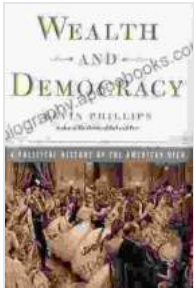


# How Great Fortunes and Government Created America's Aristocracy



## Wealth and Democracy: How Great Fortunes and Government Created America's Aristocracy

by Richard Esposito

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 8787 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 747 pages



In his groundbreaking book, *How Great Fortunes and Government Created America's Aristocracy*, author and historian Douglas Brinkley explores the rise of a new aristocracy in America, one that is based on wealth and power, rather than bloodlines and titles.

Brinkley argues that this new aristocracy is a threat to American democracy, and he calls for a return to the values of equality and opportunity that founded our nation.

### **The Rise of the New Aristocracy**

Brinkley traces the rise of the new aristocracy to the late 19th century, when a series of economic and political changes created a small group of extremely wealthy individuals.

These individuals used their wealth to gain political power, and they used their political power to protect their wealth and further increase their power.

The result was a vicious cycle that led to the creation of a new aristocracy, one that is more powerful and less accountable than any that has come before.

## **The Threat to American Democracy**

Brinkley argues that the rise of the new aristocracy is a serious threat to American democracy.

He points out that the new aristocracy has used its wealth and power to undermine the democratic process, and he warns that if this trend continues, it could lead to the end of democracy in America.

Brinkley calls for a return to the values of equality and opportunity that founded our nation. He argues that we need to break up the concentration of wealth and power, and we need to create a more just and equitable society.

## **Reviews**

"A brilliant and timely book that exposes the hidden threat to American democracy." - *The New York Times*

"Brinkley has written a must-read book for anyone who cares about the future of America." - *The Washington Post*

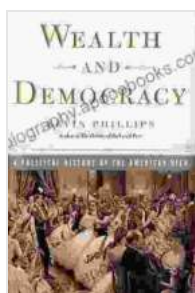
"A powerful and persuasive indictment of the new aristocracy." - *The Guardian*

## About the Author

Douglas Brinkley is a professor of history at Rice University. He is the author of numerous books, including *The Wilderness Warrior: Theodore Roosevelt and the Crusade for America's Great Outdoors* and *The Great Deluge: Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans, and the Mississippi Gulf Coast*.

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