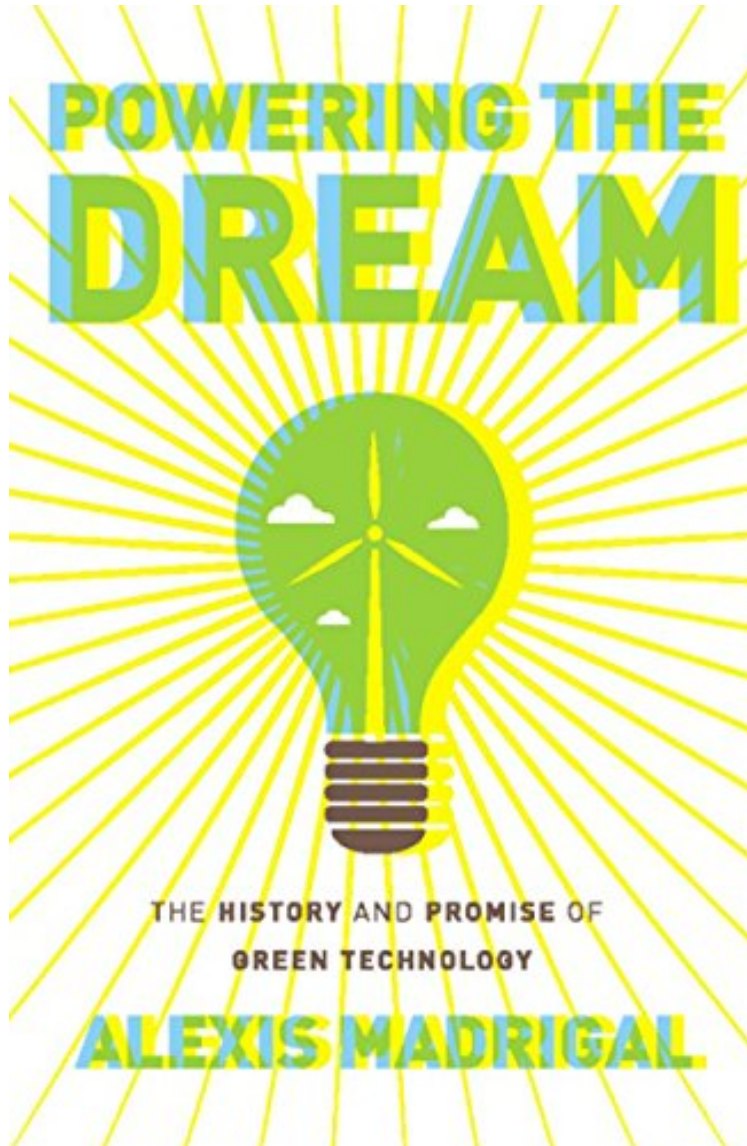


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# Powering the Dream: The History and Promise of Green Technology

*Alexis Madrigal*

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**Alexis Madrigal : Powering the Dream: The History and Promise of Green Technology** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Powering the Dream: The History and Promise of Green Technology:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. great read!By energy loverA great read, very enjoyable and I learned a lot. A nice balance of stories and treatment of the technology. I never felt overwhelmed with the engineering detail that you sometimes get in histories of technology, a wide variety of topics and opinions maintain context and page-

turning. The prose are fun and very readable. One observation is that Presidential administrations tend to get the praise and blame for funding, but we can't forget who controls the purse strings. My understanding is that a lot of the great post 73' oil crisis energy legislation originated in a very active House Science Technology committee. Highly recommend to anyone interested in the history of harnessing the energy of the sun. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By J B Parker Jr Good to review history 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent work, informative and a great read. By Daniel A. French Madrigal is a terrific author, as his work in The Atlantic reinforces on a regular basis. In Powering The Dream, he continues the tradition of investigative reporting spun with a great historical narrative. A must read for anyone interested in Green Technology, the environmental movement in the U.S., or energy in general.

Few today realize that electric cabs dominated Manhattan's streets in the 1890s; that Boise, Idaho, had a geothermal heating system in 1910; or that the first megawatt turbine in the world was built in 1941 by the son of publishing magnate G. P. Putnam--a feat that would not be duplicated for another forty years. Likewise, while many remember the oil embargo of the 1970s, few are aware that it led to a corresponding explosion in green-technology research that was only derailed when energy prices later dropped. In other words: We've been here before. Although we may have failed, America has had the chance to put our world on a more sustainable path. Americans have, in fact, been inventing green for more than a century. Half compendium of lost opportunities, half hopeful look toward the future, Powering the Dream tells the stories of the brilliant, often irascible inventors who foresaw our current problems, tried to invent cheap and energy renewable solutions, and drew the blueprint for a green future.