



The Long Road Home

Danielle Steel

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A novel of courage, hope and love...

From her secret perch at the top of the stairs, seven-year-old Gabriella watches the guests arrive at her parents' lavish Manhattan home. The click, click click of her mother's high heels strikes terror into her heart, as she has been told that she is to blame for her mother's rage - and her father's failure to protect her. Her world is a confusing blend of terror, betrayal and pain, and Gabriella knows that there is no safe place for her to hide.

When her parents' marriage collapses, her father disappears and her mother abandons her to a convent, where Gabriella's battered body and soul begin to mend amid the quiet safety and hushed rituals of the nuns. And when she grows into womanhood, young Father Joe Connors comes into her life. Like Gabriella, Joe is haunted by the pain of his childhood, and with her he takes the first steps towards healing. But their relationship leads to disaster as Joe must choose between the priesthood and Gabriella. She struggles to survive on her own in New York, where she seeks escape through her writing, until eventually she is able to find forgiveness, freedom from guilt, and healing from abuse.

In this work of daring and compassion, Danielle Steel has created a vivid portrait of an abused child's broken world which will shock and move you to your very soul.

The Long Road Home Details

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Author : Danielle Steel

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From Reader Review The Long Road Home for online ebook

Kimberly says

I remember reading this book while I was a freshmen in high school and even then I could not put it down! I felt like such a nerd while all my friends were talking after our work was done or in between classes and I was quietly reading and at times even tearing up or crying. This was an excellent book and was one of the first that would lead me to becoming a huge lover a books. I remember feeling the pain from an unwanted young girl and more and more getting badly abused and getting very little to no help at all from her father. After he left it got worst until the mother found another man and had discarded the daughter for good by dropping her off at church for nuns to take care of. The detail and horror that I felt along with this character was amazing and in my opinion was very well written. You would think things got better from there and how could they really move on with the storyline but they did and it still makes me sad as I remember it like I have just read the book when in reality it's been over 10 years and it's still one of my favorites!

Najoua says

une belle lecture , émouvante ayant creusé au fond de moi un profond abîme, et réveillant ce que je voulais éteints à jamais

Katie says

I haven't read this since I was about 16 or so, having found it lying around my sister's house when i was living with her, but here's what I remember:

It doesn't just skim through like a story told, it's deep and long and solid. Telling of a life, letting you live that life with her. Details of abuse, aftermath, darkness, and the hard journey to the other end to the light. It's an emotional read. I think I might have cried, shuttered, and sat in stone-faced silence through this piece of work. I can't be sure anymore; But I am going to pick it back up soon.

I've never read anything else by Danielle Steele, might have seen a movie or two, but she comes out with the big guns. Maybe I'll sit down one afternoon with another book, when I want to run the emotional gamut.

Angelyn says

I thought I would try some authors I have seen a lot but never read. Danielle Steele is one. I don't know if this is representative of her other books but it was not a romance. It was a book about abuse. It seemed she had done her homework and really understood what abused children go through and how they think. The book was long and tedious though because of that.

Marianne Stehr says

I have not read Danielle Steel since college, when I thought it was the greatest literary work around LOL, but this .25 pickup at a library sale was sitting on my TBR forever, it was wonderful. It sucked you in completely and just when you think that the heroine can take no more, more is thrust upon her. I really enjoyed this one, a great book and completely engrossed me, finished it in two partial days!!!

Jasmine says

I think the last time a book gripped me this much was when I read "My Sister's Keeper" by Jodi Picoult. On that note, I don't think I have ever read a book that made me feel so angry, saddened, and hopeful many times throughout the whole story. It was riveting and left me feeling broken hearted for the poor girl who could never catch a break. I have NEVER teared up this much while reading a book in my life. Steele's writing made the characters feel so real, to the point where I actually HATED a handful of fictional characters! Hated to the core of my very being; I even shouted at the book at times (which caused many weird looks from my family so I took to reading when I was alone). I will recommend this book to anyone that is looking for a good tear jerker and will probably read it again myself someday when I recover from the traumatic experience of reading it the first time.

Angela says

Always embarrassed to admit having read a Danielle Steel book, this is the first of hers that I ever picked up. The story grabs you in an 'Oh my God I cant believe this is happening, how awful!' kind of way but after the first half of the book it tends to become somewhat mismatched and I found myself feeling that I have been sad with this book long enough and wanted it to just finish. The relationship between Gabriella and the nuns of the convent is lovely and I enjoyed the slight exploration of religion. The heroine is easy to like and her naivety is completely believable. It is a depressing issue that Ms. Steele tackles here so I wouldnt recommend it as a holiday read. Maybe when there is a storm outside and you are feeling pensive.

