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This Brave New World: India, China And The United States



Synopsis

In the next decade and a half, China and India will become two of the world's indispensable powers - whether they rise peacefully or not. During that time Asia will surpass the combined strength of North America and Europe in economic might, population size, and military spending. Both India and China will have vetoes over many international decisions, from climate change to global trade, human rights, and business standards. From her front-row view of this shift, first at the State Department and now as an advisor to American business leaders, Anja Manuel escorts us on an intimate tour of the corridors of power in Delhi and Beijing. Her encounters with political and business leaders reveal how each country's history and politics influences their conduct today. Through vibrant stories, she reveals how each country is working to surmount enormous challenges. We wring our hands about China, Manuel writes, while we underestimate India, which will be the most important country outside the West to shape China's rise. Manuel shows us that a different path is possible - we can bring China and India along as partners rather than alienating one or both, and extend our own leadership in the world.

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Customer Reviews

When I came across This Brave New World at a friend's party, I opened it and was immediately hooked. Anja Manuel breaks down complex political histories into a compelling, colorful, and easy-to-understand narrative. She has experienced India and China first-hand, so she is able to

reach a level of depth in her analysis that is impossible to do from an academic perspective alone. Anja is brilliant, insightful, and also full of common sense. I love that she weaves in the psychologies of China, India, and the US to truly understand what makes each of us tick, what the risks are, and what our options are for shaping our future peacefully and productively. This book is a fun, enjoyable read; and also deeply practical, teaching us how to move forward in a world that is changing in a direction we would be foolish to ignore.

An incredible insider's view on two countries that are determining the course of the world in the 21st century, and the U.S.'s vital relationship with them. Manuel's stories about China and India are compelling, fun, eye-opening and really draw the reader in. She also has an optimistic spin on a very serious topic. Definitely don't miss the chapter on environmental degradation – especially the amazing descriptions of Chinese coal mines and corpses on the Ganges. Highly recommend.

After months of involuntary exposure to uninformed rhetoric in the US presidential campaign regarding foreign policy and current international turmoil, "This Brave New World" presents an essential, informative and illuminating picture of the future world order. Anja Manuel provides a personal but incisive analysis of past and present forces at work in China and India as well as in the US and Europe. These are the factors that will influence political, economic and social evolution creating the world order of the future. From her personal contact with government, business and industrial figures during her work in the US State Department and as a private consultant, she weaves an exciting, provocative and delightfully readable web of inter-connected forces that will determine the outcome of crucial issues of power balance, economic stability, trade policy, energy, water, pollution and climate change. From anger about internet hacking and corruption in China to compassion regarding starvation and poverty of India to frustration over outsourcing of US industrial production our major concerns are discussed and future responses are proposed. This is a brilliant, readable and important book that provides a potential blueprint for a US foreign policy that could make the world a better place and enable civilization as we know it to survive and flourish.

Anja Manuel brings a fresh and insightful approach to the future of the US relationship with China and India that is a must-read for anyone doing business or working in Asia. It's a topic that rightly gets a lot of attention -- but much of the coverage out there is alarmist or oversimplified. Manuel brings her reader into the topic with a quick introduction to the history of both countries that provides necessary context for understanding key differences in political, business, and cultural practices.

The book builds a rich and detailed portrait of its topic through well written anecdotes and stories from Manuel's own experience at the state department and later as a consultant. This approach makes for a very readable and entertaining book on a topic that might seem dry in the hands of another writer. It ultimately provides a compelling base upon which she builds her conclusion that there are alternative approaches to for the US to partner with China and India and our approach should factor in the influence they have on each other as regional powers.

Fortunately, Anja Manuel knows and has chosen to share with the rest of us the benefits from her intimate understanding of modern China and India. I have just received a copy of *This Brave New World* and want to post an immediate review even before its many pleasures have reached an end. Advance word about the book has been uniformly favorable and everything I have read so far supports this reputation. Anja Manuel provides us with a fascinating view of the precarious and evolving relationship between Asia's dual emerging superpowers and of their increasingly intertwined future, and deftly explores how the United States is positioned to decisively affect that future for better or for worse. Her analysis is solidly grounded in both historical and current realities and enlivened by the author's wry, first-hand observations and anecdotes served up in a breezy, conversational style. *This Brave New World* engages, informs and illuminates, and perhaps better still, offers a welcome respite from the widely publicized but alarmingly uninformed foreign policy views now being dispensed by one of our presumptive Presidential nominees.

This book is a timely and -- because the prose is so lucid -- easy read. Weaving personal stories with economic and military analysis, this is a fresh and engaging narrative that reads and feels like a living room conversation with the author. Whether it is life for peasants making iPhones or diplomats across the table from potential aggressors, this book gives you the insider feel of going back stage with the actors. It provides essential context for those of us trying to make sense of claims flying around during this election season regarding the proper approach to these emerging super powers.

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