



Fine Things

Danielle Steel

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Smart, likable, Bernie Fine was the wonder boy of Wolff's, New York's most glamorous department store. A senior VP moving up, he arrives in San Francisco to open a West Coast store. His career is skyrocketing, but his life is lacking a center. When he looks into the wide, innocent eyes of five-year-old Jane O'Reilly, and then into the equally enchanting eyes of her mother, Liz, Bernie knows he has found what he has been looking for. Bernie thought he had found love to last a lifetime, but when Liz is stricken with cancer shortly after the birth of their first child, time becomes painfully short. Alone with two children, Bernie must face the loss and learn how to move on. New people, new experiences, a new life alone with two kids. He meets it with courage and humor, and learns some of life's hard but precious lessons as he does.

From the Paperback edition.

Fine Things Details

Date : Published (first published 1987)

ISBN :

Author : Danielle Steel

Format : Kindle Edition 434 pages

Genre : Romance, Fiction

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From Reader Review Fine Things for online ebook

Diane Wallace says

Excellent read! a complex and delightful story about caring, loving and how one treats others less fortunate...well written (paperback!)

Megan says

What a heartbreaking page-turner. I couldn't put this down. It pulled out all of the saddest stops, and it successfully became only the second book ever to make me cry.

I love that the main character is a male, based on everything he goes through. This is something I'd typically read happening to a woman. Steel throws all of the most devastating happenings possible at this character and you can't help but feel sorry for him.

I know Steel has the reputation for being over-the-top and cheesy, but it works. When a story captures my attention that quickly and for that long, I know it's good. I was sad for the book to end. I'll definitely be reading more of her.

Elizabeth Lehto says

Bernie Fine, our main character, finds himself being transferred from his beloved New York City to San Francisco. While he's less than thrilled about the move, his life changes for the better as he meets five-year-old Jane and her mother Liz. Bernie has found the love of his life in Liz, and they quickly marry. However, that would be way too easy for a Danielle Steel novel, and we find that shortly after the birth of their first child, Liz is faced with a losing battle to cancer. Now, Bernie finds himself alone with two children, and he must face the loss and learn how to move on.

This novel was really jam packed with ups and downs. Just as soon as something exciting was over, something new happened. It made for a quick read, since it was hard to put down. It did feel like I was being cheated out of story at some times, since it did move so fast and could have had some more details. Other than that, it was a really good book.

Dana says

One of the best Danielle Steel books I've read. Not only is this book NOT about a female heroine, it's very realistic. The main character, a man called Bernard (aka Bernie) isn't exceptionally handsome or anything, and has an over protective mother. His luck with women isn't the best, until he found Elizabeth O'Reily! His mother, or should is say, his JEWISH mother, didn't approve of her at first due to the simple fact that Liz isn't Jewish. Later on though she learns to accept her and love her. (Liz has a daughter). Anyways, long story short, this story talks about a man's journey through life. It's quite interesting tbh

Ahmad Sharabiani says

Fine Things, Danielle Steel

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Ena Hase?i? says

Nakon duge potrage napokon sam pronašla ovaj roman, pro?itala ga i pozitivno se iznenadila. Jako lijepa pri?a o životu jednog ?ovjeka koji se suo?ava sa tragi?nim trenucima, ali i proživljava one najljepše. Jedina zamjerka ide prevodiocima srpskih i hrvatskih izdanja koji su naziv Fine Things preveli kao Lepe/Fine stvari. Prezime glavnog lika je Fine pa prema tome to aludira na njegov život, a ne na neke lijepe ili fine stvari. Preporuka za sve ljubitelje porodi?nih drama i ljubavnih pri?a.

Jason says

This book is about a man named Bernie. In his life he has met many people but they all have a special place in his life. When he meets his future wife he has no idea what will happen next. The incoming events are difficult and touching to him and his loved ones. He has a kid that came with his wife Liz. The kid named Jane finds that Bernie not only is a good father but also a good supporter in events to come.

I can connect to the world because people marry others and already have kids that become adopted. Jane becomes adopted by Bernie who is fairly rich but also has his problems. I can understand how difficult this is for both of them getting used to each other.

I give this book a five out five because it is very realistic. The problems here are not one that an average person might have but are still touching. They have problems that people have rarely and still deal with it. It shows how mature and good people still outnumber the bad intentions in the world.

Carol Storm says

One thing I really love about Danielle Steel is that you can picture her as a 12 year old girl, dreaming up romantic stories. Her books really feel like the fantasies of an upper class pre-teen girl from around fifty years ago, rewritten by the same girl in her thirties and forties. "Wouldn't it be neat to marry a doctor? Or what about the man who runs my favorite department store?"

