



In His Father's Footsteps

Danielle Steel

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In this powerful novel, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Danielle Steel tells the story of two World War II concentration camp survivors, the life they build together, and the son who faces struggles of his own as a first generation American determined to be his own person and achieve success.

When U.S. troops occupy Germany, friends Jakob and Emmanuelle are saved from the terrible fate of so many in the camps. With the help of sponsors, they make their way to New York. In order not to be separated, they allow their friendship to blossom into love and marriage, and start a new life on the Lower East Side, working at grueling, poorly paid jobs.

Decades later, through talent, faith, fortune, and relentless hard work, Jakob has achieved success in the diamond business, invested in real estate in New York, and shown his son, Max, that America is truly the land of opportunity. Max is a rising star, a graduate of Harvard with friends among the wealthiest, most ambitious families in the world. And while his parents were thrown together by chance, Max chooses a perfect bride to start the perfect American family.

An opulent society wedding. A honeymoon in Tahiti. A palatial home in Greenwich. Max's lavish lifestyle is unimaginable to his cautious old-world father and mother. Max wants to follow his father's example and make his own fortune. But after the birth of children, and with a failing marriage, he can no longer deny that his wife is not the woman he thought she was. Angry and afraid, Max must do what he has never done before: struggle, persevere, and learn what it means to truly walk in his father's footsteps, while pursuing his own ideals and setting an example for his children.

Moving from the ashes of postwar Europe to the Lower East Side of New York to wealth, success, and unlimited luxury, *In His Father's Footsteps* is a stirring tale of three generations of strong, courageous, and loving people who pay their dues to achieve their goals.

In His Father's Footsteps Details

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Author : Danielle Steel

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Bianca Braithwaite says

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. The story of a Holocaust survivor, his wife and their son. It was not Danielle Steel's usual repetitive narrative. The story kept you entertained and wanting to read more.

ROBIN RUIZ says

This was a great through the decades story. I love books that are multi generation. Jakob and Emmanuelle meet in a concentration camp. They survive the impossible, they both lost their entire families and decide to marry and move to New York to start a life. This book follows them and then later in life their son . I loved Jakob and Emmanuelle., these are characters of great fortitude, resilience, strength and just likeable! Their son Max, gets so caught up in making money that he forgets to make a life, until circumstances happen and he is forced to see what really matters.

I enjoyed this book and it's one you should not pass by !

Lynn Brooks says

4 1/2 STARS!

A powerfully compelling story of strength, love and gumption! We're magically thrust into a story of two people who face the worst and yet prosper with little more than the love they share and the clothes on their back simply because of their unique mindset of being grateful for every single thing they have in life. The two of them and the foundation they laid for their family simply made this story! The characters and early plot were complex and rich. The later story had a little less follow through but still gave a fulfilling conclusion. Overall I really enjoyed it!

Through tortuous situations, heartache and loss, Jakob Stein and Emmanuelle Berger manage to hold on long enough to be rescued from their imprisonment in a German conservation camp. Knowing little about each other, but knowing a kindred spirit when they see one, they decide to trust in their friendship enough to wed before being sponsored to freedom in the United States and let their love brew and grow naturally. They find themselves living miserly in low paying jobs and hard conditions, but are thankful for how far they have come since losing their family, history and possessions to such horror. As the years pass, they lean on each other through it all and devote their lives to the son they were blessed with as they bask in their love. They try to teach him how important family is, and the proper work ethic to go through life with in order to never be placed in a position of having to pull yourself up from rock bottom.

Their son Max grows into a well educated Harvard graduate who takes the knowledge and help his father shared with him to go on and prosper through real estate ventures to become an early success. He finds who he thinks is the love of his life and through an elaborate ceremony and opulent lifestyle sets out to grasp the world at his fingertips and go for a ride of riches and prosper. Years later he finds himself delighted with the birth of children, yet overworked and stressing more every day about becoming all that he can become while his marriage seems to get worse by the day with a woman that isn't at all what he was expecting. Finally

finding himself faced with a dire situation, he must reevaluate his life and struggle like his parents before him to make sure his family is at the top of his mindset as he forges a new life from the ruins he's climbing out of.

Kathleen Gray says

A classic Danielle Steel novel- a multigenerational love story starting with two survivors of Buchenwald and finishing with their son, who comes to realize that there's more to life than money. Max is the pride and joy of his parents, Jakob and Emanuelle, who sacrifice for him at every turn. His life, after Harvard, is much cushier but his marriage fails and he finds himself at sea. How he rescues himself and his kids is at the root of this. Thanks to Netgalley for the ARC. I'd not read Steel for a long time. Although I was reminded, when reading this, that her books would benefit from a strong editorial hand but I also realized that I had forgotten what a good storyteller she is.

