



Wanderlust

Danielle Steel

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Wanderlust is the story of Audrey Driscoll. Orphaned young, Audrey has grown up caring for her eccentric millionaire grandfather and her demanding younger sister, Annabelle, who assume she will always be there for them. Sheltered yet restless, responsible beyond her years yet hungering for experience, Audrey is hopelessly bound until she herself makes the daring decision to leave. As the 1930s unfold, alone, camera in hand, she will shock friends and outrage family as she plunges headlong into the wider world.

Crossing the Atlantic aboard the luxurious *Queen Mary*, Audrey meets James and Violet Hawthorne, who will draw her into a sophisticated circle of artists and expatriates. And it is they who will introduce her to Charles Parker-Scott, in who Audrey will come to recognize a twin soul, a man propelled by relentless curiosity and driven by conflicting needs for intimacy and independence. Together they will spend an exquisite summer at Cap d'Antibes, then board the Orient Express on an adventure that will carry them to a remote outpost in China. But at the farthest reaches of this journey Audrey must choose again. Japan has attacked China. Charles knows he must return to Europe at once. But Audrey becomes involved with a besieged orphanage and decides to remain in China without Charles, caring for the abandoned children until help arrives.

In time Audrey will return to America with a daughter of her own. While she must come home to San Francisco to confront a world irrevocably changed by time, she finds she cannot stay. From prewar Germany to London during the Blitz, from a wrenching reunion with Charles to a war zone in North Africa, again and again she must choose between the dictates of her conscience and the yearnings of her heart. For Audrey Driscoll and the men and women whose lives touch hers, wanderlust is the inescapable element. Born at a time when women were expected to stay close to home and fulfill traditional roles, Audrey is compelled to follow the thread of events that will destroy the complacency of the past and shape the future. From Europe to China, from San Francisco to North Africa, she is irresistibly drawn into a man's world of conflict, discovery, and danger.

In a vivid novel of breathtaking scope, Danielle Steel has once again surpassed herself in creating an unforgettable tale of men and women caught in the tides of personal drama and historic event. **Wanderlust** is Danielle Steel's finest journey.

From the Paperback edition.

Wanderlust Details

Date : Published (first published 1986)

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Author : Danielle Steel

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From Reader Review Wanderlust for online ebook

An Munoz says

Es una historia preciosa, contada con mucha sensibilidad, me ha encantado que la autora mezcla personajes y acontecimientos reales de la Segunda Guerra Mundial dentro de la ficción. Está muy bien documentada. Ha hecho que Audrey y Charles sean personajes fuertes, valientes, aventureros y me ha permitido viajar por distintas partes del mundo, con sus excelentes descripciones. Mi estreno con Steel no pudo ser mejor. La recomiendo!!

Jolene says

I MUST SAY THAT THIS WAS A PRETTY GOOD BOOK! IT WAS SAD HOW AUDREY AND ANNIE LOST THEIR PARENTS WHEN THEY WERE SO YOUNG. BOTH GIRLS HAD TO GO LIVE WITH THEIR GRANDFATHER (THEIR DAD'S FATHER). AUDREY WAS MORE LIKE A MOTHER TO ANNIE THAN A SISTER, AFTER ALL SHE HELPED HER WITH EVERYTHING. AUDREY TOOK CARE OF THEIR GRANDFATHER TOO! SHE EVEN HIRED AND FIRED THE HELP AND TOOK CARE OF GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE. SO IT'S NO WONDER THAT WHEN ANNIE GOT MARRIED AND HAD A BABY & TURNED 21 THAT 26 YEAR OLD AUDREY DECIDED TO LET ANNIE BECOME THE WIFE AND MOTHER SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE AND NOT TO DEPEND ON AUDREY. AUDREY DECIDED THAT SHE WOULD GO OUT AND SEE THE WORLD, LIKE HER PARENTS DID. SO SHE KISSED EVERYONE GOOD-BYE AT THE TRAIN STATION & HEADED OFF TO HER NEW ADVENTURE!!!

HAPPY READING, MERRY MEET, BLESSED BE, & MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!

Helena says

I think I couldn't have read this book faster. I'm a girl that adores to travel and I think this book and I were a match made in literary heaven. So with all of this said I think you can pretty much tell I fell in love with this story. The characters were so well developed and every single place Audrey visited I could imagine it with a clarity that made me want to join her and Charlie on all their adventures.

When I first started the book I thought it was slow and repetitive but as I kept on reading I understood it was because Audrey's life was that way. But once the traveling began and Charles came into the picture I couldn't put the book down. I have to say the romance between those two started quickly and developed itself in a way that only happens in books but I loved it. At first I thought "wow this all happened so fast and I'm only 200 pages in." I had no idea how Danielle Steel would develop the rest of the story without me getting bored. I have to say I was pleasantly surprised. From Harbin back to San Francisco, then back in the South of France the story kept me entertained and I grew fond not only of the places but with the characters as well.

