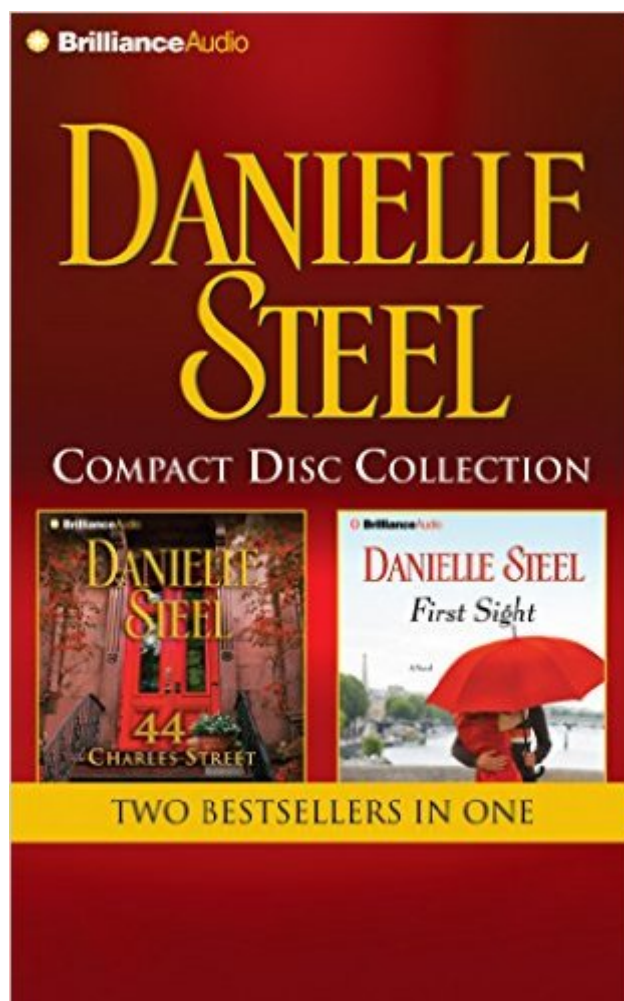


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# Danielle Steel - 44 Charles Street And First Sight 2-in-1 Collection: 44 Charles Street, First Sight



## Synopsis

Two novels by #1 New York Times bestselling author Danielle Steel

**44 Charles Street** Francesca Thayer, newly separated from her lawyer boyfriend Todd, is desperate. The owner of a struggling art gallery, and suddenly the sole mortgage payer on her Greenwich Village townhouse, Francesca does the math and then the unimaginable. She puts out an advertisement for boarders. Soon her house becomes a whole new world. First comes Eileen, a fresh, pretty L.A. transplant, now a New York City schoolteacher. Then there's Chris, a young father struggling with a troubled ex-wife and the challenge of parenting a seven-year-old son who visits every other weekend. The final tenant is Marya, a celebrated cookbook author hoping to start a new chapter in her life after the death of her husband. As Francesca's art gallery begins to find its footing and Todd moves on to another woman, she discovers that her accidental tenants have become the most important people in her life. As the roommates bond, and the house fills with the aroma of Marya's exquisite cuisine, there are shadows as well as light. Next, Eileen explores the precarious boundaries of online dating with a series of strangers. Chris's custody fight for his son escalates to devastating levels. Marya faces an unexpected choice that will take her into untested waters. And Francesca herself will contemplate what had seemed impossible: opening her heart once more.

**First Sight** New York. London. Milan. Paris. Fashion Week in all four cities. A month of endless interviews, parties, and unflagging work and attention to detail at the semiannual ready to wear fashion shows • the famous prêt-à-porter. At the center of the storm and avalanche of work is American Timmie O'Neill, whose renowned line, Timmie O, is the embodiment of casual chic, in fashion and for the home. She has created a business that inspires, fills, and consumes her life. With an unerring instinct for what the next trend will be, an innate genius for business, tireless labor, and sheer fearlessness, starting from nothing, over two decades Timmie has built an international empire that has brought her enormous satisfaction and success. In a world where humility and compassion are all too rare, her humor, kindness, integrity, and creativity are inspirational. Yet as blessed as she feels by her success, Timmie harbors the private wounds of a devastating childhood and past tragedy. She is too smart, too experienced, and too hurt to want much in her personal life beyond a succession of convenient, very limited relationships. Always willing to take risks in business, she never risks her heart. But despite her well-ordered and highly controlled world, it turns out that Timmie O'Neill is not immune to magic when it strikes. And it strikes in Paris during Paris Fashion Week, when an intriguing Frenchman comes into her life when she gets sick. At first, Timmie and Jean-Charles Vernier are only patient and physician. They become confidants and friends, corresponding at a safe distance between Paris and Los Angeles once she goes home.

