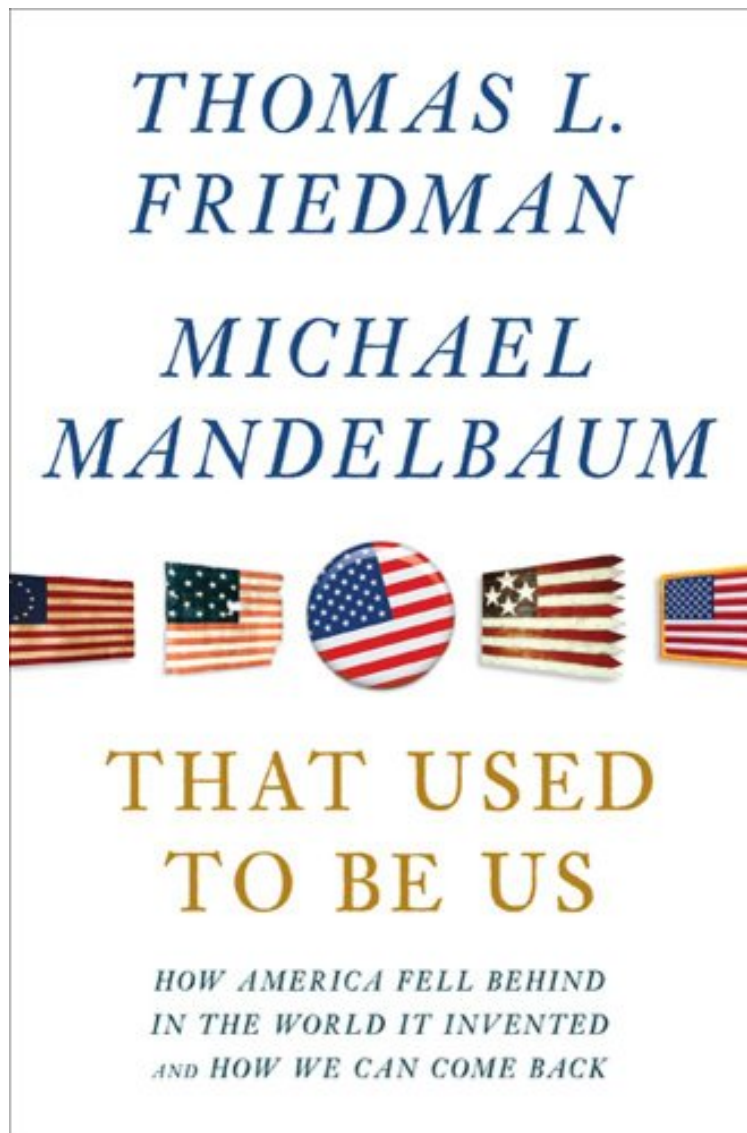


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That Used to Be Us: How America Fell Behind in the World It Invented and How We Can Come Back

Thomas L. Friedman, Michael Mandelbaum
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Thomas L. Friedman, Michael Mandelbaum : That Used to Be Us: How America Fell Behind in the World It Invented and How We Can Come Back before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised That Used to Be Us: How America Fell Behind in the World It Invented and How We Can Come Back:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. THERE'S NO TIME TO WAITBy richard e whitelockWhat a marvelous book co-authored by Thomas Friedman and Michael Mandelbaum. America is truly at a cross roads in terms of our political influence world-wide. On the home front and over the past decades our nation has lost ground in terms of its economical and political influence world-wide. Our nation must regain its economical and political dominance that can be used to improve the standards of all nations.In order to achieve the above, there are four areas that we must improve upon as a world power. The authors discuss these areas and suggest what needs to be done. And they are able to draw upon the influence of other nations upon these same areas needing improvement. We can no longer stand alone or preach isolationism as done many decades ago. All nations, friendly and unfriendly are connected at the hip. We are interdependent upon one another whether we desire it or not. The internet and world wide economic-political influences are the glue that bind us together or draws us apart..This book has a fresh appeal since the influence of Mandelbaum has added creditability to the over all work. I highly recommend that you read this book and let its message influence your vote in 2016. We all have the responsibility to become informed and vote intelligently. So now is the time to prepare.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Required reading for High SchoolBy MissViviFriedman had always been a favorite of mine. He offers an enormous breadth of experience and thorough analysis of global situations and problems. The thing I love most is that he offers solutions. I always skim through Op-Eds to see if there is a light at the end of the tunnel of complaints and criticisms, but rarely find it. His suggested solutions are not easy, nor should they be -- but they are possible. I wish he would run for president! I did not mean to dismiss Mandelbaum, he offers a distinct synergy that makes the book resonate. I am just new to Michael.. This book is not an easy read, but worth the time and thought. I think it should be required reading for high school seniors.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Should be Required ReadingBy CustomerI will admit from the start that I am a big fan of Thomas Friedman. I believe that he has an incredible perspective on current trends that affect all of us and projects that perspective into the future. This book continues that "tradition" and we ignore its' contents and messages at our own peril.Having worked in higher education for over 30 years and now in k-12, I have seen the way our education system, in general, fails to prepare students for the 21st century. We are still using, for the most part, an outdated model that is an industry unto itself. Without a world class education system, how can we compete in the world that Friedman and Mandelbaum describe?The authors paint a somewhat gloomy picture of America's future that can only be solved by radical change from the way we are doing things. They have done a good job of summarizing the problems we face because of our broken government, backwards education system and general collective failure of our citizenry to demand better. While there is nothing here that any observant citizen doesn't already suspect, their ability to succinctly define the issues and possible solutions is what makes this book notable.This book should be required reading for every high school and college student because they are the ones who have the opportunity to fix the mess that we have left for them.

America is in trouble. We face four major challenges on which our future depends, and we are failing to meet them—and if we delay any longer, soon it will be too late for us to pass along the American dream to future generations. In *That Used to Be Us*, Thomas L. Friedman, one of our most influential columnists, and Michael Mandelbaum, one of our leading foreign policy thinkers, offer both a wake-up call and a call to collective action. They analyze the four challenges we face—globalization, the revolution in information technology, the nation's chronic deficits, and our pattern of excessive energy consumption—and spell out what we need to do now to sustain the American dream and preserve American power in the world. They explain how the end of the Cold War blinded the nation to the need to address these issues seriously, and how China's educational successes, industrial might, and technological prowess remind us of the ways in which "that used to be us." They explain how the paralysis of our political system and the erosion of key American values have made it impossible for us to carry out the policies the country urgently needs. And yet Friedman and Mandelbaum believe that the recovery of American greatness is within reach. They show how America's history, when properly understood, offers a five-part formula for prosperity that will enable us to cope successfully with the challenges we face. They offer vivid profiles of individuals who have not lost sight of the American habits of bold thought and dramatic action. They propose a clear way out of the trap into which the country has fallen, a way that includes the rediscovery of some of our most vital traditions and the creation of a new thirdparty movement to galvanize the country. *That Used to Be Us* is both a searching exploration of the American condition today and a rousing manifesto for American renewal.