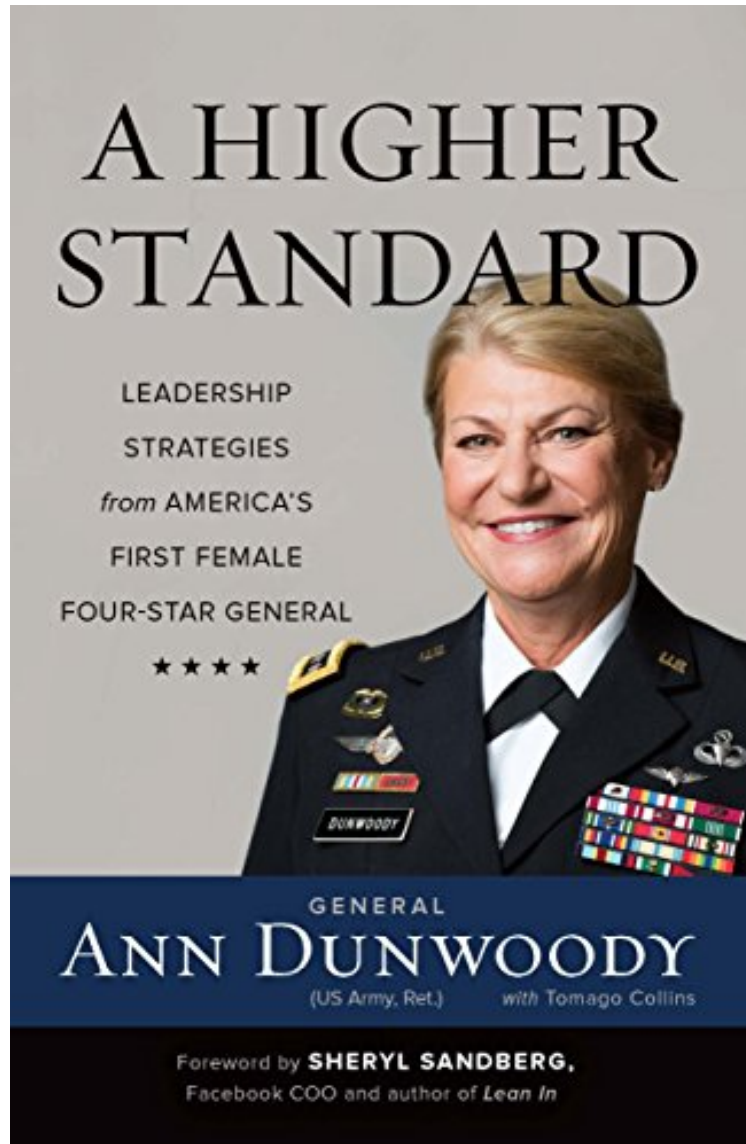


[FREE] A Higher Standard: Leadership Strategies from America's First Female Four-Star General

A Higher Standard: Leadership Strategies from America's First Female Four-Star General

Ann Dunwoody

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Ann Dunwoody : A Higher Standard: Leadership Strategies from America's First Female Four-Star General before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Higher Standard: Leadership Strategies from America's First Female Four-Star General:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Effective Leadership Principles--With Historic Results!By James TicknorShe may have 4 stars, but her book has 5!General Dunwoody's book is the crown jewel of a life of remarkable achievement, human growth, and resiliency. Her personal approach shines through her narrative in a fresh perspective

