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Rushing Waters

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Hurricane Ophelia is bearing down on New York City. And in a matter of hours, six people, along with their families, friends, and millions of other New Yorkers living around them, will be caught up in the horrific flooding it unleashes. Ellen Wharton has flown into New York from London, regardless of the weather and her husband's worry. The successful interior designer is intent on seeing her lively architect mother and has an important personal appointment to keep. But despite Ellen's urging, when the storm hits, seventy-four-year-old Grace Madison refuses to leave her Tribeca apartment in the midst of the evacuation zone, and they must eventually wade through chest-high water to the police boats outside. British investment banker Charles Williams is traveling on business but is also eager to see his young daughters, who live with his beautiful, estranged ex-wife in SoHo. Desperate to find them, he checks the shelters where thousands have taken refuge and runs into Ellen and her mother. Juliette Dubois, a dedicated ER doctor, fights to save lives when the generators at her hospital fail. NYU students Peter Holbrook and Ben Weiss, living in a shabby downtown walkup, are excited by the adventure of the approaching hurricane, refuse to evacuate, and settle in with junk food and beer until their building threatens to collapse. Should they swim for it or not? A day of chaos takes its toll. Lives, belongings, and loved ones are swept away. Heroes are revealed as the city and New Yorkers struggle to face a natural disaster of epic proportions. And then the real challenge begins, as the survivors face their futures, with damage to repair and scars to heal. Danielle Steel fearlessly tackles a catastrophe and its aftermath with characters who are joined together by accident, then share their vulnerabilities, regrets, losses, and hopes. Keenly observed and brilliantly told, this is an unforgettable story that proves that while life can change in an instant, even the darkest storm can bring forth courage, resilience, unexpected joy, and new life. And it reminds us all that nature, at its fiercest, is a powerful force nothing and no one can resist.

**Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition
Listening Length: 7 hours and 59 minutes
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Publisher: Brilliance Audio
Audible.com Release Date: August 30, 2016
Whispersync for Voice: Ready
Language: English
I really loved this book. It provided some mystery and some things I just did not see coming. The only disappointment I had was some characters just fizzled out and you wanted to know what happened to them and the book was not long enough but seldom they are. Danielle always will be one of my favorite writers and I will continue to buy each of them and read them.

Hurricane Ophelia comes and creates chaos and heartbreak for a variety of people. We watch as Ellen and Grace encounter the storm and as they deal with the destruction and loss that come to Tribecca as a result of the storm. Relationships break apart and come back together as life changes for Charles and Gina and his girls after Gina realizes how heartless Nigel really is and how foolish she had been in leaving Charles. We even see how Peter works well grouch losing his best friend Ben and how his relationship with girlfriend Anna changes. This is a fast paced, enjoyable read.

Rushing Waters is about Hurricane Ophelia hitting New York City. This is a subject I am sure many can relate to. Ellen Wharton flies in from London to see her mother and also for a very personal appointment. On the plane from London Ellen’s seatmate is Charles Williams who is on a business trip. The flight made him very uneasy as there was much turbulence. He also hoped to see his daughters. He had been divorced for about a year and his ex-wife followed her musician boyfriend to New York with her girls. No one thought the hurricane would hit and if it did it certainly wouldn’t be as bad as Sandy had been years before. They were all wrong. This one was worse, much worse. The lives of those I have mentioned here and many others would be changed forever. Danielle Steel knows how to write a tale that will keep you turning the pages. Her characters and their situations mimic real life so you can identify with them. This was another five star book for her.

This is a rather typical Danielle Steel novel her fans will enjoy. It is also a story about how different individuals face a natural disaster, that life can change in an instant. Each of the characters faces the decision to leave or stay before the hurricane. Considering all the recent natural disasters and
climate change the world has been facing, I’m sure we all question how strong we would be when fate changes our circumstances overnight. The novel deals with issues of material loss, relocating, divorce, infertility, PTSD and survival guilt. It is an easy read, but one which will make the reader reflect on their own concerns about how they would deal with so much loss and change due to a hurricane, flood, or other natural disaster.

--NOTE: Each of us likely see ourselves as brave and heroic, but we also may wonder if we’re capable of rising to the challenge posed by disaster. For a few of us, this novel may lead us to take advantage of advice provided to us in advance for the next Sandy, Katrina, or whatever natural disaster pops up.

Quick & Dirty Highlights

Although this book is billed as romance and as women’s fiction, it has much broader appeal than that would indicate. These days, I suspect, more and more men are interested in deeper topics than rampant rapists and murderers or apocalypse. Indeed, this story is a human interest story. Writers of dystopian, apocalyptic fiction could improve their storytelling by reading a tale such as this brought to us by Danielle Steel. To learn a bit more, read on...

Length: Print, 336; Audible, 7 hours 59 minutes. In my opinion, this is one of those books that’s better heard than read.

Target Audience/Genre: Literary Fiction.

Q - How was this book obtained?
A - Bought on . I added the Audible Whispersync at the time of purchase, saving a bundle.

Q - Is this a book that I can read without having to read others first?
A - This is a stand alone novel.

Q - Are there a lot of typos/misspellings, grammatical errors or other editing failures?
A - No.

Q - Is this a fast, easy read or is it more of a leisure read?
A - this can be read in two or three sittings. It’s too absorbing for commutes, in my opinion.

Q - What sort of language does this writer use to amplify the points made?
A - Adult English, including two f-bombs.

Q - What age group is this suitable for?
A - I think this would be rated PG-13. I believe this will become a made-for-TV movie - it has all the right pieces and characters.

Q - My biggest pleasure or disappointment?
A - Charles Williams was just a touch too scared on the flight, in my opinion. My objection though, might be a bit off base, as my real name is Charles William, ironically, for what it’s worth. Oh, also, although I respect the author’s striving for realism, I think the f-bombs were not really necessary for this story that is, otherwise, a classic. Mind you, I’m no prude, as I read a lot of Stephen King and I’ve worked in construction and with ironworkers. I’m just sayin’...

EXCERPT

Actually, since the publisher provided an extensive excerpt at the description, I think my inclusion of an excerpt is of too little benefit.

Bottom Line: This is writing of the highest order of the craft. Steel has taken six diverging characters and mixed in a hurricane and let us get inside their heads. This novel is an excellent,
authentic, insight into ordinary people brought together by an extraordinary event. To say much more would likely lead to a spoiler. I am grateful the author did not over dramatize any of the characters, save, as noted above, Charles Williams. Solid five stars out of five, despite my minor misgivings. Comments regarding your opinion of this book or of my review, whether favorable or unfavorable, are always welcome. If you buy the book based on my review and become disappointed, especially, I do want to know that and I want to understand how I can improve as a book reviewer. Just please be polite. Thank you.

An interesting way to look at many of the tremendously difficult things go thru. I wonder how much of the story did come from Hurricane Sandy. I am certain that a lot of the things that happened during Sandy has never been told.

Not sure why but this story kept m wanting to see what happened next. I could visualize the backgrounds fir where the characters were living easily. It took a current event we had all seen in the news and fictionalized a new event then shown the impact on lives. I could have kept on reading if there was more about where they were in another year or two or five. Recommend this as a good read.

I am a big fan of Danielle Steel this was a good book but not her best it jumped around at some points and I still don’t know what happened to everyone else I think that would have made it more interesting ending but I did enjoy it and can’t wait to read another one of her book’s I have read almost all of them and have favorites.

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