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Social anthropologist and award-winning author Janine Wedel delivers a groundbreaking work that redefines corruption as the violation of public trust: entirely legal, flourishing in a system that has become utterly unaccountable, and increasingly infiltrating our lives. A chilling look at the stealthy, new corruption. • \$27.95 Hardcover

Whether you're trying to correct your credit rating or figure out who's bankrolling your congressman, the system can get to you but you cannot get to it. Technology, now steeped in a "do-gooder" ethos, is actually an encroaching threat to privacy and often a way for players to "perform" checklist accountability, while evading the real thing.

Unaccountable goes far beyond the usual targets of K Street wizards and money's corrupting effect on politics. While purporting to serve the public interest, a variety of organizations today do anything but: "Nonprofits" choose innocuous names even as they channel the secret influence of billionaires and their "grassroots" organizations. Think tanks, once sober-minded, often now act as bullhorns for the powerful. Banks, unbowed, remain free to "innovate" us into the next financial disaster.

Players at the apex of this new world—former top government officials and heads of state; retired generals; and star economists, academics, and physicians—use these organizations, laundering influence to serve private agendas, and exploit their prestige as if it were a commodity.

Wedel, author of *Shadow Elite* and other books and a George Mason University Professor, ties together these and other strands using the tools of anthropology and decades of experience documenting informal power both in Eastern Europe and the West. Topics include:

Billionaires Planting Fake Grassroots Groups • The Shadow Surveillance State • The Perils of the "Sharing Economy" • Tech Utopians Urging Privatization • Tyranny of the Metric: When Data Replaces Human Insight • Why Anti-Corruption Efforts Have Gone Awry • The Dark Arts of Shadow Lobbyists • Think Tanks as Accessories to Power • Prestige for Hire — Even Former Presidents • Collapse of Institutional Trust • Scholars Paid to White-wash Misdeeds • Retired Generals Now "Serving" the Defense Industry • The Old-Media Collapse: News Dictated by "Likes" and "Retweets"

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