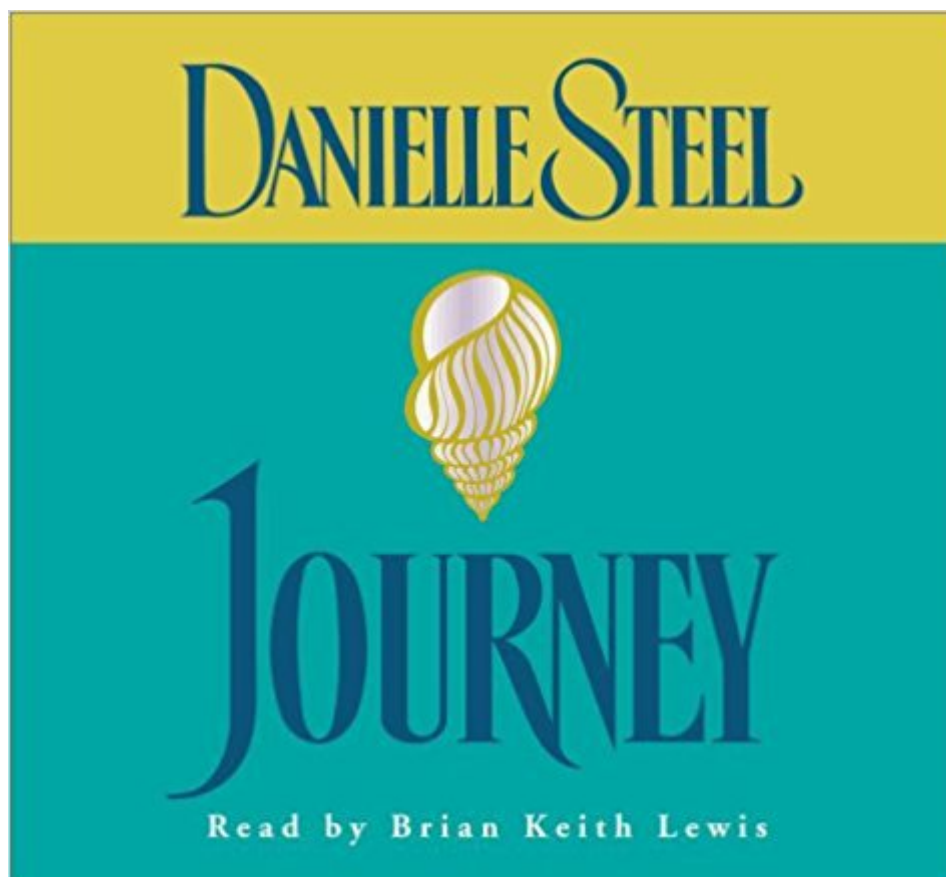


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## Journey (Danielle Steel)



## Synopsis

Five CDs, 6 hrs. Performance by Brian Keith Lewis

Everyone in Washington knows Madeleine and Jack Hunter. Maddy is an award-winning TV anchorwoman. Jack is the head of her network, an adviser to the President on media issues. To the world, theirs is a storybook marriage. Two brilliant careers. A long, loving partnership. But behind the locked doors of their lush Georgetown home, a very different story emerges. For as Maddy's career soars, a bitter edge has crept into Jack's words, a pattern of subtle put-downs, control, and jealousy that Maddy has always tried to ignore and deny. For Maddy, there are no bruises, no scars, only the daggers of fear, humiliation, and isolation. Their effect as powerful as the gun, the knife, or the fist, the wounds as deep. Through hard work, long years, and with Jack's help, Maddy has become a role model and a star. It seems impossible to believe that a woman the nation idolizes lives in degradation and fear. Only Maddy knows the terror in her heart. Her secrets are well kept, sometimes even from herself. Maddy's journey to healing begins when the President's wife offers an extraordinary opportunity, the chance to join her newly formed Commission on Violence Against Women. There, Maddy hears chilling stories from terrified wives and girlfriends that sound eerily familiar. And there she comes to know Bill Alexander, a distinguished scholar and diplomat who also works on the commission. Bill suspects that something is terribly wrong in Maddy's marriage and begs her to open her eyes. And as Maddy slowly, painfully takes the first steps toward freedom, as she and Bill grow closer, a remarkable series of events begins to unfold...a stranger from Maddy's past suddenly reappears...White House headlines bring the nation to a standstill...and a devastating tragedy occurs, forcing Maddy to realize just how much she has lost and how much has been taken from her • her confidence, her trust, her self-respect. As she is faced with the most difficult choice of her life, Maddy's extraordinary journey comes to a close, and with it comes a strength she never knew she had and a gift she never could have expected • a gift that will change her life forever. Set against a vivid backdrop of world-shattering events, *Journey* is a book about abuse, in its subtlest forms. The powerful effects that last a lifetime. With wisdom and compassion, bestselling novelist Danielle Steel reminds us that no one is exempt from the effects of this devastating disease, which crosses social borders, has no respect for money, power, or success. But at its core, *Journey* is a book about hope, about change, and about daring to be free.

