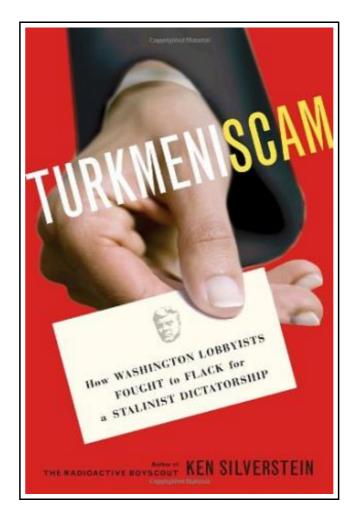
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TURKMENISCAM: HOW WASHINGTON LOBBYISTS FOUGHT TO FLACK FOR A STALINIST DICTATORSHIP



Random House, 2008. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: "As I have often said, I would represent the devil himself for the right priceit's not personal, just business." a Washington, D.C., lobbyist For nearly as long as there have been politicians in the United States, there have been lobbyists haunting the halls of Congressshaking hands, bearing gifts, and brandishing agendas. Everyone knows how the back-scratching game of money, power, and PR is played. For a good enough offer, there are those who will gladly dive into the dirtiest political waters. The real question is: Just how low will they sink? Veteran investigative journalist Ken Silverstein made it his mission to find outand "Turkmeniscam" was born. On assignment forHarper'smagazine, and armed with a fistful of fake business cards, Silverstein went deep undercover as a corporate henchman with money to burn and a problem to solve: transforming the former Soviet-bloc nation Turkmenistanbranded "one of the worst totalitarian systems in the world"into a Capitol Hill-friendly commodity. Even in the notoriously ethics-challenged world of Washington's professional lobbying industry, could "Kenneth Case" (Silverstein's fat-cat alter ego) find a team of D.C. spin doctors willing to whitewash the regime of a megalomaniac dictator with an unpronounceable name and an unspeakable reputation? Would the Beltway's best and brightest image-mongers shill for a country condemned for its mind-boggling history of corruption, brutality, and civil rights abuse? Who would dare tread in the ignoble footsteps of Ivy Lee, the pioneering PR guru who sought to make the Nazis look nice? And who would stoop to unprecedented new lows to conquer Congress and compromise the red, white, and blue for the sake of the almighty green? As Ken Silverstein discovers in this mordantly funny, disturbingly enlightening, jawdropping exploration of the dark side,...

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