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The Duchess: A Novel



Synopsis

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER — The incomparable Danielle Steel breaks new ground as she takes us to nineteenth-century England, where a high-born young woman is forced out into the world — and begins a journey of survival, sensuality, and long-sought justice. Angélique Latham has grown up at magnificent Belgrave Castle under the loving tutelage of her father, the Duke of Westerfield, after the death of her aristocratic French mother. At eighteen she is her father's closest, most trusted child, schooled in managing their grand estate. But when he dies, her half-brothers brutally turn her out, denying her very existence. Angélique has a keen mind, remarkable beauty, and an envelope of money her father pressed upon her. To survive, she will need all her resources — and one bold stroke of fortune. Unable to secure employment without references or connections, Angélique desperately makes her way to Paris, where she rescues a young woman fleeing an abusive madam — and suddenly sees a possibility: Open an elegant house of pleasure that will protect its women and serve only the best clients. With her upper-class breeding, her impeccable style, and her father's bequest, Angélique creates Le Boudoir, soon a sensational establishment where powerful men, secret desires, and beautiful, sophisticated women come together. But living on the edge of scandal, can she ever make a life of her own — or regain her rightful place in the world? From England to Paris to New York, Danielle Steel captures an age of upheaval and the struggles of women in a male-ruled society — and paints a captivating portrait of a woman of unquenchable spirit, who in houses great or humble is every ounce a duchess.

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Customer Reviews

One of the best stories I have read for a while. Interesting characters and I had a little difficulty figuring out the approximate era it belonged to.

I enjoyed the reverse story. How the heroine came from the highest of the elite families and was forced into the life of the slavishly low life of the servant class. She was helped of course by her fathers foresight to see even women of royal lines could be reduced to poverty in a blink of an eye. OF course her journey back was made easier than that of a poor servant who would be entering a world of the unknown and the chains of poverty are much heavier.

I have just finished this superb story. If you enjoy historical stories, then you can't miss reading this latest masterpiece. Thanks Danielle.

A good read! One of the better books by Daniel Steel with intrigue, compassion and great character building. Ending with great satisfaction!

I loved this book, once I started reading it I couldn't put down! The story tells us of how what goes around comes around! I loved this book!

Great story loved the characters and the history she wove into the story. Thank you for entertaining me again with your wonderful words

GREAT BOOK

My first Danielle Steel novel, and it did not disappoint as a summer read. The story line held my

attention from beginning to end. Felt like movie material. Enjoyed it and didn't want it to end.

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