DIGITA
FORTRE

The Novels   Meet Dan   Secrets

Bizarre Facts ▸
Photo Galleries ▸
Secret Archives ▸
Ambigrams
Challenge
How to Get a Signed Copy

plot

DIGITAL
FORTRESS

DAN BROWN

From an electrifying new voice in suspense fiction comes Digital Fortress, a lightning-paced thriller that U.S. intelligence analysts are calling "utterly plausible."

Plot
Reviews
Excerpt
Order
FAQ

Chillingly current and filled with more intelligence secrets than Tom Clancy, Digital Fortress transports the reader deep within the most powerful intelligence organization on earth--the National Security Agency (NSA)--an ultra-secret, multi-billion dollar agency which (until now) less than three percent of Americans knew existed.

When the NSA's most classified technological wonder--an invincible code-breaking machine--encounters a mysterious code it cannot break, the agency calls in its head cryptographer, Susan Fletcher, a brilliant and beautiful mathematician. What she uncovers sends shock waves through the corridors of power.
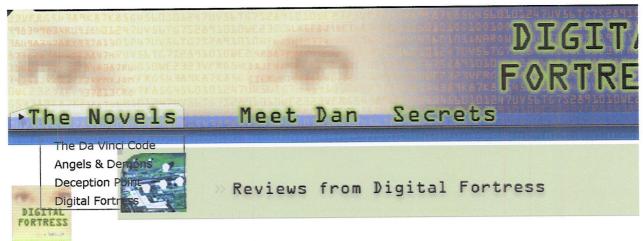
The NSA is being held hostage... not by guns or bombs, but by a code so ingeniously complex that if released it will cripple U.S. intelligence.

Caught in an accelerating tempest of secrecy and lies, Susan Fletcher battles to save the agency she believes in. Betrayed on all sides she finds herself fighting not only for her country, but for her life, and in the end, for the life of the man she loves.

With a startling twist that leaves the agency scrambling to avert the biggest intelligence disaster in U.S. history, Digital Fortress never lets up.

From the underground hallways of power, to the skyscrapers of Tokyo, to the towering cathedrals of Spain, a desperate race unfolds. It is a battle for survival -- a crucial bid to destroy a creation of inconceivable genius... an impregnable code-writing formula that threatens to obliterate the balance of power. Forever.

The Novels   Meet Dan   Secrets

DIGITAL FORTRESS

Plot

Reviews

Excerpt

Order

FAQ

Reviews from Digital Fortress

MIDWEST BOOK REVIEW
"Digital Fortress is the best and most realistic techno-thriller to reach the market in years
Brown's ability to paint in living color the gray area between personal freedom vs. nationa
awesome. The story line is so good, readers will feel a chilling thrill a minute as the book
think who is truly the terrorist and who is actually freedom's guardian."

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY
"Information age terrorism is the topical subject of Brown's inventive debut thriller about
attack on the National Security Agency's top-secret super computer, TRANSLTR. Although
is meant to monitor and decode e-mail between terrorists, the computer can also covertly
mail between private citizens. The latter capability drives former NSA programmer Ensei
paralyze TRANSLTR with Digital Fortress, a devious mathematical formula with an unbrea
Tankado then demands that the NSA publicly admit TRANSLTR's existence or he will aucti
Fortress's pass-key to the highest bidder. Brown cleverly makes ironic, mischievous Tanki
dies in the first chapter) the most interesting character in the book and its real protagonis
programmer posthumously outmaneuvers his opposition, countering their obsessive quest
solutions with brilliant simplicity. His favorite saying, "Who will guard the guards?" stands
contrast to the NSA agents self-righteous insistence that they always know what is best fo
In this fast-paced, plausible tale, Brown blurs the line between good and evil enough to d
patriots and paranoids alike."

Don Ulsch, Managing Director
THE NATIONAL SECURITY INSTITUTE
"You are not going to forget Dan Brown! Comparisons of Brown to Tom Clancy are inevita
justified. What Clancy has written so convincingly about the CIA and the FBI, Brown has a
masterfully for the secretive National Security Agency in "Digital Fortress". Dan Brown has
powerful and memorable novel that is alive and kicking with intrigue, covert action, and n
and turns than the NSA has underground bunkers. No longer can we think of Tom Clancy
dominant literary icon with unequaled insight into the intelligence community: Dan Brown
that intrepid hill and now occupies the same high ground. "Digital Fortress" is frighteningl
with honor and dishonor, passion and conviction, life and death, the love of country, and t
inescapable conclusion that each of us understands deep inside: the complex simplicity of
wrong and the strength of love are our beacons of hope."

BOOKLIST
"The National Security Agency (NSA) is one setting for this exciting thriller; the other is S
on page 1 the protagonist, lately dismissed from NSA, drops dead of a supposed heart att
dead, he enjoys a dramaturgical afterlife in the form of his computer program. Digital Fort
unbreakable codes, which could render useless NSA's code-cracking supercomputer called
but the deceased programmer slyly embossed a decryption key on a ring he wore. Pursui
is the engine of the plot. NSA cryptology boss Trevor Strathmore dispatches linguist Dave
recover the ring, while he and Becker's lover, senior code-cracker Susan Fletcher, ponder
vulnerability of TRANSLTR. In Seville, over-the-top chase scenes abound; meanwhile, the
events unfold at NSA. In a crescendo of murder, infernos, and explosions, Brown's skill at
concealing the twist will rivet cyber-minded readers."

AMAZON.COM
Thrillers Editor's RECOMMENDED BOOK, 02/01/98:
This crisp and pungent first thriller by Dan Brown, who teaches English at Phillips Exeter A
New Hampshire, will delight all sorts of readers--especially anyone who knows anything a
computers and encryption software such as PGP (for Pretty Good Privacy). "To make thei
incompetence complete," Brown writes, "the NSA [National Security Agency, but so secre
also known as No Such Agency] lobbied fiercely against all new encryption software, insist

crippled them and made it impossible for lawmakers to catch and prosecute the criminals.
groups cried foul, insisting the NSA shouldn't be reading their mail anyway. Encryption so
rolling off the presses. The NSA had lost the battle--exactly as it had planned." In Digital I
NSA's secret weapon is a giant, multibillion-dollar computer called TRANSLTR, which can c
code in seconds. The trouble starts when a renegade scientist comes up with an unbreaka
Digital Fortress, and then threatens to give it away on the Internet. Along with the techno
there are some very interesting human characters, including a heroic anguage teacher-tu

John J. Nance, Author
PANDORA'S CLOCK, MEDUSA'S CHILD, and THE LAST HOSTAGE
"A disturbing, cutting-edge techno-thriller which should galvanize everyone who sends or
mail or even dreams of navigating the Web. Dan Brown has unleashed a surprise: a gripp
the frontier of cyberspace which adroitly explores the frighteningly delicate line between c
and controlling us."

David Pogue, MACWORLD Magazine
"A techno-thriller is only as thrilling as its realness--and if Dan Brown's gut-churning story
realer, its plot turns would hurl you against the wall."

Read more reviews

Site Design by: Anchorball Web Media