPHANOPOULOS: We are back with legendary journalist Bob Woodward. He broke open the Watergate scandal with Carl Bernstein. He's covered eleven presidencies and the Supreme Court. Now he's out with a new book, *Secrets: A Reporter's Memoir*. I spoke with him at his home in Washington. [TO WOODWARD] I was shocked to read the beginning of the book when you talk about your childhood, and you talk about the events that give the book its title, *Secrets*. Do — you write about learning your mother was having an affair with your father's best friend? What is it like to stumble upon secrets like that?

WOODWARD: I think it kind of started this whole process of reporting for me, looking in my father's sock drawer, and discovering secret letters and information that showed my parents were divorcing. That's how I learned it.

STEPHANOPOULOS: In his new book *Secrets: A Reporter's Memoir*, Bob Woodward, veteran *Washington Post* journalist, reports on himself, from childhood to the story that launched his career, the break-in at the Watergate Hotel.

WOODWARD: The next day, two reporters came in to work. It was a Sunday. Myself and Carl Bernstein, and we did our first story, which defined so much of my life.

STEPHANOPOULOS [TO WOODWARD]: That's a lucky strike, isn't it?

WOODWARD: Yeah, it is, because he knew so much more than I did.

STEPHANOPOULOS: Their relentless reporting, shown in the 1976 film, *All the President's Men*.

ROBERT REDFORD [AS WOODWARD IN *ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN*]: The story's very solid. We're sure of it.

DUSTIN HOFFMANN [AS CARL BERNSTEIN IN *ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN*]: Just got off the phone. It's gold.

WOODWARD: He said, "look, we can't go to people's offices to find out what's going on. We're going to have to go see them at home, and we even will be wasting our time to make appointments because they'll send somebody to monitor, so we just have to go knock on doors."

STEPHANOPOULOS: Over the past five decades, Woodward has covered eleven presidencies, from Richard Nixon to Donald Trump.

WOODWARD: It was a unique opportunity to see power exercised at the highest levels, sometimes skillfully, sometimes disastrously, which makes me think of Trump. I think of all of the people I've written about, tried to understand. Trump is the worst.

STEPHANOPOULOS [TO WOODWARD]: The worst?

WOODWARD: The worst, and a threat because he knows and exercises — we see it almost every day, the power of the presidency. As I look back, writing three books on him, and I wrote a lot very critically, saying he's the wrong man for the job. I did not understand how enduring he would be, and how he had this capacity to soothe everyone and take over the Republican Party as he did, and I should have done more on him because his brand of tyrannical leadership has left this country in a much weaker position politically and morally.

STEPHANOPOULOS [TO WOODWARD]: And you've seen many of his allies, including his

Vice President, JD Vance, engaged in some revisionist history of the story you're most famous for, Watergate, talking about how Watergate would be a 12-hour story today.

WOODWARD: Well, it depends who would be covering it. If it were me now, I would make sure it was not just a 12-hour story.

STEPHANOPOULOS: Woodward, who has worked for *The Washington Post* for 55 years, has also been critical of billionaire owner Jeff Bezos's relationship with President Trump.

WOODWARD: Before he bought *The Post*, he had me out to visit with his staff in out on the West Coast and so forth. So, I knew him, and hoped, but when I saw him, the video of him at Trump's inaugural, my stomach sank because I knew the former owner of *The Washington Post*, Katherine Graham, would never be there.

STEPHANOPOULOS [TO WOODWARD]: What lessons have you learned that you would like to pass on to someone who wants to be the next Bob Woodward?

WOODWARD: Work hard, work harder, work harder. Go see people. Go talk to people.

STEPHANOPOULOS [TO WOODWARD]: You still love it.

WOODWARD: I mean, how could you not love it? You learn something every day, not just about what you're covering, but about yourself.

ROBERTS: Wow.

CHAMPION: Wow.

STEPHANOPOULOS: What a body of work he has created.

ROBERTS: Yeah.

STEPHANOPOULOS: *Secrets: A Reporter's Memoir*, is out Tuesday, November 24.