All in all I loved this book and I can't wait to read more of her stuff. I'm grateful I found it in my mom's old library.

Mugdha says

Some books make you forget where you are and what you are doing till you cannot read anymore. Wanderlust is one such book! I lived with Audrey, I cannot imagine feeling any different than narrated while Audrey traveled on her first solo trip. I don't know whether it's the timing I have read this book or the wanderlust that lingers in the heart which made me fall in love with this book only after reading first few pages. finished this book in 2 days flat and had to really fight myself to stop reading it. I thoroughly enjoyed this book.

love stories like these make me wonder if love like this actually exists. its so rare to actually find your soul mate with whom you can communicate without saying any words.

feeling of wanderlust tied the 2 main characters together and their journey of togetherness, separation, struggle and reunion made my heart ache for them. loved every sentence written in this book, though the part of staying back in China to run an orphanage seemed too much and too daring for a woman in 1930s.

Women in many countries still (in 21st century) cannot think of undertaking long journeys on their own and to think of Audrey traveling all over the world for her various reasons seem extremely daring.

Not sure of the description of some of the routes through, especially from India to China (via Ladakh). .it doesn't seem true for that time period.

Story is full of twists and surprises and is an interesting read.

Glad that the book has a happy ending or else it wud hve been difficult to move on :)

Somya says

AMAZING!!!

Elizabeth Douglas says

I have always felt like it doesn't matter who wrote the novel if it grabs you. If it holds your attention and makes you love reading, who cares what it is. I have a degree in English and soon I will have my masters in English, and I absolutely adore this novel.

I can't even pinpoint why I love it so much. The only characters I really like are Audrey, Violet, and James. I adore Audrey's journey of self discovery. I adore how her sense of humor is so unbelievable (I mean, come on - Steel tells us about Audrey's candy bar addiction while she's on the Orient Express). Maybe I'm just amused by the whole thing. Yes, it's outlandish and ridiculous and would likely never happen. Yes, all of Steel's characters are extremely gorgeous people and all fabulously wealthy, even during the Depression. Yes, this book is utter fluff. But I don't know...something about it just comforts me. I love rereading it, and I take it with me on every trip because reading it again just makes me feel like no matter where I am, I have something that is familiar and lovely.

Ali says

This book told the tale of one woman's desire to travel. It begins with Audrey Driscoll finding her father's photo albums filled with photos of far off, magical places. Places Audrey desperately wants to visit. Alas, she is "stuck" taking care of her elderly grandfather and younger sister. Audrey has taken care of Annabelle (Annie) since she was a very young girl. Her parents were killed in an accident and Audrey became the parent. She did everything for Annabelle, and as such, Annabelle is incapable of even doing the simplest of tasks.

Annabelle, is a needed character in this story, as it complicates Audrey's thought process. Does she go after all she wants in life? Does she stay and take care of her sister as she's done ever since she was 11? The reader really begins to hate Annabelle for she never encourages Audrey to live her dreams, but complains and whines when she is gone. Audrey's grandfather also hates Audrey leaving, but his reasons are pretty expected. His son had the same drive and was always leaving him (even in old age) to go off on travels. He eventually perished on one of his trips. Obviously, the reader can sympathize with the grandfather's feelings.

Audrey, never feeling the drive to get married and have a bunch of babies as all other girls her age, eventually gets to travel. At first, she only will be gone for the summer, planning to return in September. A sequence of events have her extending her travels, and she ends up staying abroad with friends until March of the following year. When she returns, her relationship with Annabelle is beyond repair, as the younger sister "needed" her to help take care of her two kids. Annabelle hates that Audrey "left" them alone with no help. She doesn't seem to care about the grandfather (those feelings may have been founded) but help with her own life.

Audrey keeps feeling the tug to go back abroad to friends she has made, and a guy she had met and subsequently, stayed with and began to love. However, she makes the decision to stay, as by this time her grandfather is failing and she needs to be near him. After her beloved grandfather's death, she is able to go back abroad. There is nothing holding her to San Francisco anymore, and she is able to live her life.

The reader really begins to love Audrey and her passion, drive, steadfastness, and heart. She does what she has to, but she never does it without thinking of how it will affect the others in her life.

Jacks Wife says

This is such a great book, I've read it twice.

It's set during the time just before and during the time of Hitler, focusing on a young woman and her family. Her father, sisters, and the people in their lives.

