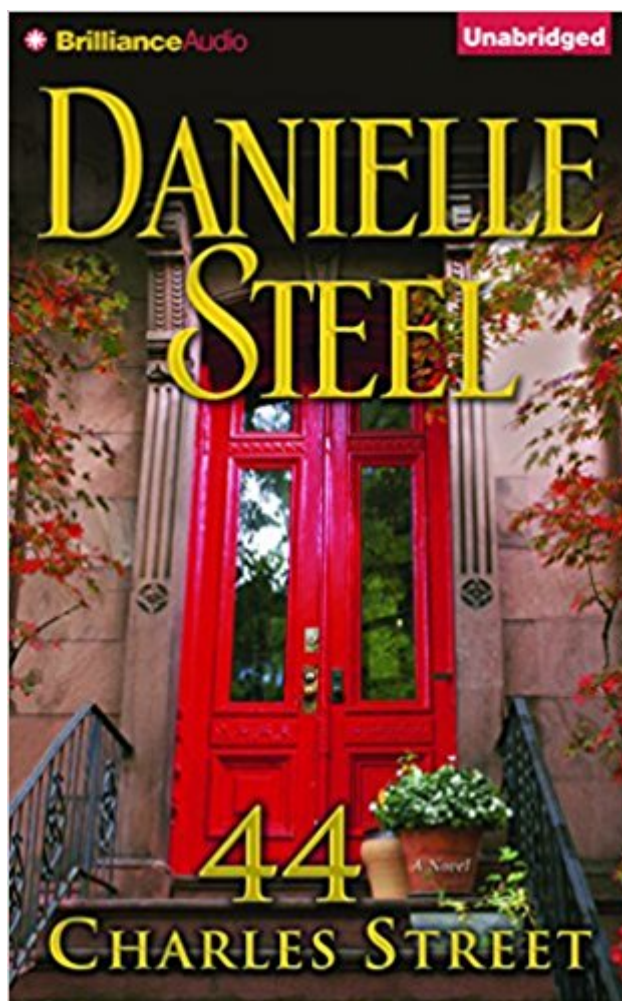


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# 44 Charles Street



## Synopsis

A magical transformation takes place in Danielle Steel's luminous novel: Strangers become roommates, roommates become friends, and friends become a family in a turn-of-the-century house in Manhattan's West Village. The plumbing was prone to leaks, the furniture rescued from garage sales. And every square inch was being devotedly restored to its original splendor—even as a relationship fell to pieces. Now Francesca Thayer, newly separated from her boyfriend, is suddenly the sole mortgage payer on her Greenwich Village townhouse. The struggling art gallery owner does the math and then the unimaginable. She puts out an advertisement for boarders, and soon her home 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 fighting for custody of his seven-year-old son. The final tenant is Marya, a celebrated cookbook author hoping to start a new chapter in life after the death of her husband. Over the course of one amazing, unforgettable, ultimately life-changing year, Francesca discovers that her accidental tenants have become the most important people in her life. The house at 44 Charles Street fills with laughter, heartbreak, and hope—and in the hands of master storyteller Danielle Steel, it's a place those who visit will never want to leave.

## Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Brilliance Audio; Unabridged edition (February 1, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1501276212

ISBN-13: 978-1501276217

Product Dimensions: 5 x 1.4 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 419 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #757,969 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in Books > Books on CD >

Authors, A-Z > ( S ) > Steel, Danielle #348 in Books > Books on CD > Romance #1046

in Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Unabridged

## 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 an alternate Audio CD 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 an alternate Audio CD 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.

Im 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. Im 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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