on the constantly evolving topic of leadership. She gave profound philosophy and innovative application on her rise to success, teaching us that excellence must become a way of life- not a concept. I sensed that, while she recognized she set many firsts for her gender's role in the military, she is more humbled than pleased by this fact. In her book, she emphasizes a higher sense of duty as opposed to individualism. This book finds its merit on the importance of professional development and leadership, making it clear that the stakes keep going up as you progress through life. The beautiful nature of *A Higher Standard* is that she details what worked for her. It allows the reader, with few exceptions, to infer their own leadership principles using her as a kind of case study. At first, I wondered why the book didn't follow a logical sequence of time, as some other reviewers have noted. However, she made it clear that this book was not a memoir, so I did not mind. This achieved an interesting effect that I think is unique to this book. By not following a logical time sequence, she made me realize that some leadership abilities/concepts she learned later in life may have aided her in earlier years. What's inspiring about that is, regardless, her resiliency and willingness to learn allowed her to rise to the top. There's only one thing that I can offer as a critique, and it is inconsequential. I would have switched Chapter 10 and Chapter 11. I understand wanting to close with summarizing the title's message, but I feel that could've been included in Chapter 10. Then, switching the two chapters. Several consistent themes that were present in the book (i.e. running in the dark) were brought to closure in Chapter 10, and I feel resulted in a better sense of ending for the book. Combined with the symbolism of a rising dawn, it would've been my preference. However, formatting did not in any way detract from the message. General Dunwoody's book is an amazing, personable literary work. Many soon-to-be, active, and veteran leaders would benefit from the profound insights of this extraordinary woman. If you're still on the fence- just do yourself a favor and BUY IT! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. the best leaders are able to see the potential in their ...By Diane Cruz An alternative title to this remarkable book could have been *Without Compromise*, for this is the simple secret to building a strong, effective organization that General Anne Dunwoody teaches her readers. In a down to earth, personalized approach, we see the big picture of the Army as a whole. Anyone who has ever thought of the military as an impersonal war machine will gain an understanding that the military, as any strong, effective organization, gains its strength through the abilities of each and every member. Whatever one's role, the manner in which it is carried out will impact the overall effectiveness of an organization. General Dunwoody shows us that a strong leader gains respect by giving respect. A strong leader may have to cull out a member who is unwilling to carry out his role and uphold the image of the organization. At the same time, the best leaders are able to see the potential in their members, even where the individual may not see his own potential. The best leaders forego punitive measures for weakness or honest errors. Instead, they willingly serve as mentors and role models. These best of leaders are not mere figureheads, but consider themselves part of a team, and by holding themselves to a higher standard, inspire others to do the same. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Unique and useful leadership lessons for all! By APW In *A Higher Standard: Leadership Strategies from America's First Female Four-Star General, Ann Dunwoody* details her experience as a soldier and most valued leadership lessons. Applicable and resonant to both civilian and military individuals, *A Higher Standard* provides everyone tangible strategies to increase our propensity to learn and adapt, and better our ability to lead. These takeaways are woven within her personal story and, as a result, allow for an insightful and moving read. As a woman, I recognize General Dunwoody as a pioneer in her field and as a role model who I will strive to emulate throughout my own leadership journey. She embraces the power of vulnerability and iterates to readers the importance of humanizing ourselves - two lessons we can all afford to be reminded of. This is a worthwhile read for anyone who aspires to be a strong, principled, and impactful leader.

On June 23, 2008, President George W. Bush nominated Ann Dunwoody as a four-star general in the US Army—the first time a woman had ever achieved that rank. The news generated excitement around the world. Now retired after nearly four decades in the Army, Dunwoody shares what she learned along the way, from her first command leading 100 soldiers to her final assignment, in which she led a 60 billion enterprise of over 69,000 employees, including the Army's global supply chain in support of Iraq and Afghanistan. What was the driving force behind Dunwoody's success? While her talent as a logistician and her empathy in dealing with fellow soldiers helped her rise through the ranks, Dunwoody also realized that true leaders never stop learning, refining, growing, and adapting. In *A Higher Standard*, Dunwoody details her evolution as a soldier and reveals the core leadership principles that helped her achieve her historic appointment. Dunwoody's strategies are applicable to any leader, no matter the size or scope of the organization. They include lessons such as "Never Walk by a Mistake," a mandate to recognize when something is wrong, big or small, and to hold people accountable. Not only can this save billions for industry, it can sometimes save the lives of soldiers and citizens. She also advises that "Leaders Aren't Invincible—Don't Try to Be": to be our best, we have to acknowledge our worst. And she encourages readers to "Leverage the Power of Diversity" by creating teams of people from different backgrounds to provide a broad range of ideas and devise the best-informed decisions. With these and other guiding principles, *A Higher Standard* offers practical, tactical advice that everyone can use to lead and achieve with maximum success.

"Ann Dunwoody served her country for 37 years, inspiring countless soldiers and citizens along the way with her many firsts. As this book shows, her commitment to and zeal for service haven't ended with her military retirement."--Walter Isaacson, President CEO of The Aspen Institute and author of The Innovators "An amazing, uplifting story--and an important one for us to learn from. Ann Dunwoody was our first female four-star general, not because she was a great female soldier, but because she was simply a great soldier. She drove change--blazing a trail through myriad challenges--and did it with extraordinary wisdom courage, and a selfless commitment to soldiers. An inspirational guidebook for anyone trying to make their team or organization better."--General Stanley McChrystal (U.S. Army, Retired), author of My Share of the Task and Team of Teams "General Dunwoody's book, A Higher Standard, provides inspiring military philosophy and on-the-ground leadership experience. There are powerful messages, and much to be learned from our United States Army's first female four-star general, who is a woman with a brilliant career on and off the battlefield. Challenge, change, and commitment flow from A Higher Standard! A must-read for all leaders in every sector." --Frances Hesselbein, President and CEO of The Frances Hesselbein Leadership Institute and 1998 Presidential Medal of Freedom Recipient

About the Author
General Ann Dunwoody is the former commanding general of one of the Army's largest commands, the US Army Materiel Command. Now retired, she offers strategic insights to companies and corporate boards. In addition to becoming the first woman in US military history to achieve the rank of four-star general, she was also the first woman to command a battalion in the 82nd Airborne Division and Fort Bragg's first female general officer. Dunwoody was also the first woman to command the Combined Arms Support Command.