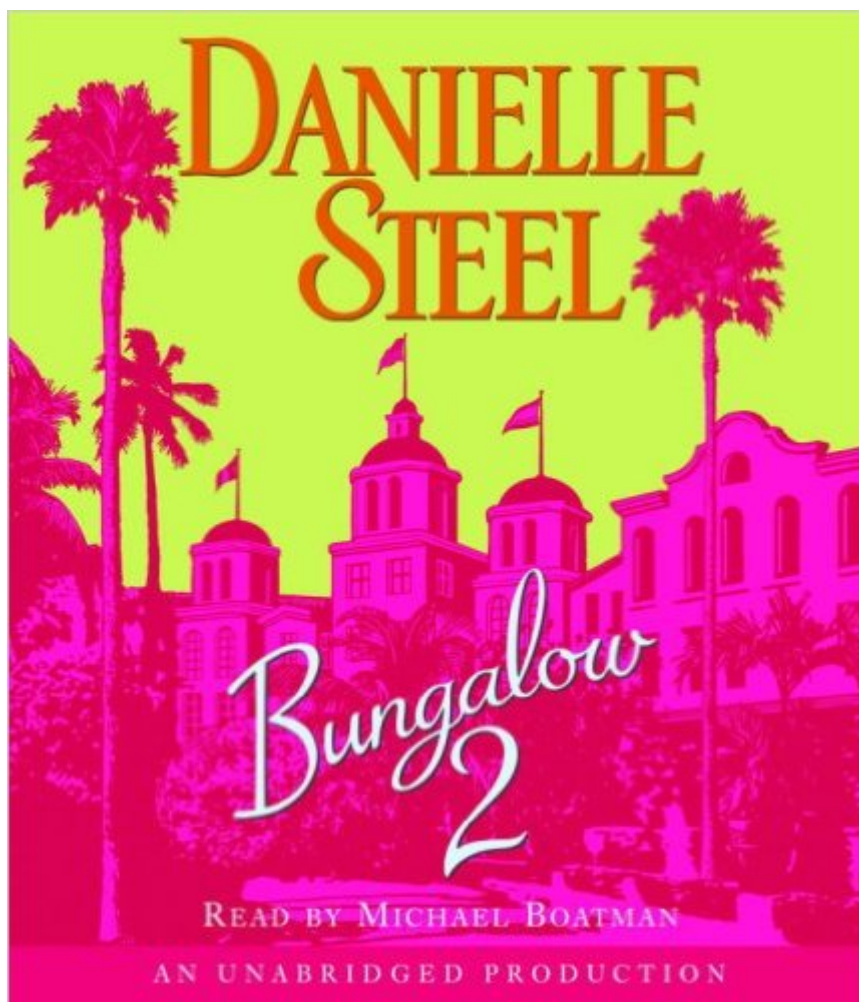


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Bungalow 2 (Danielle Steel)



Synopsis

Danielle Steel takes us beyond the dazzle of Hollywood in her compelling new novel—the story of one woman’s journey from suburban mom to award-winning screenwriter...and all the joy, heartbreak, and challenges along the way. *Bungalow 2* The phone call came on a hot July day—a day like any other for Marin County mom and freelance writer Tanya Harris. But this call—from Tanya’s agent—was anything but ordinary, offering a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: the chance to write a major Hollywood screenplay, a dream she had put aside long ago to devote her energies to her family. This time, Tanya knows she cannot refuse, even though she’s torn about leaving her husband and their daughters. From the moment she steps into her lush bungalow at the fabled Beverly Hills Hotel, Tanya is thrust into an intoxicating new world where she feels reborn—energized by the creativity swirling around her—yet the pull of her family at home is strong. Suddenly she’s working alongside A-list actors and a Hollywood legend: Oscar-winning producer Douglas Wayne, a man who always gets what he wants—and who seems to have his sights set on her. Flying home between shoots, struggling to reconnect with a family that seems to need her less and less, Tanya watches helplessly as her old life is pulled out from under her in the most crushing of ways. As her two lives collide, as one award-winning film leads to another, Tanya begins to wonder if she can be a wife, a mother, and a writer at the same time. And just as she confronts the toughest choice she has faced, she is offered another dazzling opportunity—one that could recast her story in an amazing new direction, complete with an ending she never could have written herself. In *Bungalow 2*, Danielle Steel takes us into a world few ever see—a world of fame and fortune, celebrity and genius—daring to show us the real lives, real dreams, and real struggles hidden beneath the flash and glitter of Hollywood. From the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

