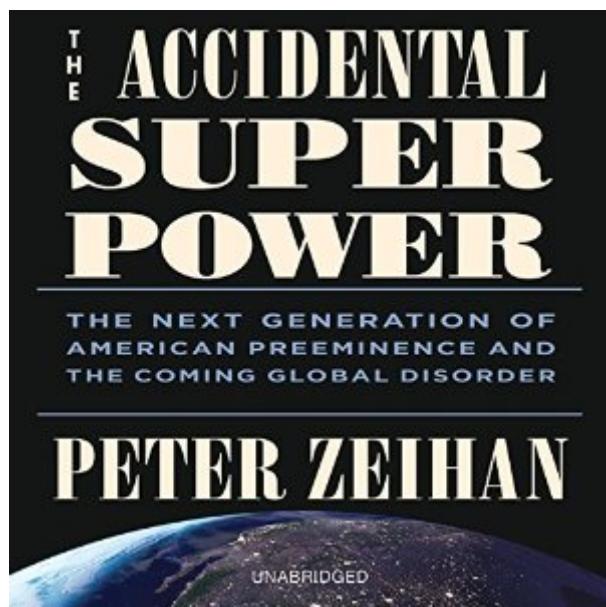


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The Accidental Superpower: The Next Generation Of American Preeminence And The Coming Global Disorder



Synopsis

In the best-selling tradition of *The World Is Flat* and *The Next 100 Years*, *The Accidental Superpower* will be a much discussed, contrarian, and eye-opening assessment of American power. In *The Accidental Superpower*, international strategist Peter Zeihan examines how geography, combined with demography and energy independence, will pave the way for one of the great turning points in history, and one in which America reasserts its global dominance. No other country has a greater network of internal waterways, a greater command of deepwater navigation, or a firmer hold on industrialization technologies than America. Zeihan argues that the future is undoubtedly bright for America, the only country with enough young adults to fill the capital-generating void that will be left behind by 2030. The Accidental Superpower also explores shale oil and its surprising key role in America's move toward energy independence and how it will shape (and is already shaping) American life for the next 50 years. PLEASE NOTE: When you purchase this title, the accompanying reference material will be available in your My Library section along with the audio.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book links geography, demography, and capital formation as a way to make predictions about the next fifteen years. It begins with the assumption that America will begin to pull back from its dominant role in the world to a more selective foreign policy as well as a more limited role in international finance. At the same time, demography will play a major role in the negative behavior of countries such as Russia, China, and Japan. All three countries will become internally unstable

as the financial pressures from a dominant elderly population undermine their economies. These are among many other insights that lie behind the predictions made in this book. It is a fascinating analysis of potential world events as it describes the forces that drive history. It is well worth consideration for those interested in future world affairs.

An overview of overviews, yet written with zest and a flair for non-conformity. Using geography and markets as an analytic tool was compelling. I enjoyed his use of three phases of human development as having originated in some significant part due to geography, even though these ideas were more common. Revolving the globe against the normal axis perspective aided in seeing the world differently. Many of the data (trade balances, populations, geographical info) reported are compilations I presume his fact checkers can back - so I took them at face value. Using the three history changes, along with Bretton Woods and population growth as factors that shaped his narrative swept me along. He is clear this is his analysis and his predictions are extrapolations of the analysis. A fifth star might have been added, had the author contended with information growth/access/ubiquity as a potential fourth game changer. In a world where industrial skills are universal, even if not evenly allocated, and innovation is copied or stolen at breath-taking pace, it would seem this would impact some of the analysis. I would also challenge his over-simplification of climate change - the idea that its affects will be evenly applied is a pretty large, untestable assumption. If you want a global view of the world as it is and the near-term prediction of how the North American continent - especially the USA - enjoys an unmatched geography advantage, this book will do it for you.

This book is amazing in the breadth and detail the author brings to the description of the condition of many countries of the world, perhaps because he has been a major figure in the private intelligence service Stratfor. His approach to the evaluation of a country's fortunes is keyed to their geography and their demography. His view is that the U.S. is favorably positioned to weather hard times that will affect many major countries of the world because of the fact that their birth rates began to fall around 1965 all at the same time. This leads to an inability of nations to support their seniors for lack of taxpayers of working age. This will affect China severely and western Europe only slightly less so. Liberal immigration, legal and illegal, will benefit the U.S. greatly. Anyone interested in world security in the coming decades will find the book enlightening and even shocking. Highly recommended.

Zeihan is a great geopolitical thinker and this book distills his work in a very concise, readable and entertaining way. More than that, the last 12 months have really showed the relevancy of his predictions, coming on even faster than he had anticipated (more on that in *The Absent Superpower*, another must read). If you are interested in the larger view about what is happening in the world, where we are going and why someone like Trump was going to be the next president regardless of the politics of the USA then this is the book for you. It puts our current events into a less-shrill and more understandable context that gives you hope (or despair, depending on where you live). Its a quick and interesting read. For a taste of this check out Zeihan on YouTube. His Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce and Soybean council talks are both great introductions to his research and just a blast to watch. Needless to say, Zeihan is on my top 10 'want to get a beer with this guy' list.

Put a new perspective on my appreciation of how geology, geography and resources can affect how a country develops. Finally explained why Mexico and Central America are having so much trouble developing. Was amazed at the prediction of Canada breaking up- even though it seems logical. I believe that many of the points made by Mr. Zeihan are valid. However, (yes there is one), do not believe that the human element is adequately worked into the equation. I do heed his warning about drug gangs being the USA's greatest risk and why we need to do something positive about the immigrant population to preclude this risk. I like his idea- based on elections I seem to be in the minority. Believe this book was a valuable primer on geopolitical thinking. So much so that sent a copy to my daughter's fianc  as something to read and understand as a Marine officer. (I was Navy officer and wish had read something like this)

This is a very absorbing book that paints a very clear picture of what we can expect worldwide in the future. It goes into areas I had never considered before, why some countries can stand alone, which are vulnerable, projected future world status of virtually all countries and regions, and the enormous influence of new technologies such as minicomputers, fracking and drones. There is a lot, repeat, lot of information in this book. It was more than I could absorb at the first reading. I plan on letting this digest in my mind a while then read it again and keep it handy as an interesting reference. I bought it as a Kindle book but am also buying a hardcover version to better see the numerous and quite informative graphs. I recommend this book to all who are concerned about what directions the world is moving. an excellent, informative book.

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