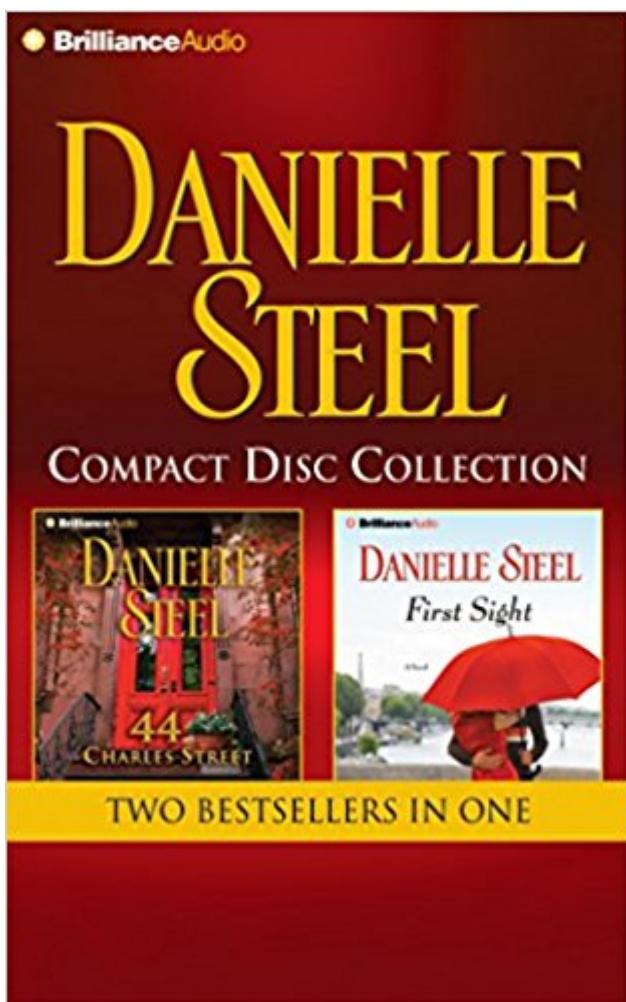


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# Danielle Steel â€“ 44 Charles Street And First Sight 2-in-1 Collection: 44 Charles Street, First Sight



## 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. *Naïve* 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

After her boyfriend and business partner leaves her, Manhattan art dealer Francesca Thayer is forced to take in boarders in order to save her beloved home. In short order, she rents out rooms to Eileen, a young teacher; Marya, a famous chef; and Chris, an attractive single father. They all become close friends, but their lives remain chaotic. Eileen falls in love with tattooed men, Marya has a persistent, married suitor, and Chris gains full custody of his son as his ex-wife becomes increasingly erratic. Along the way, Francesca stops worrying about what might have been, and becomes more involved in the world around her—romances, plumbing problems, and all. While addressing the recession, the lethal danger of Internet dating, and the evils of drug abuse, Steel keeps the tone gentle and soothing in this warm, cozy tale about the triumph of love, friendship, and second chances. (Apr.) (c) Copyright PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

When Francesca Thayer and her husband, Todd, divorce, he wants to sell their art gallery as well as their charming house at 44 Charles St., and split the proceeds. Francesca can't bear to part with either. She talks her artist father into becoming a partner in the gallery, but that still leaves the problem of how to keep her home. Against the advice of her mother, Francesca decides to share her house with three other people. She chooses carefully: Eileen Flanders, a young, fresh-faced

teacher; Chris Harley, a divorced father with shared custody of his little boy, Ian; and Marya Davis, a newly widowed, famous chef who doesn't want to live alone. It looks as though Francesca's problems are solved. However, Eileen isn't as innocent as she seems, and the men she meets on the Internet and brings home range from incredibly rude to physically abusive, shattering the peace of the new family. This book is classic Steel--lots of emotion, friendship, romance, heartbreak, tragedy, and danger. Her countless fans are guaranteed to find it impossible to put down.

**HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** With 590 million books in print and best-seller-list placements lasting nearly 400 consecutive weeks, Steel, somehow both predictable and surprising, is unfailingly popular. --Shelley Mosley --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Similar to her lull she had previous to *Prodigal Son*, however, it marks some parts as suspenseful. I read it on an audiobook version, so it was more engaging than perhaps if I had read it as is.

This book was great because it convinced me I can save a ton of time and money by not reading any more Danielle Steel books. I tried this because I like the trope of gathering diverse people under one roof and making a story out of it (roommates, inns, hotels...). This story wasn't so bad but the writing was...ungodly. I don't know if Steel is one person or--like Carolyn Keene--a bunch of hacks keeping a brand alive. I kind of suspect that she is one person who is getting older because this writing reminds me of my 70 year old mother who keeps repeating herself when telling anecdotes. "You remember Mary, she's your age. She's a nurse at your grandmother's nursing home. I saw her yesterday. She looks good for being forty. I saw her when I went to visit grandma; She was working there. As a nurse, not a volunteer." Etc. The writing is just so repetitious. At one point Steele spends 5 pages saying the same piece of information over and over again. It's painful and it's a shame. It could've have been edited down into a great novella because the story was fine. But I'd advise that unless you are goldfish you skip this.

I'm outraged that this book is listed on the NYT Bestseller List. This is NOT EVEN mediocre fiction. This reads like a rambling repetitive disjointed outline of an outline for an unknown authors first attempt at writing fiction. DO NOT WASTE YOUR MONEY. I'm so angry about being duped that I may write the publisher to demand my money back. I am certainly going to let .com know that this book is a con job. I gave it 1 star. It deserves less than zero.

I loved this book

Large print is awesome!!! My Mom is 88 and has poor vision but she enjoyed this book very much and had no issues reading it.

I loved this book and hated for it to end. It was such fast reading, a real page turner. Loved all the characters. I wish there would be another chapter for these characters. Highly recommend, but order another book at the same time because you will finish this one in no time at all. Great story, as always, by Danielle Steel.

Shows how you can out grow a place to live

I enjoyed the story

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