

Customers say : Ai by Amazon

Customers find the book thought-provoking, with one review noting how it balances political intrigue with deeper themes of empathy and metaphysical exploration. The narrative captivates from beginning to end, with well-developed characters and a unique blend of realism that brings scenes to life. They appreciate the resilience portrayed in the story, and one review highlights how the friendships add richness to the plot.

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Top reviews from the United States

Brenda

5.0 out of 5 stars

An incredible job

Reviewed in the United States on March 18, 2025 **Verified Purchase**

Amelia Castro's character is incredibly well-developed. As Secretary of State, she embodies strength and commitment to public service, yet she also has a deeply personal, vulnerable side that makes her feel real and relatable. Watching her navigate both political and personal challenges was captivating and it kept me hooked, eager to see where her decisions would take her next. The book is filled with twists, high-stakes situations, and emotional depth, making it impossible to put down.

- One of the things I appreciated most was the relationships that surround Amelia. The novel doesn't just focus on her as an individual but also highlights the importance of the people who support her. The Fearless Five, in particular, add a layer of warmth and camaraderie that balances the intensity of her journey. The blend of action and heartfelt moments makes this book stand out, it's not just about global politics; it's about personal evolution and the impact of those who stand beside us.

- Dan Ford does an incredible job with pacing and storytelling, creating a novel that is both thought-provoking and engaging. *Using Your Superpower* is a great choice for anyone looking for a fresh, unconventional story that blends action, emotion, and deep introspection. It's one of those books that lingers in your mind long after you've turned the last page.

YOLANDA GÓMEZ niño

4.0 out of 5 stars
Amazing work

Reviewed in the United States on March 14, 2025 **Verified Purchase**

I loved this book, it's an exceptional novel that masterfully weaves together political intrigue, personal growth, and deep philosophical exploration. The protagonist, Amelia Castro, is a strong, intelligent, and determined Secretary of State who must navigate the complexities of diplomacy while confronting internal doubts and external opposition. One of the things I appreciated most was that she was never alone, she had a close-knit circle of friends who stood by her through the toughest challenges, making the story not just about individual strength, but also the power of support and loyalty.

- While fictional, Amelia's journey clearly takes inspiration from real-life female leaders who have shaped history. The novel acknowledges the unique obstacles women face in positions of power, from societal scrutiny to internal self-doubt, yet it also highlights their resilience and ability to break barriers. Amelia's story serves as a powerful testament to the strength, intelligence, and perseverance of women who refuse to be underestimated.

Sol Tyler

5.0 out of 5 stars
A superbook!

Reviewed in the United States on March 13, 2025 **Verified Purchase**

The friendships in the story add richness and warmth, portraying characters who embody empathy and resilience. Their presence makes the journey even more meaningful, offering a sense of support and inspiration throughout the narrative.

The book radiates positivity, hope, and adventure, making it an absolute pleasure to read. Ford's prose is elegant yet direct, with a natural rhythm that captivates from beginning to end. His storytelling is disciplined and precise, allowing the story to shine through without unnecessary embellishments.

Daniel Ford's ability to craft such an engaging and inspiring tale has made him one of my new favorite authors. If you're looking for a novel that is both thought-provoking and uplifting, *Using Your Superpower* is a must-read.

Liz

5.0 out of 5 stars

Super interesting read

Reviewed in the United States on March 14, 2025

Throughout literary history, female characters were often confined to limiting stereotypes, damsels in distress, background figures, or manipulative forces. However, as narratives evolved, so did the portrayal of women, bringing to light their strength, intelligence, and complexity. *Using Your Superpower* by Dan Ford is a prime example of this shift, offering a compelling and empowering portrayal of female leadership.

Amelia's journey is not just about navigating political intrigue but also about confronting her own fears, beliefs, and the immense responsibilities that come with leadership. The novel captures the weight of these challenges while celebrating the power of self-awareness, adaptability, and purpose.

From the very first pages, Ford's writing captivates, making it difficult to put the book down. His storytelling is immersive, with a seamless blend of engaging dialogue, rich world-building, and well-developed characters. The detailed descriptions bring each scene to life, whether set in the halls of political power or moments of quiet reflection. Every character has a distinct presence, and watching their transformations throughout the novel is one of the most rewarding aspects of the story.

Using Your Superpower is a testament to the influence of women who dare to lead and redefine their roles in the world. I look forward to reading more books like this, where strong, intelligent women take center stage and change the course of history.

B.M.

1.0 out of 5 stars

NICE TRY BUT NEEDS IMPROVEMENTS

Reviewed in the United States on March 15, 2025 **Verified Purchase**

I think this author has the idea and legs for an interesting story, and I agree that politics needs more empathy, but I found the story so difficult to read I had to put it down. I appreciate his effort towards the good idea, but I don't think he quite made his point. My reasons are:

I. look to the first chapter of a book to present a believable protagonist and entice me into reading the story. The first chapter didn't do this for me. A woman, Amelia Castro, who was supposedly a high-flying executive who has just been nominated as Secretary of State of the U.S., gets drunk, drives under the influence, and sleeps on the beach, alone. She seems to be a caricature of how people feel about strong women who gain stature. The more I read, the more I was convinced this character was developed by a man who did not really understand the essence of being female and how strong women genuinely contribute to society. (I can say this because I've

been in the higher echelons, and around politics, and I've dealt with men who have superficial ideas about the essence of being female.)

