

Watchmen in the Night

Presidential Accountability after Watergate

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Theodore C. Sorensen

foreword by
James MacGregor Burns

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"... a very fresh treatment of a very old institution. Mr. Sorensen's achievement is due in large measure, I would judge, to his experience within the White House, to his own opportunity to feel and touch and taste and smell the Presidency from inside as well as to the later detachment that enabled him to see the origins of some of the misdeeds of 'bad' Presidents in the enthusiastically applauded earlier acts of the 'good' Presidents. In appraising the institution with such familiarity and with steady and unclouded insight, in distinguishing between the real and spurious dangers of the strong Presidency, and in thus helping prevent the pendulum of presidential power from taking further wild oscillations, the author himself joins the small band of informed, vigilant, and farsighted Presidency-scrutinizers who can take their places among the watchmen in the night."—James MacGregor Burns

"... packed with incisive ideas on the state of the Presidency today. Sorensen dismisses most of the post-Watergate proposals put forth by worried commentators who wanted to take powers away from the Presidency. He feels that the office should be *strengthened*, but the occupant of the office must be held accountable for his actions."
—*Publishers Weekly*

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