



Leap of Faith

By Danielle Steel

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Leap of Faith By Danielle Steel

In her fifty-second bestselling novel, Danielle Steel weaves a compelling story of the power of lies, the misuse of trust--and of one woman's triumph over a devastating betrayal.

Marie-Ange Hawkins has the kind of childhood that most people dream of. Freedom, love, security in a beautiful old French château. But when Marie-Ange is just eleven, a tragic accident marks the end of her idyllic life.

Orphaned and alone, she is sent to America, to live with her great-aunt on a farm in Iowa. Bitterly resented by the old woman, cut off from everything she has known and loved, Marie-Ange is forced to work tirelessly on the farm, dreaming only of the day she can return to her beloved Château de Marmouton.

In Marie-Ange's isolated existence, only the friendship of a local boy, Billy Parker, offers comfort and hope. But her only wish is to gain an education--and escape. Then, just after her twenty-first birthday, an unexpected visitor brings startling news and an extraordinary gift: the freedom to return to France, to Château de Marmouton.

When she arrives in France, Marie-Ange learns that the château's new owner is Comte Bernard de Beauchamp, a dashing young widower who invites her into his home, then into his heart. But their magical life together, which soon includes marriage, children, and lavish homes, slowly takes an ominous turn. A mysterious woman tells Marie-Ange a shocking story, a story so chilling she doesn't want to believe it.

Not even her dear friend Billy can help her now. He is thousands of miles away. And as the darkness gathers around her, Marie-Ange must find the faith and courage to take one, last desperate step to save her loved ones and herself.

Danielle Steel's powerful novel is about being pulled into a place where nothing is what it seems. It is about being seduced and lied to and turned around, and wanting to believe the lies--until the moment comes, in one blinding instant, when survival and salvation depend on a final **Leap of Faith**: the only path to freedom, and life.

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Leap of Faith By Danielle Steel Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Steel's usual verve is all but absent from her 52nd novel, a hasty Cinderella story that begins when heroine Marie-Ange Hawkins goes from an idyllic French childhood to a loveless upbringing in Iowa after her parents and brother are killed in a terrible accident. Only 11, she's sent off to be raised by her sole relative, cold and callous great-aunt Carole. The only bright spot in her life is her intimate friendship with Billy Parker, a solid American farmboy who loves and respects her from the time they are children; she loves him, too, but thinks of him as a brother. When Marie-Ange turns 18 and wins a scholarship to go to college, her aunt does not help, but Billy buys her a car and she is able to attend. Then a stranger turns up and informs her that she is in fact a very rich woman; her aunt sells the farm, and Marie-Ange decides to return to France. There she meets the current owner of her old home, 40-year-old widower Comte de Beauchamp charming, handsome and so very polite. They fall for one another quickly (though she knows nothing about him, as Billy points out), marry within months of their first meeting and have two children. But cracks start to show in the comte's smooth, convincing exterior: it turns out that her prince charming who never pays his bills, but doesn't mind spending her money excessively may be a murderer. She refuses to believe this, but when she finally must face the truth, can she save herself and her children? Disappointingly slight, the book rushes toward its pat ending and may frustrate even Steel's devoted fans. (On-sale: June 5)

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From School Library Journal

Adult/High School-Entertaining fluff, perfect when the book report is due tomorrow. At age 11, Marie-Ange's idyllic, rich, sheltered life in rural France is shattered when her adoring parents are killed in a car accident. She's sent off to gruff great-aunt Carol to live on an Iowa farm, and Marie becomes Carol's "slave" and wears clothes from the Goodwill store. Her only moments of happiness are with her friend Billy at school. When Marie comes of age, she learns that she is wealthy; her aunt did not use any of her large trust fund. On a return trip to the family chateau in France she meets and falls in love with Bernard, a widower. But what are his motives? Who should Marie trust? This heart-wrenching, soap-opera romance will grab the attention of teens who want a fast read. Steel quickly and efficiently develops the characters as the action unfolds. Much of the plot would be considered predictable, but there are a few surprises.

Claudia Moore, W. T. Woodson High School, Fairfax, VA

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From Library Journal

When her parents die, Marie-Ange is exiled from her beloved Chateau Marmouton--to America, of all places, where a grudging great-aunt awaits. Will she ever be able to reclaim her chateau? Is this a Danielle Steel novel?

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

William Roger:

Nowadays reading books are more than want or need but also turn into a life style. This reading addiction give you lot of advantages. The advantages you got of course the knowledge your information inside the book in which improve your knowledge and information. The knowledge you get based on what kind of e-book you read, if you want get more knowledge just go with training books but if you want sense happy read one having theme for entertaining for example comic or novel. Typically the Leap of Faith is kind of guide which is giving the reader unforeseen experience.

Charles Stubblefield:

The reserve with title Leap of Faith has lot of information that you can find out it. You can get a lot of help after read this book. This book exist new knowledge the information that exist in this book represented the condition of the world right now. That is important to you to know how the improvement of the world. That book will bring you in new era of the globalization. You can read the e-book on your own smart phone, so you can read this anywhere you want.

John Martindale:

This Leap of Faith is great guide for you because the content which can be full of information for you who all always deal with world and possess to make decision every minute. This book reveal it details accurately using great manage word or we can point out no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read the idea hurriedly you can have whole data in it. Doesn't mean it only provides you with straight forward sentences but tough core information with wonderful delivering sentences. Having Leap of Faith in your hand like obtaining the world in your arm, data in it is not ridiculous one particular. We can say that no guide that offer you world inside ten or fifteen tiny right but this book already do that. So , this is good reading book. Heya Mr. and Mrs. hectic do you still doubt that?

Barbra Walker:

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