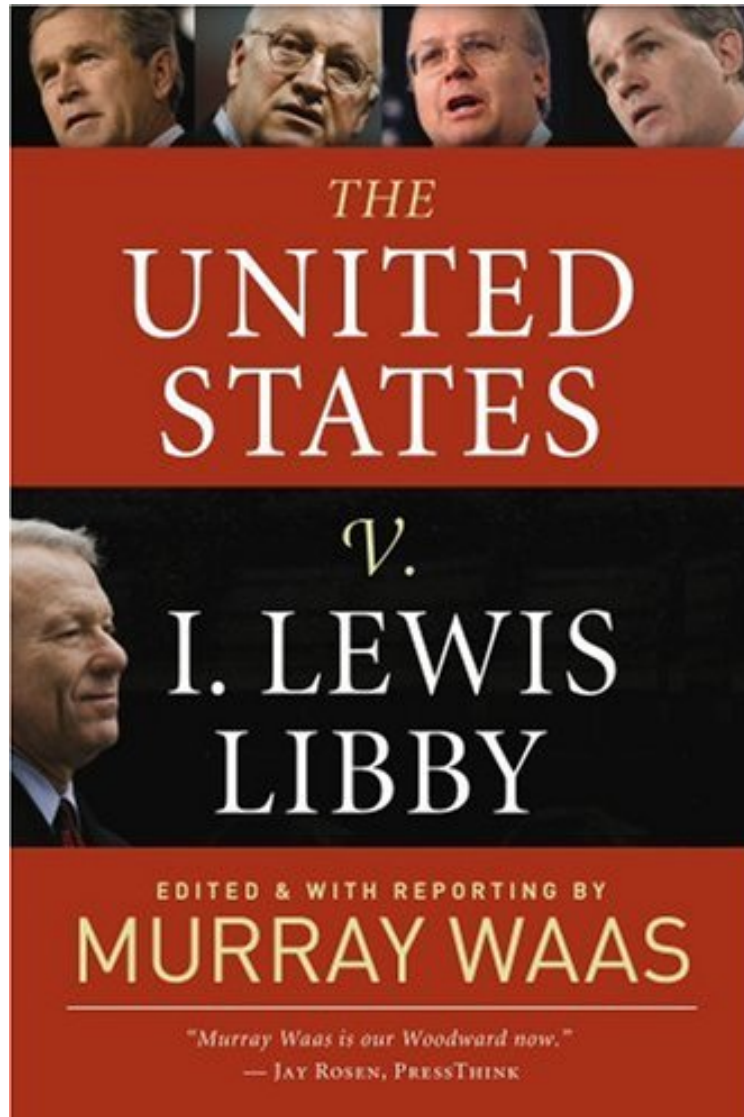


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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. More Editing and more exhibits would have made this story By Savy Shopper I finished this book today and feel like I accomplished a great deal, because I had to burn so much time and energy in reading the trivial and collateral impeachments and rehabilitations by the attorneys--primarily from defense counsel. I really could have enjoyed this book more if I did not have to read such attenuated and minor arguments and could have spent more time reading the many exhibits discussed, but not provided with the text! The only reason this

book gets four stars is because of the compelling story it tells. I do not think Waas did a good job of editing, such that the reader easily and truly understood the whole story behind this fantastic and terrible crime. Kudos to the prosecution, Fitzgerald et al., but that is all. 12 of 14 people found the following review helpful. This generation's Woodward/Bernstein By Susan M. Lewis Murray Waas may be the most courageous reporter in Washington DC at present. He goes for the deeper story, and the hidden resources, in order to provide us with the truth--a commodity of rare value in this city. Scooter Libby, sentenced to 2.5 years in prison the day this book came forth, participated in a crime of nearly unthinkable proportions: helping to out a CIA undercover spy during a time of war. Worse, Plame's specialty within the CIA was weapons of mass destruction in not only Iraq but Iran, for which the drums of war are sounding louder by the week. It may be too much to call such behavior treason, but the case remains to be made why there is any good reason that narrow Republican political gain should trump the national interest. Would the government lie in order to take us to war? Would the government misuse intelligence to persuade the American people to turn over their sons and daughters for death and blown-off limbs? Waas presents compelling evidence that Libby and his co-workers in the Office of the Vice President have already done this once, for the war against Iraq. It seems the strings are warming up for a second movement, called Iran. If only some conscientious writer would help the average American figure out what is really going on. Good news: the cavalry is here. Thank you Murray Waas.

Washington scandals come and go, but the one surrounding the investigation into the leaking of covert CIA operative Valerie Plame's identity now in its fourth year has had unprecedented staying power. In October 2005, when I. Lewis Libby was indicted on five felony counts of making false statements to the FBI, perjury, and obstruction of justice, his trial became the latest chapter in the saga. Murray Waas, one of today's finest investigative journalists, has edited and assembled this instant book that covers the trial from start to finish. He combines the trial transcript, pivotal testimony from key witnesses, and his own original, incisive reporting and an over-arching introductory essay. The subject is certainly one with which Waas is intimately familiar: he's done groundbreaking work for the National Journal covering the Plame investigation, as well as the Bush Administration's use (and misuse) of pre-war intelligence. No one is better qualified, or has done more, to inform the public of these shrouded events than Waas. Like the published reports from the 9/11 Commission and the Iraq Study Group, this definitive study is sure to become one of the most significant political documents of this Bush era.

From Publishers Weekly Readers fascinated by politics and the law will want to pick up this book, which features edited trial transcripts from the federal case against I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby, Vice President Dick Cheney's chief of staff, who was convicted of obstruction of justice and making false statements in the investigation of the alleged outing of CIA agent Valerie Plame (in a July, 2003 column by Robert Novak). Waas begins with a detailed chronology of events, a list of people involved in the case and an insightful introduction, setting the scene nicely for the trial. The bulk of the book is composed of trial testimony from various witnesses, some minor celebrities among them (like NBC newsman Tim Russert). Waas interjects from time to time with background information or analysis, and introduces each witness with a short biography explaining his or her connection to the case. Opening and closing statements from both sides provide a good summary of the issues, and an interesting appendix contains copies of original documents, such as Libby's handwritten notes and Cheney's own copy of Novak's Plame-naming op-ed piece. While this holds limited appeal for all but the most diehard politicians and legal types, it makes an excellent resource for anyone who wants to understand the scandal in general and Libby's case in particular. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Murray Waas is our Woodward now...publishing the biggest story in town. Jay Rosen, PressThink.Org