From former assistant secretary of state Kurt M. Campbell comes the definitive analysis and explanation of the new major shift in American foreign policy, its interests and assets, to Asia. There is a quiet drama playing out in American foreign policy far from the dark contours of upheaval in the Middle East and South Asia and the hovering drone attacks of the war on terror. The United States is in the midst of a substantial and long-term national project, which is proceeding in fits and starts, to reorient its foreign policy to the East. The central tenet of this policy shift, aka the Pivot, is that the United States will need to do more with and in the Asia-Pacific hemisphere to help revitalize its own economy, to realize the full potential of the region’s dramatic innovation, and to keep the peace in the world’s most dynamic region where the lion’s share of the history of the twenty-first century will be written. This book is about a necessary course correction for American diplomacy, commercial engagement, and military innovation during a time of unrelenting and largely unrewarding conflict.

While the United States has intensified its focus on the Asia-Pacific arena relative to previous administrations, much more remains to be done. THE PIVOT is about that future. It explores how the United States should construct a strategy that will position it to maneuver across the East and offers a clarion call for cunning, dexterity, and ingenuity in the period ahead for American statecraft in the Asia-Pacific region.

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Customer Reviews
Since 2000, China has acquired $4 trillion in foreign exchange reserves and become an economic
powerhouse as well as one of America’s most important trading partners. China has shown also that it has significant political and military ambitions with a rapidly expanding navy and close relationships with countries in Asia and throughout Africa. Into this mix you pour China’s wholesale cyber theft from every country of intellectual property, commercial trade secrets and military and technology research along with the advances they have made in the world of super computers and artificial intelligence and you can see the emergence of a very significant new power on the world stage. While all that has been going on, there is turmoil in the Middle East from a war in Syria to a collapse in the oil price which has forced Saudi Arabia to develop a strategic plan to wean the country off oil revenues and make the whole country more economically viable. These are seismic changes that are of fundamental importance to the future of the United States which, for much of the last century, saw its foreign policy joined at the hip with Europe and the Middle East. There are those who would like to see the old alliances continue as before as if ignoring changes across the globe will make them go away. Fortunately, Kurt Campbell is not one of those who hearken back to an easier world of the last century. He is one of America’s foremost diplomats as well as being a deep strategic thinker. He was brought in to the Obama administration as the Assistant Secretary of State for Asia and set to work to try and shift the supertanker of American foreign policy on to a new course that would be more Asia focused.

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