Another Steel disappointment. The quality of a Danielle Steel story line is no longer important to her it seems. This is another lifeless, predictable story. The first 50 pages go over and over how Tanya is a wife, mother and writer. She loves her life. She loves being a mother. She loves being a wife. She loves writing. She loves doing all three. Did we mention how much she enjoys her lifestyle? Get the picture? Tanya takes a job which requires her to move to LA for 9 mos. Tanya misses her family and lifestyle...we hear about that chapter after chapter. Will it upset her fairy tale lifestyle? Well, the typical Steel book of late, proves yes, once again. Hubby starts hanging around the neighbor who has been helping out in Tanya's place. Tanya meets a director. Hmmm...wonder where this will go. 3/4 of the book goes nowhere. The ending seems rushed. There has to be a happy ending, and it seems Steel crams it in to fit. It's amazing how Steel can say the same thing over and over, page after page and go nowhere. This is nothing like her original work. Don't waste your money on this one. If you must read it, get it at the library for free.

This is perhaps the worst written book that I have ever attempted to read. How did it get to the best sellers list? Does she keep buying all of her own books until they appear on the list? After just reading one of Anne Tyler's fabulous books, I picked up this book and felt that I was reading the equivalent of a fat-free white bread with fat-free bologna sandwich with a bottled water. All of which is beyond me to why they are on the market. Her name should be changed to Danielle Stole as in "Danielle Stoled my money!"

I have said many times that I won't read another book by DS. And yet I pick it up to read fully knowing that her style has seriously deteriorated over the years. It's only for the entertainment factor--to read it quickly, skim over all the repeated information and know that it's going to be filled with shallow characters, not much plot, poor grammar and did I mention how she repeats herself over and over and over again? Having lived in Southern CA and have known many "wannabes" in the film industry, the chances of someone making it big and getting an Oscar so quickly is highly unlikely. There's no substance to the story, just pure fluff. One must skim it-----ignore the repeating of information and just drift along with the characters. So maybe one of these days I will actually

stop reading her work----it is a disappointment since the early days of "Message from Nam" and "Thurston House". She writes too many stories, doesn't edit the grammar and just doesn't seem to care anymore about the depth of the characters. And did I say she repeats everything over and over again? Just read her stories for what they are-----a no brainer. It's an easy, quick summer read----doesn't require any thought. A great skimmer.

I'm about halfway through and debating whether to finish. I've got no sympathy for any of the characters. I got so sick of hearing about this woman's perfect husband, perfect children, perfect marriage, perfect family, perfect life . . . that it was a relief when the husband had an affair with her best friend.

I can't even believe this was a professional endeavor. The first 150 pages basically said the same thing over and over and over; the main character loves being a wife & mom and feels guilty that she's pursuing a once in a lifetime career opportunity. WE GET IT. When the story finally gets going and hubby goes astray our protagonist uncharacteristically bounces back with an "Ok well I guess that's life" attitude. Every character in this book (except for the director's dog) is beyond boring and cliché. Admittedly, it's been a long, long time since I've read a DS novel and I doubt I'll ever read another. My middle school students write better stories.

I know, I've said this before, but honestly, this will be the last DS book I ever attempt to read. Normally, I suffer through to the end, but this one is unreadable. I was so distracted by the poor punctuation that I could not continue. Poor writing and plotline is one thing, but there's no excuse for bad punctuation - commas where there aren't supposed to be commas and none where they should be. Maybe I'm too picky, but I think a best-selling author should have an editor who is familiar with the English language. This book is an insult to educated readers. Doesn't anyone from Ms. Steel's publisher read these reviews? As long as people keep buying this trash, they won't change anything.

This is probably Ms. Steel's worst book yet. The first half of the book was monotonous and unmoving. I felt no attachment to the characters at all and could not figure out what she would be doing with them in the future. The first half of the book is written in an overly-narrative form that is too glossed over for the time frame. The second half of the book picks up pace, and she changes from the overly-narrative into the present tense. I never became attached to the characters and I

never rooted for any character or outcome in particular. Obviously Ms. Steel has traded in talent to be prolific. I'd rather re-read *The Promise* than this new junk.

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