This story is like that, sort of quaint and sweet but very out of touch. Before the internet, before Target,

Walmart, online shopping, apparently there were these things called department stores. And apparently the men who bought the clothes for the women's lines were like rock stars.

Bernie Fine is a rock star. Danielle Steel's idea of a rock star, anyway.

FINE THINGS is the story of Bernie's life, with some love stories and soap opera tragedies thrown in. Not to do spoilers, but they are all pretty random curves that Bernie deals with. Somebody very precious to him dies of a tragic disease. A mean grifter comes out of nowhere and menaces his family. For a while. There's a car accident. None of these plots really grabs you, they just fade in and out at random. Throw them around in random order and it's still the same book.

As often happens in Danielle Steel, the funniest stuff is totally unintentional. In the opening chapters, Danielle gives Bernie two girlfriends who are meant to be no good and scheming, but really are more fall down laughing funny than anything else. One is like a Jane Fonda, Joan Baez type of Sixties radical, as she might be imagined by, say, Pat Nixon. ("Oh, her horrible combat fatigues! Bernie was repelled by them. And why didn't she shave under her arms anymore?") The other is more like the typical OW in an old-fashioned Harlequin Presents -- a selfish, cold, French fashion model who likes to borrow Bernie's credit cards. ("Zis is not love, Bernard. Zis is sex! You must give me my freedom and allow me to spend your money. Ze sex will be worth it, bien sur!") Oh, and last but not least, there's Bernie's Jewish mother, Ruth. A Jewish mother written by Danielle Steel, that's like looking for pizza at McDonald's. But you know it wasn't bad.

So now, stop reading, unless you've read the book. Below is what I WANTED to happen!

Chandler Scott gets killed off too soon, and personally I thought he was such a bad ass! I really wanted him to KEEP Jane, and then the two of them end up roaring through Mexico in a stolen car like doomed lovers in a Tarantino movie, doing mescal and going to donkey shows and living like existential outlaws on the run. And then they find a village of poor Mexicans, and end up giving them guns to fight the evil General Mapache, and there's an epic gun battle and everyone dies in slow motion and there are tons of explosions. And then at the end Bernie comes down, finds Chandler Scott dead, and slowly removes his pistol from his holster while sad music signals the end of the West.

Suzanne says

I loved this one. Ms Steel writes many books and they're good stories. They all serve a purpose and this one I'll get around to reading again. I'm not the only one to rate this highly.. Literary reads are great of course, and so are books like this! They've all got their place and they find theirs on my shelf quite a lot by the way!

Jennifer says

One summer when I was a teenager I had no money and nothing to do. I started digging into my mom's bookshelf just for something different to read. (You can only read your Sweet Valley High and V.C.Andrews so many times.) I plowed through book after book of Danielle Steel that summer. And after I read it I claimed the book as mine and it went on my bookshelf. To this day I don't know if my mom has actually read a Danielle Steel novel.

Jimmie H. Nehr says

Life's Journeys

Super storyline and caring, loving characters. This is the first book that has affected me so. Several times I just had to stop and cry. Can't remember the last time this has happened while I was reading a book.

Sheri says

this is one of those books you wont want to put down, but fair warning it is a tear jerker. the main character finds the love of his life, their romance is one of a kind the kind we all dream of and then she is taken from him and he has alot to deal with , there are alot of twists and turns alot of susupense, alot of romance , a little bit of everything, even some laughable moments. Danielle steel is a great author i have heard alot about her but this is the first book of hers i have read and I know I will be reading more. Highly reccommend it

Julie Barrett says

Fine Things by Danielle Steel

Bernie starts out as a jock in high school, goes to college, avoids the draft and ends up in a clothing store-the owner loves his ideas.

Years later and relationships later we find him living on the west coast running another store. He first sees the little girl and falls in love with her, then meets the mother and they start a relationship, get married months later

and move to NY where she finds out she is pregnant. As the story goes on we find out Liz back story and her ex husband.

He still travels to Milan and other countries for the fashion designs for the store. The ex reurfaces and Liz ends up with cancer...

Life spirals out of control when the twists and turns stop. So much heart break. They move on and things take a turn, like how book got its name.

I received this book from National Library Service for my BARD (Braille Audio Reading Device).

Melinda Stern says

i loved that this book was written from a man's perspective, and such a great guy! i've moved away from romance-type novels, but this will always be one of my faves. oh, i guess a small warning: i cried and

cried!!! (still a wonderful book though)

Nick Stewart says

A tragic death followed by a nasty, patently ridiculous (and alarmingly reactionary) custody battle knock smug protagonist, Bernie Fine, down a peg or two.