The young woman, main character, is one who has taken on the task of caring for her younger sister, whom she has spoiled rotten since her birth, and continues when their parents, who are adventurous wanderers themselves, are killed in a plane crash, and the girls go to live with their father's father, in San Francisco, Ca. The older sister ends up taking up yet another task of running her Grandfather's household. Back in the time of maids, servants, and timed meals.

At some point in the book, the older sister and main character decides she wants to see a bit of the world, and follow the scrapbooks her parents left her when they died, but that is where everything really starts for this

rather sheltered, ahead of her time young woman's life really begins. Some sadness, tragedy, love, friendship, war, England, Hitler, the Orient Express, and the Asias, are where the main part of the story really takes place. It's an excellent read, and one of my favorites.

Éride says

Reseña de DESTINOS ERRANTES

Destinos errantes es una novela de Danielle Steel, escrita en el año 1986.

Audrey es una mujer que vive en San Francisco con su abuelo y su hermana, ya que sus padres murieron tiempo atrás en un naufragio. Su hermana está a punto de casarse, y ella ha tomado el mando de la casa tras haberse convertido en la soltera oficial de la familia.

Lo que todo el mundo desconoce es que ella posee el mismo espíritu aventurero de su padre; ansía viajar y descubrir el mundo entero, aunque solo tienen un inconveniente: no puede dejar sola al abuelo. De todas formas, decide realizar una escapada fugaz a Europa, donde conocerá a Charles Parker-Scott, un escritor especializado en libros de viajes, con el que ansía descubrir el mundo entero. ¿Podrá dividirse de tal forma que no tenga que renunciar a ninguno de los dos?

De lo mejor de Danielle Steel. He comprobado que las novelas más antiguas son las que valen. Es un poco larga, pero el recorrido vital es espectacular. Los personajes evolucionan de una manera asombrosa, y la manera que tiene de describir tantos escenarios diferentes en un periodo breve de tiempo es digna de admiración. Me he identificado mucho con la protagonista, aunque a veces se me hacía un poco moñas. Por otro lado, no hay casi nada negativo que decir salvo que en ocasiones los personajes viven en un estado de opulencia y dinero que el lector se impregna con la sensación de que todo es muy irreal. Todos esos viajes, vestidos y lujos que son tratados como algo cotidiano y normal en ocasiones llegan a cansar y a aburrir, porque la vida real no es así. Todos los personajes tienen problemas de ricos (es decir, no saben si viajar a China o Japón, si marcharse a EEUU o quedarse una semana más en la Costa Azul...), lo cual me genera un poco de impotencia, dicho sea de paso.

De todas maneras, si tengo que recomendar algo de Danielle Steel recomendaría, entre otros, este, ya que la historia en sí está muy bien trabajada y puede resultar preciosa en muchas ocasiones. No vas a aprender nada, pero por lo menos pasarás un rato agradable.

PUNTUACIÓN: 7,5/10

Ridhika Khanna says

SPOILER ALERT

Well, I gave this book a three star as it is brilliantly put. The story is captivating and I loved the character of Audrey. The book takes you through a lot of emotions and I did cry when I was reading about Audrey adopting Mai Li. I thought to myself how much courage one needs to do what she did. Staying back for the kids and eventually adopting one. However there were a few points worth pointing out:

1. It is hardly a book about "wanderlust". It is just a romantic tale about a man and a woman. I expected it more of a travelling kind and getting lost while travelling. That certainly did not happen. The story is extremely fascinating though but don't expect the "wanderlust" thing.

Anyways, all said and done. Barring the above points, the book is lovely!

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Although her parents were killed while traveling, Audrey Driscoll always dreamed of traveling to romantic and exotic places much to the dismay of her sister and grandfather. Her wanderlust finally caught up with her during the great depression and she set out to explore as much of the world as she could see. Along the way she met her dearest friends and the love of her life whom she followed to the orient. She found herself in charge of a orphanage and brought one of the orphans home with her to San Francisco when she was able to leave. Her passion brought her back to Europe just as the Nazis were coming to power and she was reunited with her love...lurid and schmaltzy I enjoyed this action packed adventure/romance. It was my first Danielle Steel novel and I found it easy to understand why it was a best seller!

Beware! You really do get Wanderlust after reading this book!

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The war had affected all their lives, and she couldn't help wondering if it would ever be the same again ..
Wanderlust.

Jessica Friday says

My all time favorite book. Beautifully written and a pleasure to read again and again. It's a wonderful romantic story that takes you through high society San Fransisco, the glamorous South of France, the horrors of World World II, and back again.

Audrey and Charlie are such a fascinating couple and truly meant to be. Danielle Steel can truly play on your emotions and make you feel so much. I read this every few years and am never disappointed.