## Book Information

Series: Danielle Steel

Audio CD

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## Customer Reviews

It's amazing to think that *Journey* is Danielle Steel's 50th novel. What's even more amazing is the high standard she has maintained throughout all her books: when an author is this prolific, there is usually a falling off in inspiration, but Steel seems able to add new elements to each book that keep the level of invention fresh. *Journey* uses elements familiar from earlier Steel bestsellers, but manages a totally novel spin on the private problems of a very public marriage. Madeleine and Jack Hunter are one of Washington's glittering couples. Jack is the head of a TV network, while Maddy is an award-winning anchorwoman. All around, people regard them as a golden couple: he advising the president on media issues, she at the top of the tree in her profession. Needless to say, the relationship we are shown behind the closed doors of their lavish Georgetown home is far more troubled than the public could ever know. As Maddy enjoys more and more career success, Jack's resentment and desire for control grow daily, and her life becomes hell in this fracturing marriage. Steel manages, as always, to convey character in concise paragraphs: The diamond studs and her eight-carat engagement ring were her prize possessions. Not bad for a kid from a trailer park in Chattanooga, she often admitted to him, and he called her "poor white trash" when he wanted to really tease her. It was obvious that he thought calling her that was funny... When Maddy joins the president's wife in the latter's newly formed commission on violence against women, the grim stories she hears from other terrified wives start her on a journey which will help her break the cycle of fear she is living through. Steel makes this situation resonate with a strong emotional impact, and the dark marriage is painted with the kind of skill we have come to expect from her. When Bill Alexander, a high-flying scholar and diplomat, enters the narrative and realizes what is happening in

Maddy's marriage, the story is taken to a powerful new level, with their growing affection treated intelligently and sympathetically. --Barry Forshaw --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Marital abuse in its most insidious form is the focus of Steel's (The House on Hope Street, etc.) dependable page-turner, her 50th novel. To the outside world, Washington, D.C., television coanchor Maddy Hunter appears to have an enviable life. Married to her boss, former football star-cum-media mogul Jack Hunter, she's got brains, beauty, a prestigious job, a glamorous marriage and all the trappings of success. Yet MaddyAwhose current husband saved her from a physically abusive former spouseAis trapped in another relationship that's as devastating and destructive as her first. Jack doesn't hit Maddy, but he subjects her to mind games, put-downs and constant undermining; it's obvious psychological abuse to observers, though not to Maddy. Using Maddy's participation in a commission on violence against women chaired by the nation's First Lady, Steel explicates the various forms of spousal abuse, and although the text occasionally gets preachy, the desperate plight of women who remain in destructive situations is clearly delineated. Meanwhile, Maddy warily builds a friendship with Bill Alexander, a fellow committee member and former ambassador to Colombia whose wife was killed by kidnappers. Maddy's experience interacting with women like herself and the appearance of a daughter she gave up for adoption as an unwed teenager (and whom Jack forbids her to see) both have an impact. Still, it takes a life-threatening event to convince her finally to change her life and accept the gift of a good man's love. Steel has her formula down pat, and she executes her story with her usual smooth pacing. Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Having lived thru journeys of my own, this book touched my heart and soul. I agree with a review I read before I started reading, that this book should, and would benefit all young women that read it. Anyone that reads this book would benefit by the touching, yet thoroughly truthful way it handled ALL types of abuse that occur. I'm happy, sad and emotionally exhausted after my journey with this wonderfully written book. Danielle Steel has yet again proven to be an expert at what she does. And she does it with such a finesse and fairness and feeling that I look forward to my next journey...

I have read Journey a number of times over the years and have always loved the story, despite the fact it delves in to domestic abuse. As a survivor of two abusive relationships this story reminds me of what I have experienced in the past and have been lucky enough to come out the other side of intact and as a result a much stronger person. Thanks Danielle.

This is a book that ALL women, especially teen age girls should read... to recognize all the different forms of abuse that is put upon women. It is not a sexual porn novel... it just defines the life of a woman whose husband uses all the abuses, except physical abuse, with his wife. It is how she reacts to it. As a child this woman experienced physical abuse, and she thought that abuse was only limited to physical abuse. Her husband did NOT commit physical abuse to her, but he used all the other abuses. She did not know he was a very abusive man. The main character of this novel, had to learn from a doctor by attending conferences about female abuse. This main character had to learn how to gain the courage to free herself from this situation. This novel is a **LEARNING TOOL...** about ALL the different abuses committed on women. Every older teen female should read this book. It will allow them to recognize abuse... and to find a future husband that does not have abusive traits. It is a **WELL WRITTEN** novel. Something that every female should read. I think it should be a book that is a staple reading book in all Female Abusive classes... I truly recommend this book.

I was truly enthralled throughout this book-very well written and well rounded. I will look for more by this author!

This is a good read, all throw I'd wish the author would have allowed the reader to hear the outcome of maddy settlement an Jack Hunter's being exposed for how he treated his wife ,an elaborate on Bill N maddy marriage an blended families .did not like how it ended without reading how Jack Hunter felt seeing how maddy didn't in back up in a trailer park an continue to be very much in demand successful .

Danielle Steel is finally putting some spark back in her books. I had all of her books at one time. Even the poems she wrote. After The Klone and I my interest in her writing diminished. It seemed as though she was pumping several books out a year without giving some meat to the books.

Love Danielle Steel, I think this is one of her best. It takes a subject no one wants to talk about and brings it to the forefront. Really enjoyed it. Would definitely recommend it.

A very easy transaction and book arrived exactly as described.

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