2. I also expect a first chapter to provide a tension-filled glimpse into the heart and heat of the story. In the sixteen pages of this first chapter, what happened? A drunk woman wakes up on the beach; she has an impressive background and certain new stresses (which disappear into the background) but is most interested in her chief of staff who is giddy over someone he met the night before and spent the night with; new boyfriend is giddy over his philosophy of life; their dialogue becomes a repetitious out-of-context love-fest for Amelia; they take a brief trip to enjoy the scenery and return to her 'bedroom' beach; had a touristy lunch; and she discovers his aura. Later, while she is napping, the President-elect calls and wants her to be in D.C. in a few days. She's a gorgeous woman (Aren't all female protagonists?). They have dinner. Once again, she becomes giddy over the new boyfriend and is so impressed that she offers him a job. Where's the tension? She tries to superficially identify her feelings, and find quick excuses all in a few paragraphs at the end of the chapter. Where's the real insight into the backstory of who this woman is and why she responds to her circumstances the way she does?

3. I was put off by the writing style and lack of good editing. For instance, on page 12, the author jumps out of the POV in Chapter One and into 'second person, present tense.' Other put-offs: There are many words that should have been capitalized that were not. In many, many places, the author jumps out of the story to provide the reader with 'information' which could have been woven into the fabric of the story, or was repetitious. My need for better editing became overwhelming the more I read.

You get the idea, I hope. Interesting concept which I agree with; poor execution. My recommendation is that the author make friends with a group of good editors and do a revision. It would also be worth the time to develop a believable backstory profile of the protagonist focusing on the important emotional experiences that influenced her life. It's a humbling, but effective, experience.

Helpful

Ivan

5.0 out of 5 stars
Recommended

Reviewed in the United States on March 17, 2025

Dan Ford delivers a compelling and well-paced story that balances political intrigue with deeper themes of empathy, leadership, and friendship. Amelia is a refreshingly honest and intelligent protagonist, embodying the strength of real-life women who have shaped history. While the novel critiques political corruption, it also offers an inspiring vision of leadership based on integrity and collaboration. With rich character development and an engaging plot, this book stands out as a unique blend of realism and idealism. A must-read for those seeking a fresh take on political fiction that challenges norms while celebrating the power of unity and purpose.

George

4.0 out of 5 stars

Great political narratives

Reviewed in the United States on March 13, 2025

Using Your Superpower is a fascinating and imaginative political drama that blends suspense, leadership insights, and deep philosophical exploration. While it is a work of fiction, the challenges presented feel incredibly relevant, making it an engaging read for those interested in global politics, diplomacy, and the personal struggles of leadership. The novel doesn't just entertain, it subtly teaches valuable lessons about political strategy, decision-making, and the importance of having the right advisors.

- One of the most intriguing aspects of the novel is how it gradually moves beyond political realism and incorporates elements of spirituality, science fiction, and metaphysical exploration. The concept of spiritual time and space travel is introduced in a way that feels unexpected yet seamlessly woven into the story.
- The inclusion of a glossary and a character list was a great addition, helping to keep track of the many figures introduced throughout the novel. Given the complexity of the plot and the variety of characters, these references were incredibly useful and enhanced the reading experience.
- One area that could be improved is the visual presentation of the book. While illustrations are a nice touch, they don't always do justice to the depth of the characters or the themes explored in the novel. A more polished and refined visual representation could enhance the overall impact of the story.

- Using Your Superpower is an engaging and thought-provoking read and while it occasionally shifts into unexpected territory, the novel remains compelling and insightful. I recommend it to readers who enjoy political narratives with a deeper, more introspective twist. One person found this helpful

SA_ostrich

5.0 out of 5 stars

Unconventional and fascinating novel

Reviewed in the United States on March 12, 2025

While deeply rooted in politics, it also incorporates themes of non-religious spirituality, making it an unconventional but fascinating read. The novel draws inspiration from the lives and leadership of three prominent U.S. Secretaries of State, Madeleine Albright, Condoleezza Rice, and Hillary Clinton, while centering on the fictional Amelia Castro.

Ford's writing is accessible yet sophisticated, balancing complex themes with moments of wry, self-deprecating humor that make the story engaging. While the novel leans toward progressive political ideas and delves into intricate spiritual concepts, it offers a fresh perspective on contemporary global issues. It serves as both a critique of current political structures and a meditation on how personal growth and empathy could lead to broader societal change.

One critique is that the book's cover and title might give the impression of a mainstream self-help book rather than a political novel infused with deep philosophical themes. A more refined cover design could better reflect the book's depth and attract a wider audience. However, Using Your Superpower is an intelligent, unique,

and thought-provoking novel that challenges readers to think critically about leadership, purpose, and the evolving role of diplomacy in an increasingly complex world.

