

Wedel, Janine R. Unaccountable: how elite power brokers corrupt our finances, freedom, and security. Pegasus Books, 2014. 386p index ISBN 9781605985824, \$27.95

What do corruption and unaccountability mean in today's world? The subtitle of this book mirrors anthropologist Wedel's subtitle in her previous work, *Shadow Elite: How the World's New Power Brokers Undermine Democracy, Government, and the Free Market* (2009). In a world increasingly dominated by gossip columns and television reality shows, from the *New York Post's* Page Six to TMZ and tweets, the author's chapter titles seemingly fit: two of them, "High Priests and the Gospel of Anti-Corruption" and "Spies, Company Men, and the Melded Company-State," complement book jacket descriptors such as "groundbreaking exposé" and "chilling." With 100 pages of endnotes (but no bibliography) and an index largely composed of a names list, the book resembles more the work of an investigative reporter than that of a scholar. *Dramatis personae* are the usual suspects: think tanks, retired military, prominent economists and government officials, and talking heads from Wall Street and K Street. For political junkies and those in the Left and Right tails, there will be plenty to like in this book that will confirm their worst fears. Repetitive to a fault, the book is nevertheless engaging—and frightening. Summing Up: Recommended. All readers.