There is every reason why they must remain apart. But neither can deny their growing friendship and the electricity that sparks whenever they meet.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As someone who has read all of her books the last few have been Okay but this one kept me up half of the night because I wanted to finish it. I simply could not put it down. As in typical Danielle Steele style she crafts a well written story that makes you wanting more. At the end its all wrapped up with a bow....but still wishing the story would not end. A great story, a great development of characters my only complaint is that she once again rushed the ending when we were wishing she would go on another couple of chapters. A great escape to your normal day....once you start you cannot put it down!!!!

Danielle Steele is a legend, but her new book is not her best. It felt predictable to me, and the main character, Francesca, felt a little too perfect for me as reader to identify with as a reader. The title of the book, 44 Charles street, is what the book is about, an old house that Francesca and her boyfriend of five years bought together in New York. Todd, the boyfriend, turns 40 and feels that he wants more out of life, meaning a wife and kids, while Francesca, an art gallery owner, wants to keep doing what she's doing. Unfortunately, Francesca can't afford the beautiful old house by herself so she takes on roommates and that's where the meat of the story takes place. There's a young teacher who likes bad boys, a famous chef (this felt weird, because a famous chef would have enough money to afford her own place. Next we have a man Francesca's age who has his young

son staying with him every other weekend. He puts in bunk beds for the two of them making me think he's dirt poor. Francisca's parents are eccentric and the most interesting people in the novel for me, yet not much time was really spent on them. Francisca's mother would have been great to follow instead of her boring, perfect daughter. But again, this is a Danielle Steele novel, and she sells millions of books because she's great at what she does and the reader always gets what they pay for, a good story, great plotting, and likable characters. Great escapism that doesn't ask a lot from the reader and sometimes, that's exactly what you want. I just felt like this wasn't her best novel. She's written much better books and I'm sure will continue to do so in the future.

Never have I read a book that compelled me to write a review. This is one of the worst books I've read. The entire book could have been summed up in 40 pages and saved me the time I spent slogging through each chapter. How many times does the same sentence need to be repeated in order for the reader to soak it in? According to this author, at least 25. I got so tired of hearing how the characters felt about one-another that I actually considered ditching the book over half-way through. This is truly a book that I would only recommend to a third grader. If you're an adult reader considering buying 44 Charles Street, save yourself the time and money.

I have enjoyed Danielle Steel novels for many years, and this is the first to truly disappoint me. The story had no depth at all, and virtually no story. Truly, the tale could have been condensed and told completely in two chapters. By the second chapter, you already knew exactly where the story was going and how it would end. It had almost no dialogue or interaction; rather, it was told almost as though it were being narrated by a third party. I found this novel to be extremely boring. I will be very cautious when considering future Steel releases. My opinion - this one is not worth the time or money.

I don't see what the hype around Danielle Steel is all about. This is the third book of hers that I have read and I can't say that I have enjoyed a single one of them. She seems to have a set of rules - a plot with some sugary sweet characters, some problem that the main character struggles with, a man in the sidelines for amusement, some tragedy and the same lines repeated about a 1000 times just in case we don't get it the first 999 times. I finished this book with difficulty and I am struggling to understand what it was all about. The plot is nothing and the characters seem to be so shallow doing nothing about anything. I mean who decides to keep quiet and do nothing when a girl staying with them in the same house is getting beaten black and blue by her boyfriend? And then leaves her

alone with him and goes on a vacation? Come on. I kept struggling till the end thinking something is bound to happen but alas....zip, nada, nothing.....

Ms. Steel must think her readers cannot remember who the characters are or what happened because every time someone shows up again or 20 pages have gone by, we get the whole story fed back over and over and over again. The plot was OK but the writing reminded me of high school essays we had to write 4 pages on. You had one page of material and just filled in the same material over and over. I won't be reading any more of her books. Stuart Woods mysteries are page turners and don't insult my intelligence.

Seriously, i want my money back! This book did not have a plot and was so repetitive. I downloaded this on audible and hated every moment of it. I kept waiting for it to get better, but it never did. Do not waste your money on this one - Danielle Steel is losing it.

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