Carlitas

5.0 out of 5 stars

An unputdownable novel

Reviewed in the United States on March 12, 2025

As someone who enjoys self-help books, I found *Using Your Superpower* to be an intriguing blend of personal growth, leadership, and deep introspection. While it is primarily a work of fiction, it explores themes of resilience, the power of mindset, and the role of strong relationships in overcoming life's challenges. Through Amelia Castro's journey, from self-doubt to confident leadership, the novel offers thought-provoking insights on stepping into one's purpose and navigating uncertainty with courage.

Daniel Ford's writing is clear and immersive, drawing readers into a world of political intrigue, philosophical exploration, and personal evolution. The characters, particularly Amelia and David Stanford, engage in meaningful discussions about spirituality, human potential, and the impact of empathy in both personal and global decisions. While the novel is not a traditional self-help book, it encourages deep reflection on personal transformation and the ways in which we shape our own paths.

I highly recommend it to those who enjoy stories that inspire and provoke meaningful self-reflection.

One person found this helpful

Evelyn

4.0 out of 5 stars

A story that inspires growth and confidence.

Reviewed in the United States on March 12, 2025

This book is an inspiring and thought-provoking novel that deeply resonated with me. It's a reflection on resilience, empowerment, and the strength we often underestimate in ourselves. The writing is immersive, and the themes of personal growth, overcoming challenges, and recognizing one's own power make it a truly impactful read.

- It made me question how much I truly understand about the struggles and triumphs of women throughout history and, more importantly, how those lessons apply to my own life. I found myself motivated to push past my own doubts and pursue the goals I've put on hold.
- What I appreciate most about this novel is its ability to weave fiction with deeper messages of empowerment. It's the kind of book that not only entertains but also challenges you to think differently about your own potential. A must-read for anyone looking for a story that inspires growth and confidence.

Esteban

5.0 out of 5 stars

Inspirational

Reviewed in the United States on March 12, 2025 **Verified Purchase**
Through the journey of Amelia Castro, the novel highlights how understanding our strengths and even our weaknesses can lead to

profound personal and professional transformation. While not a self-help book in the traditional sense, it offers valuable insights on stepping into one's purpose and embracing growth with confidence.

- The story encourages a shift in perspective, showing how persistence, adaptability, and the right mindset can turn setbacks into opportunities. This theme is deeply woven into Amelia's experiences as she navigates high-stakes leadership and personal uncertainty, making it a thought-provoking read for anyone seeking inspiration in their own journey.
- Blending political intrigue, philosophical depth, and character-driven storytelling, it serves as an engaging and meaningful narrative for readers who enjoy fiction that both entertains and encourages introspection.

Eric Rodriguez

5.0 out of 5 stars
Great plot!

Reviewed in the United States on March 12, 2025

This book is an intriguing blend of political drama, personal transformation, and metaphysical exploration. The novel follows Amelia Castro's journey from self-doubt to confident leadership as she steps into the role of U.S. Secretary of State. While the book does explore overcoming fears and internal barriers, it does so through a mix of real-world political challenges and spiritual introspection rather than as a traditional self-help guide.

- One of the book's strongest elements is its focus on how personal beliefs and mindset shape actions, especially through Amelia's

interactions with the enigmatic David Stanford. His philosophical insights add a layer of depth, challenging characters (and readers) to rethink the way they approach leadership, purpose, and global impact. The theme of personal evolution is woven throughout, particularly in Amelia's struggle to balance her past successes with the immense responsibility of her new position.

- Using Your Superpower is a thought-provoking read that blends political intrigue with deeper existential questions. It's ideal for readers interested in leadership, diplomacy, and the power of thought in shaping both personal and global change.

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Fanny Polchlopek

5.0 out of 5 stars
I felt proud

Reviewed in the United States on March 14, 2025

As a woman, I felt deeply connected to Amelia Castro's journey. Her story embodies the challenges and triumphs of female leadership, showing the complexities of navigating power while staying true to one's values. The book acknowledges the societal obstacles that women in leadership often face, doubt, scrutiny, and resistance, yet it also celebrates their ability to persevere and create meaningful change. Amelia's determination, intelligence, and self-reflection make her a compelling protagonist, and her growth throughout the novel is both empowering and relatable.

- Ford's writing is fluid and immersive, balancing suspenseful moments with deeper reflections on friendship, unity, and self-discovery. I especially loved the dynamic of the Fearless Five—Amelia's close circle of allies, who provide unwavering support, wisdom, and camaraderie. Their presence underscores a powerful message: true strength is not just about individual resilience, but also about the connections we build and the people who uplift us along the way.
- The novel also serves as a tribute to influential women in leadership, with clear nods to figures like Madeleine Albright, Condoleezza Rice,

and Hillary Clinton. Amelia's dedication to her work, despite personal and political challenges, is a testament to the resilience of women who break barriers and redefine what it means to lead.

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