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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 chateau. 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 chateau'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 new 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:

Micheal Clothier:

The particular book Leap of Faith will bring one to the new experience of reading a book. The author style to elucidate the idea is very unique. In the event you try to find new book to see, this book very acceptable to you. The book Leap of Faith is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book from your official web site, so you can quickly to read the book.

Bradley Smith:

Typically the book Leap of Faith has a lot details on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of profit. The book was authored by the very famous author. The writer makes some research just before write this book. This book very easy to read you may get the point easily after looking over this book.

Terri Brown:

Your reading sixth sense will not betray an individual, why because this Leap of Faith publication written by well-known writer whose to say well how to make book that may be understand by anyone who read the book. Written within good manner for you, leaking every ideas and writing skill only for eliminate your own hunger then you still question Leap of Faith as good book but not only by the cover but also through the content. This is one reserve that can break don't judge book by its include, so do you still needing a different sixth sense to pick this kind of!? Oh come on your reading sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to an additional sixth sense.

Sean Ward:

Beside this kind of Leap of Faith in your phone, it might give you a way to get more close to the new knowledge or facts. The information and the knowledge you will got here is fresh in the oven so don't possibly be worry if you feel like an old people live in narrow small town. It is good thing to have Leap of Faith because this book offers to you personally readable information. Do you sometimes have book but you seldom get what it's facts concerning. Oh come on, that will not end up to happen if you have this in your hand. The Enjoyable blend here cannot be questionable, similar to treasuring beautiful island. Techniques you still want to miss the item? Find this book along with read it from right now!

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