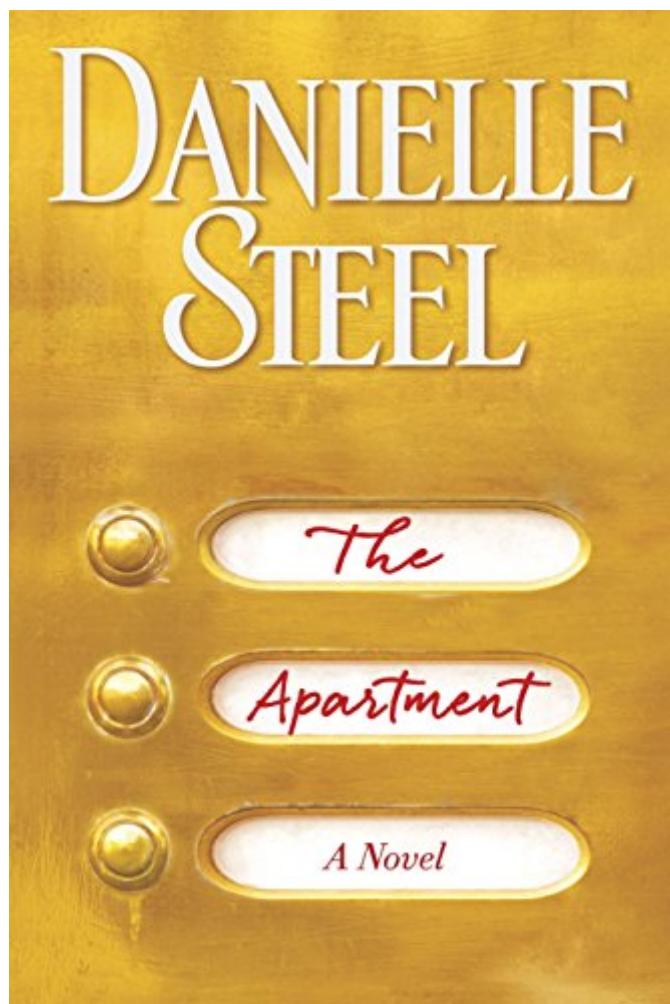


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The Apartment: A Novel



Synopsis

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER ¢ This vibrant, tender, and moving tale pulses with the excitement of New York City, as Danielle Steel explores twists of fate, and the way that sometimes, in special places, friends can be the family we need most. They come together by chance in the heart of New York City, four young women at turning points in their lives. Claire Kelly finds the walk-up apartmentâ ª a spacious loft in Hellâ ªs Kitchen. But the aspiring shoe designer needs at least one roommate to manage it. She meets Abby Williams, a writer trying to make it on her own, far away from her successful family in L.A. Four years later, Morgan Shelby joins them. Sheâ ªs ambitious, with a serious finance job on Wall Street. Then Sasha Hartman, a medical student whose identical twin sister is a headline-grabbing supermodel. And so the sprawling space, with its exposed brick and rich natural light, becomes a home to friends about to embark on new, exhilarating adventures. ª Frustrated by her ultra-conservative boss, Claire soon faces a career crisis as a designer. Abby is under the spell of an older man, an off-off-Broadway producer who exploits her and detours her from her true talent as a novelist, while destroying her self-confidence. Morgan is happily in love with a successful restaurateur who supplies her roommates with fine food. At her office, she begins to suspect something is off about her boss, a legendary investment manager whom sheâ ªs always admired. But does she even know him? And Sasha begins an all-work-no-play residency as an OB/GYN, as her glamorous jet-set sister makes increasingly risky decisions. ª Their shared life in the apartment grounds them as they bring one another comfort and become a family of beloved friends. Unexpected opportunities alter the course of each of their lives, and as they meet the challenges, they face the bittersweet reality that in time, they will inevitably move away from the place where their dreams began. From the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

This was not one of Danielle Steel's best. I have always loved her novels and because of that I kept reading thinking it would get better but it did not equal her usual greatness. The story held my attention and the residents were a mixture of interesting characters.

I really loved DS novels when I was younger. I've noticed lately that her books are so repetitive. She says the same things over and over. She also uses very basic vocabulary which makes the characters seem one dimensional and situations boring. While I love the characters of Claire, Morgan, Abby, and Sasha, Valentina is just too unbelievable to be real. The book is too predictable and the ending very rushed.

From a man's view of best friends, yes I liked it. The openness of these friends and the love they shared through all of the trials each encountered .they all rose stronger.Would like friends like this.

I ask myself that question each time I read a Danielle Steele novel. Her books are as realistic as fairytales, and The Apartment is no exception. Having lived in Manhattan for fifteen years after college, I wonder how I could have missed an advertisement for a 3000 square foot loft with four bedrooms, signed the lease and - proof - had three of the most perfect roommates on the planet. Where did my friends and I go wrong? We four, despite all having well-paying jobs, crammed ourselves into a sardine can and dined on Swanson's TV dinners unless we had a rare date with a guy in similar circumstances or splurged on a burger and beer at a joint on Third Avenue. No beau who owned a hot restaurant and cooked for us, assorted relatives and friends every Sunday; parents who gifted us each a grand total of \$300 for the sole purpose of purchasing a bed - to quote our fathers, "You are on your own. Goodbye and good luck!" And strangely, our parents had been

married for years. Does Danielle Steele have an editor? Is she such a commercial success that her publisher merely slaps a cover on the manuscript without reading it? Did she ever read *The Elements of Style*, by William Strunk? She blithely violates one writer's rule after another. Who strings together complete sentences, connected by "and" such that a single sentence runs on for a full page before the period pops up? A whole new meaning to run-on sentences! Dangling participles, mixed tenses, screwy punctuation all abound. So I return to my original question. The best answer I can give is that there are times when a no-brainer satisfies me. Without the task of analyzing characters, attempting to guess the end of a mystery, having nightmares after reading gruesome psychological thrillers and examining the writer's style and skill, I can quickly scan Danielle Steele's words and treat her books like Lifetime Movies. After all, life doesn't always have to be complicated.

I really enjoyed *The Apartment*. It kept me reading from the very beginning and was so glad for such a happy ending. Danielle... Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the romances, friendships and adventures I have experienced reading your novels!

If I could give this book no stars I would. This was possibly the most boring book I have ever read. It was basically a day to day narrative of 4 young women living in an apartment in Manhattan. No story line, no plot. I kept waiting for something to happen but it never did. I fell asleep every time I read a few pages. Save your money. Do not buy this book.

The Apartment by Danielle Steele is just exactly like every book she has ever written. It is a quick easy read, she has evolved into creating female characters who are professionals in their fields. Ms. Steele creates a few bumps in the road of their lives by focusing on the human frailties and vulnerabilities in that we all want to be loved. All of her characters are beautiful, but they absolutely must have a gorgeous successful man in this life, so they find them, and there you have another trademark fairy tale ending. Quick read, great escape from reality.

Whether you're in college, like the younger four main characters, or later in your life's journey this will be a great read. Although, I felt it was character overload in the first pages of the book, Danielle Steel masterfully defines the characters in her typical beautiful form. I read this page turner in one day because it's such a great read. I hope you enjoy the friendship, support and love this "Chosen" family shares!

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