Bill Khaemba says

I honestly to God wasn't expecting to love this book, It was those books that lived inside my bag, not even my shelf. I feel really guilty for not appreciating or making it a top priority on my reading list.

I don't where to start with this book!!!!

Being the first time I have read her book... I didn't honestly thought it packed a punch. My emotional stability was put to test with this book. Touching on strong themes, such as Child Abuse, Love, Life Struggles, Confronting the past and a lot of life issues. She focuses on a girl who has seen nothing but disappointments in life, she grows to such a strong character and I honestly loved it.

pegah says

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monica says**El largo camino a casa**

Increíble historia de como una niña sobrevive a maltratos por parte de las personas que deberían haberla protegido.la verdad es que llore por Gabriela por sus circunstancias por lo que tuvo que pasar pero me admiro su fortaleza y su fuerza para salir adelante.aunque creo que el libro terminó precipitadamente .esperaba más del final.con todo me a encantado .la recomiendo.

Suzanne says

It was a typical DS, I did my usual quick skipping reading, it was ok, easy to read which suits a purpose.

Dorothy Pruett says

I'm not a fan of Steel... But I read this book MANY years ago and I couldn't put it down. My classmates used to tease me because they thought it was a bible. Lol. Now that I've read it again, it was still hard to put it down but now that I'm more experienced with reading I was very irritated by how she repeated things over and over. other than that, it is still a breathtaking experience. A great book!

Aundrea O'Connor says

Very easy to read and hard to put down. Seems to have crazy twists and turns. Very enjoyable!!! Tear jerker and leaves warm smiles. Can't wait to see how the ending turns out.Read the first half within part of a day. :)
(12/13/11)

This book was very difficult to put down. Throughout the whole book there are so many unexpected twists and turns. Would recommend it to anyone who wants to read an unforgettable book. Amazing author. Never have been disappointed with her style of righting. (12/15/11)

Liana Qissy Cat says

Weak protagonist! Gabriella is labelled 'strong' in this book because she overcame all the obstacles but I personally feel that it made her character weak & pathetic when she allowed people to kick her around. And then it ends with a happily ever after with Prince Charming. Boring...

"Most things are complicated in life, aren't they? It's a shame it has to be that way. Sometimes it seems like nothing can ever be easy. But there are also times it's easier than we make it. I think we all complicate things ourselves. Things can be easier if we let them."

Carolyn F. says

Audiobook, abridged.

The good things about this book - hence the 2 stars:

Anthony Fusco is a great narrator. Did both the male and female voices excellently and I could feel the pain and happiness as he read.

The first half was good, but . . .

The bad things about this book:

Can't Gabrielle ever have a happy life.

WARNING! SPOILERS GALORE!!!

First she's beat by her mother constantly while her dad stands there and watches and thinks, "Oh my, I wish she would stop."

Then she's sent to a convent where she finds happiness and then the freaking priest that she has a romance with commits suicide because he can't live with what he's done after he finds out she's pregnant. She then loses the baby.

They kick her out of the convent and she finds a boardinghouse and some more happiness with the friends she makes there until Steve moves in and first turns into a moocher then a murdering psychopath after he kills the older man who became her mentor and friend.

Then Steve beats the shit out of her and she finds this weird out of nowhere romance with the doctor who operates on her. I felt she had more chemistry with Psycho Steve than with Peter the doctor.

I'm a Danielle Steel snob in that I read her a long time ago and grew out of her books. This book reminded me that I have not regressed. They're just one bad thing after another books. Too draining! I'd like some cheese with my whine please.

Helena says

It's a really sad story. I liked her writing style in this book but the characters weren't exactly well developed.

Booklover N says

Kao što sam već napisala, ova Danijelina knjiga me je totalno oduševila!

Nakon što ju je majka poslije deset godina zlostavljanja ostavila u samostanu i kada su je ?asne sestre odgojile i u?ile da bude jedna od njih, Gabrijela upoznaje sveštenika po imenu Džo. Pomislim da je to zaslužila, ljubav koja ih je obavijala, radost kada su ?ekali bebu...Me?utim, kraj njihove veze me je šokirao! Danijela je uspjela da me ostavi s otvorenim ustima od šoka :D

(Spojleri dalje)

Nakon što je napustila samostan i upoznala prof. Tomasa u pansionu, koji joj je pomagao oko pisanja i bio njen agent u izdavanju njenih pri?a i koji ju je na neki na?in spojio sa Stivom, mladi?em koji je tako?er živio u pansionu, mislila sam OK - ovo je kraj, kona?no je sretna, voljena, pažena.. Zaljubljena je i sretna, ima prijatelje, ima lijep posao u knjižari i to je sve što joj treba. Me?utim, Danijela zadaje novi udarac! Stiv je prevarant, kreten koji je samo išao za njenim novcem iako ga je ?esto bilo nedovoljno i za nju samu! Nakon smrti profesora Tomasa koji je btw saznao da je on prevarant, ali nije uspio Gabrijeli da otvori o?i, Stiv je saznao da joj je prof. Tomas ostavio mnogo novca, on gubi kontrolu i Gabi ponovo preživljava udarce, gore nego što je ikada preživjela!

Nova izdaja, ponovo slomljeno srce, patnja, bol, nemo?... Nalazi se u bolnici sa polomljenim rebrima, ote?enim mozgom, slomljenom rukom, sva izubijana i pada u komu! U fazi njenog (po ko zna koji put) lije?enja, upoznaje doktora Pitera (i onda pomislim, e ako ?e je i ovaj tu?i, Danijela pretjerala si!) i shvata da joj je lahko s njim da razgovara. Pri?a mu svoju pri?u i on se kroz nekoliko sedmica zaljubljuje u nju, ali nakon svega što je preživjela boji se da joj to prizna.

Ona odlu?i da mora prona?i oca i majku i da im postavi pitanje koje ju mu?i cijeli život "Zašto je nisu voljeli?" Saznaje da joj je majka umrla, a nakon susreta s ocem uvidi da je i on bezosje?ajni 'gad' koji je nije htio u životu baš kao ni majka, otišao je sa drugom ženom, dobio novu djecu i nije htio da Gabrijela kvari njegovu skladnu porodicu.

Nakon što je upoznala maj?inog novog i bivšeg muža, on joj pri?a kakva je ona žena bila, kako nije bila sposobna da voli, kako je bila ljubomorna na Gabrijelu i ona se osloba?a svih sumnji da je ikada bila kriva. Piter dolazi za njom u San Francisco i ona se prepušta novoj ljubavi i sigurnosti koju s njim osje?a. Shvata da je njen život bio jedan dugi put i da je jaka jer je sve preživjela i naravno - da je sada stigla ku?i! Predivna pri?a. Najbolja od Danijele koju sam dosad ?itala!

Ostavlja snažne utiske, uzburkane emocije i izaziva saosje?anje i empatiju <3

J Jahir says

¿Quieres un libro realista, un libro que no sólo sea romance? Éste es para ti. Es hermoso, pero muy, muy fuerte. y tenemos como tema central el maltrato infantil y psicológico. Eloise, madre de Gabriella, trata de lo peor a su hija, maltratándola físicamente desde que nació. LA historia comienza cuando gabi tenía 7 años, dándonos cuenta de la crueldad de esta mujer. para que se den una idea, llegó a romperle el tímpano de uno de sus oídos, y a quebrarle algunas costillas. Para bien de gabi, la madre decide dejarla en un convento por 6 meses, pero pasa el tiempo y ella se queda ahí, lo cual le sirvió a ella para que iniciara una nueva vida. Si hay algo que creo que fue muy destacable al final del libro es cómo, a medida que se convierte en una mujer, va buscando respuestas a lo que ha sido su vida, por qué la trataron así. el libro queda perfecto a la trama, pues el volver a casa no se refiere sólo a estar en su hogar como tal, sino a encontrar esa paz y calma que ella

necesitaba. sí. me exployé en esa opinión, pero es que es muy impactante, y además que lo leí conjuntamente con una amiga. Léanlo.

Joneetha Pralou says

This incredible book brought me to tears, and was one I promptly suggested for my sister. If anyone has suffered at the hand of an abusive parent, you'll immediately connect with this book. It tore my heart out, and gradually rebuilt it piece by piece as she told the story. Incredible.

Jean Doolittle says

Oh, my God! I have never read Danielle Steel before, and I certainly expected more than what I got from this bestselling author. The story was full of pathos and grabbed my attention all right, but much of the horror came from the poor quality of her writing and research. Such stories of abuse do exist, but I don't think Steel has a clue about the real impact that the (unrealistic) conditions she set up would have on a young girl like Gabriela. The dialogue was pedestrian and she continually "told" us what emotions her characters were having, rather than "showing" us through skillful storytelling. I will run rather than walk if I see another book by this author coming my way. I guess I'll be getting lots of exercise!