Torie says

This book did more than touch my heart it resonated with my soul. To say that I loved it would be a gigantic understatement.

The book start off with Jakob and his new wife leaving a concentration camp. They struggle to make a life in America. That alone was enough to get me hooked. When they have their son , Max everything starts to look up. But they are still worried about money.

Max grows up with the determination that he was not going to struggle for money. When he graduates Harvard he throws himself into work. He finally meets some who he falls very hard for. He makes a lot of promises. They get married.

I can identify with his wife when she gets overwhelmed by having 4 children. I only have one child and I am a single mother and I sometimes want leave everything because it is so hard being a mom but I would never do what she does.

Will Max ever get over the bitterness he has carried for years? Would he cut back his work hours to spend time with his family?

This book is so well written. It has been a long time since I had read one of Danielle Steel's books. I am so glad this is the one read first.

Beth says

I received an advanced copy of this book.

The book opens with Jakob and Emmanuelle as prisoners of war during the Holocaust. The war is ended, they are freed, and ready to start a new life - together, and in America. The story follows them through their life as they adjust to a new country, new jobs, and new family. As their son grows older, and starts his own

career and family, the story follows him and the impact of his parents. I will admit that I kept waiting for a hammer to drop and a conflict to jump out of the pages, but the story just flowed smoothly to tell of the struggles and achievements and life stories of the characters.

Barb says

I received an arc copy of this book from Net Galley in exchange for my honest opinion of it. I really enjoyed the time that this book took place and learning more about the Holocaust. Jakob and Emmanuelle met when they were prisoners and fell in love. They were able to get the America and started their married life very poor. Emmanuelle always had the fear of the Holocaust happening again. I have to say that this was a typical Danielle Steel book. Love, tragedy and death. I also feel like her writing has become very repetitive as regards to saying the same thing a few paragraphs later. There were some parts that really kept my interest and I think that the second half of the book did it for me which is why I am giving it more stars than I thought I would.

Julie says

I've been reading Danielle Steel books for probably 30 years now, and I've always appreciated their consistency - family, love, drama, resolution. It sounds a bit boring and predictable, but sometimes that's exactly what I want - a decently written book where I know what I'm going to get that I can lose myself in for a few days. This one was exactly that. I really enjoyed Jakob and Emmanuelle's storyline and their "triumph over tragedy." When it switched over to Max and his story, I wasn't quite as interested, because I struggled with Max's character being so self-absorbed and materialistic. And don't get me started on Julie. The wrap-up was a bit too tidy for me, and I didn't quite get the "In his father's footsteps" reference, but then again, tidy IS what I come to expect with a Danielle Steel book, so it's hard to be critical of that.

Overall it was a good chick lit, beach read that is typical of Danielle Steel. She's a consistent, predictable writer that does a great job with her genre. 3.5 stars

Thanks to the publisher and NetGalley for an advance copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Janilyn Kocher says

Spoiler alert. Don't read if you don't want to know parts of the story.

You can never go wrong reading a DS novel. Her latest book is very fulfilling. The opening draws readers in with the end of WWII and a concentration camp. Jakob and Emmanuelle, two survivors, embark on a new life journey to America. Jakob becomes a success, which their son Max inherits, Except in his choice of spouses. Julie is totally superficial and after four children decides she's done. This part of the story is sad, as most of Steel's books inevitably are, Julie is despicable by ditching her kids to run off with a much older millionaire. Max survives and pulls his family together and in the end, the four grandchildren of Jakob and Emmanuelle reflect their spirit and determination. Even Max gets a second chance at love. I loved the cover too! Thanks to NetGalley for allowing me an advance copy, what a treat!

Gena DeBardelaben says

eARC: Netgalley

It's hard to believe I've never read any of Danielle Steel's books before, but this is my first and I have to say I'm impressed!

This multi-generation story begins with the liberation of Buchenwald concentration camp and crosses the ocean to a new life in America. Through trials and tribulations and with lots of hard work Jakob and Emmanuelle survive and thrive in their new country. Theirs is a true love story you're sure to enjoy!

Janette McMahon says

A book that deals with family and the way history effects future generations. Steel gives the reader an easy read, but touches upon heartbreaking family history. She doesn't delve deeply enough to make readers uncomfortable, only sad. Steel readers will enjoy this novel and recommend to lovers of happy endings.
