



The Ghost

By Danielle Steel

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In her forty-first bestselling novel, Danielle Steel creates a spellbinding story that weaves together two centuries and two lives.

With a wife he loves and an exciting London-based career, architect Charles Waterston's life seems in perfect balance. Nothing in his comfortable existence prepares him for the sudden end to his ten-year marriage—or his unwanted transfer to his firm's New York office. With nothing left to lose, Charlie takes a leave of absence from his job to drive through New England, hoping to make peace with himself.

Christmas is approaching when Charlie leaves New York, heading to Vermont to ski. But a sudden, blinding snowstorm strands him in a small Massachusetts town. There, as if by chance, Charlie meets an elderly widow who offers to rent him her most precious possession: a remote, exquisite lakeside chateau. Hidden deep in the woods, it once belonged to a woman who lived and died there two centuries before. Her name was Sarah Ferguson. And from the moment Charlie sets foot inside the chateau's graceful depths, he feels her presence, and longs to know more about the life she led.

It is Christmas Eve when Charlie first glimpses her, a beautiful young woman with jet-black hair. He thinks it is a neighbor playing a joke on him, until he finds her diaries hidden away in an old trunk. As he begins to turn the brittle, dusty pages, Sarah Ferguson comes alive. Intrigued and unafraid, Charlie immerses himself in the diaries, eager to learn more about the woman for whom the house was built. Sarah's first entry is dated 1789, the year she arrived in America. Without self-pity or sentiment, she writes of her harrowing journey from her native England, having fled the brutality of her aristocratic husband. Settling in Massachusetts, Sarah finds an unfamiliar land seething with the turbulence of the Indian wars. Determined to start a new life in the vast new world, Sarah finds freedom—and danger—as she builds her home in the wilderness and meets a man who will transform her life. His name is François de Pellerin, a French nobleman adopted by Indians and drawn into the battle for the growing nation. Their fateful union is a testament to a love so powerful it reaches across the centuries. And for Charlie Waterston, caught between Sarah's world and his own, their story is a gift—one that gives him the courage to let go of his past, and the freedom to grasp a future that is right before his eyes.

In **The Ghost**, Danielle Steel has created a stunning blend of history and drama.

Brilliantly interweaving past and present, she brings to life two stories, centuries apart, in a timeless novel of courage, healing, and love.

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The Ghost By Danielle Steel Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Architect Charles Waterston has a job he loves, a charming and beautiful wife, and an idyllic life in London. But when everything comes crashing down around him--his wife leaving him for another man and his sudden transfer back to the New York home office--Charles takes a well-deserved ski vacation in Vermont. When an unexpected snowstorm strands Charles in a small town, he takes refuge in a small bed-and-breakfast. The proprietor, an elderly widow, also owns a family home in the woods, which Charles decides to rent. Soon after moving in, Charles senses a ghostly presence. While investigating in the attic one day, Charles discovers the diary of Sarah Ferguson, who left her abusive husband in England for a better life in the New World. Charles soon finds himself drawn to Sarah, and he even visits the local historical society in an attempt to learn more about her. There he meets lovely, timid Francesca Vironnet, the historical society curator and librarian, who has fled France with her young daughter. Through Sarah's journals and Francesca's kindness, Charles is able to heal his heart and learn to love again. Complete with Steel's trademark poignancy but minus the glitz and glamour so evident in many of her novels, *The Ghost* is an outstanding read. --*Maudeen Wachsmith*

From Library Journal

Charlie Waterston thought he had it all? a beautiful wife, happy marriage, and brilliant architectural career? but a year changes all that completely. London, his job, and the lovely house he and his wife shared all become unbearable after she leaves him for another man. The alternative, working for his firm's main office in New York, turns out to be equally unbearable, so he flees it all, escaping to Vermont ski country. A sudden snowstorm en route, a night's refuge at a bed-and-breakfast owned by a charming old woman, and his discovery of the 200-year-old diary of a brave and beautiful lady teach him to endure his own sufferings, reach out to others, and hope for love and happiness again. Fans expecting Steel's (Malice, LJ 1/96) usual glitz and glamour may be disappointed by this elegiac tribute to mature love hard won the second time around.

-?Cynthia Johnson, Cary Memorial Lib., Lexington, Mass.

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From Kirkus Reviews

In her 41st novel (Special Delivery, p. 751, etc.), Steel weaves touches of the paranormal into a historical romance. Charlie Waterston's marriage is kaput. His perfect wife of ten years suddenly tells him that their life has been empty and that she wants a divorce. In shock, Charlie--an American architect working in London--returns to the States and takes a six-month sabbatical to recover. Out on the road on a snowy night just before Christmas, he takes shelter at a bed and breakfast in Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts. He and the owner (one of Steel's benevolent older women) really hit it off. She then offers to rent him a house bequeathed to her by her grandmother: a perfect small chateau on a nearby lake built in 1790 for Sarah Ferguson, the Countess of Balfour, by her lover François de Pellerin, a virile French count who spent much of his time on the frontier with Indians. Sarah, who had been badly abused by her husband, and had given birth to several dead babies, ran away to America to make a new life. Charlie begins to read her journals, and one night, entering his bedroom, he believes that he sees her ghost. Steel parallels chapters about Sarah's ordeal with the Earl of Balfour and her love affair with Pellerin, with chapters about Charlie's romance with Francesca Vironnet, a modern-day historian emotionally damaged by a bad marriage. Charlie finds Sarah's journals to have a hypnotic rhythm and a story so captivating that "he wanted to sit in one spot until he finished all of them"--a description of a style that sounds a lot like Steel's, or at least what she intends. No amount of spellbinding rhythm can make up for an overlong romance. Despite the usual Steelian menu of

love, pain, and compassion, most fans will figure out the ending long before they get to it--and could probably supply the cadences as well. -- *Copyright ©1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frances Carpenter:

Do you have favorite book? Should you have, what is your favorite's book? E-book is very important thing for us to learn everything in the world. Each guide has different aim or goal; it means that e-book has different type. Some people feel enjoy to spend their time and energy to read a book. They can be reading whatever they get because their hobby is definitely reading a book. What about the person who don't like reading through a book? Sometime, individual feel need book once they found difficult problem or exercise. Well, probably you'll have this The Ghost.

Wilda Alexander:

What do you consider book? It is just for students since they're still students or it for all people in the world, exactly what the best subject for that? Simply you can be answered for that concern above. Every person has diverse personality and hobby for every other. Don't to be pressured someone or something that they don't would like do that. You must know how great along with important the book The Ghost. All type of book would you see on many methods. You can look for the internet methods or other social media.

Stacey Pinkston:

Your reading sixth sense will not betray an individual, why because this The Ghost reserve written by well-known writer who knows well how to make book that can be understand by anyone who have read the book. Written with good manner for you, leaking every ideas and producing skill only for eliminate your own personal hunger then you still uncertainty The Ghost as good book not just by the cover but also by content. This is one book that can break don't determine book by its include, so do you still needing an additional sixth sense to pick this kind of!? Oh come on your reading through sixth sense already alerted you so why you have to listening to a different sixth sense.

Bruce Mull:

Are you kind of busy person, only have 10 or perhaps 15 minute in your moment to upgrading your mind expertise or thinking skill even analytical thinking? Then you are having problem with the book compared to can satisfy your short space of time to read it because pretty much everything time you only find book that need more time to be go through. The Ghost can be your answer mainly because it can be read by you actually who have those short time problems.

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