

## **Digital Fortress**

**Dan Brown**

**Reviewed by: Justin 15**

**Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity**

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Digital Fortress is a science fiction book about TRANSLATR, a code in the NSA that, if released, would carry massive implications for national security and US intelligence. The code is written by Tankando, a former NSA employee who felt that the NSA's intrusions into the private lives of citizens were unjustified. When people in the NSA attempt to break it, they find that it is impossible to break. The NSA hires Susan Fletcher, a cryptographer (expert in coding/decoding), to locate a password that would allow the NSA to stop TRANSLATR. Throughout the plot, Susan encounters various complications that prevent her discovery of the code, including the death of Tankando.

This was one of the best science fiction books I have read. Suspenseful cliffhangers throughout the novel kept my eyes glued after every chapter. My favorite parts of the book were definitely the plot twists, which were abundant. The best surprise was a revelation about the person who created TRANSLATR. However, I cannot tell you all of the surprises; you will have to read the book to find out!

On the other hand, the book was not without faults. Some of the information presented about cryptology and the NSA weren't entirely accurate. If you're especially interested in those fields, the book may not be the best source. However, the slight inaccuracies don't take away from the plot. In addition, the various perspectives in the book were sometimes difficult to follow, especially if you read the book in many sittings.

### **Recommended Titles:**

Inferno by Dan Brown

The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline