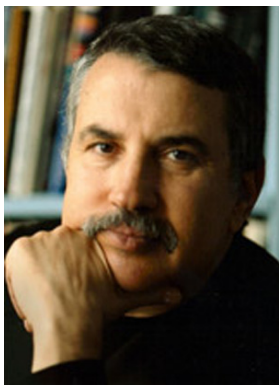




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THREE *Talk...*



Thomas L. Friedman

Author of the new national bestseller,

"The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty First Century"

Thomas L. Friedman's curiosity and his ability to recognize the patterns behind the most complex global developments have made him one of the most entertaining and authoritative sources for information about the wider world we live in, both as the foreign affairs columnist for the New York Times and as the author of landmark books like *From Beirut to Jerusalem* and *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, and his new and highly popular *The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century*.

In *The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-first Century*, Mr. Friedman poses the question, "when future scholars write the history of the world and come to the chapter "Y2K to March 2004," what will they say was the most crucial development? The attacks on 9/11 and the Iraq war? Or the convergence of technology and events that allowed India, China, and many other countries to become part of the global supply chain, creating an explosion of wealth in the middle classes of the world's two biggest nations?? With his inimitable ability to translate foreign policy and economic issues, Friedman demystifies this brave new world for readers, allowing them to make sense of the often bewildering global scene unfolding before their eyes.

In 2002 Mr. Friedman won his third Pulitzer Prize for commentary, with *The New York Times* having become the paper's foreign-affairs columnist in 1995. Previously, he served as chief economic correspondent in the Washington bureau and before that he was the chief White House correspondent. In 2005, Mr. Friedman was elected as a member of the Pulitzer Prize Board.

Born in Minneapolis on July 20, 1953, Mr. Friedman received a B.A. degree in Mediterranean studies from Brandeis University in 1975. In 1978 he received a Master of Philosophy degree in Modern Middle East studies from Oxford.

Mr. Friedman is married and has two daughters.

