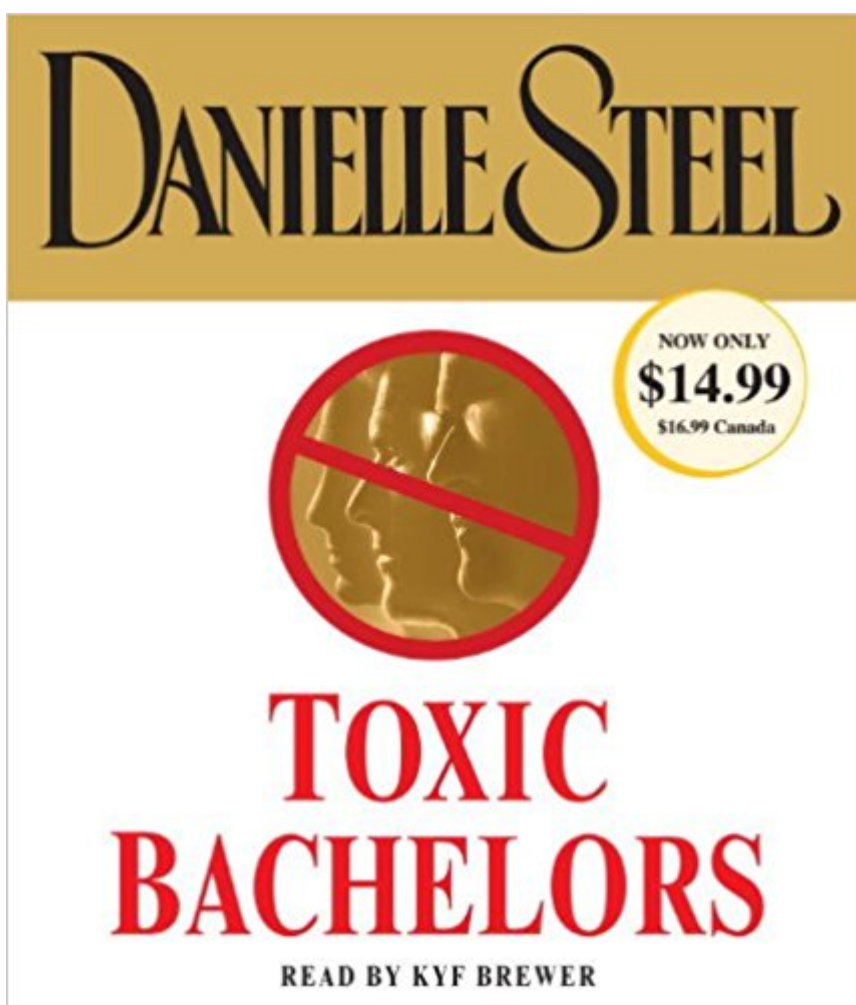


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## Toxic Bachelors



## Synopsis

Danielle Steel explores the perils of dating, relationships, and love in a novel that takes us into the intoxicating, infuriating world of three charming single men, also known as *Toxic Bachelors*. They were the best of friends and the most daunting of bachelors....Charlie Harrington, a handsome philanthropist, has such high expectations for his perfect bride that no mortal need apply....Adam Weiss, a forty-something celebrity lawyer, prefers his women very young, very voluptuous, and very short-term. And for Gray Hawk, a gifted artist with a knack for attracting troubled relationships, women are fine; it's just the idea of family he can't imagine (particularly the family of the woman he's dating). Now the three friends, spending their annual summer vacation cruising the Mediterranean aboard Charlie's majestic yacht, are about to have their bachelorhood rocked. By autumn all three will fall precipitously into relationships they never saw coming. Charlie begins dating a crusading social worker who couldn't be further from his ideal "until he makes a stunning discovery about her. Adam gets involved with his usual twenty-something bombshell "only this one has a remarkable mind of her own. And Gray, who has avoided both business and family like the plague, has managed to fall head over heels for a successful career woman " who just happens to be a mother as well. As another holiday on the yacht approaches, and with it a turning point in each man's life, the three bachelors are forced to face the things that scare them most: their phobias about relationships, the wounds of the past "and the kind of women who challenge their deepest terrors. What happens next will spark big changes for Charlie, Adam, and Gray "and might just put an end to their carousing days forever. For as the once-carefree trio is about to discover, love is the most unpredictable adventure of all. Filled with all the joy, complexity, and unexpected surprises of life, *Toxic Bachelors* is Danielle Steel at her poignant and penetrating best. From the Hardcover edition.

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## Customer Reviews

I give the author credit that she changed her traditional storytelling format. This was from the male perspective. Charlie Harrington, Adam Weiss, and Gray Hawk, were good friends and dedicated bachelors. Each had their own complicated, flimsy reasons for being commitment-phobic. However Gray, the loner artist finds Sylvia; Adam the lawyer and wild bachelor finds Maggie; and Charlie, the blue-blood finds Carole. They are all stereotypical characters that we have seen in her previous novels. There is an annoying lack of attention to details and it shows when little Gabby appears with her seeing-eye dog Zorro. Charlie pets him like a household pet and not as a working dog. Conversation between the men sounds at times inane and immature. It was a struggle to finish.

I recently saw Danielle Steel interviewed and was impressed that she had raised 9 children, lost a son to suicide, and did so much humanitarian work. I'm not a fan of this type of novel but thought I would give it a try since I was so impressed with her in the interview. There were two things that drove me nuts about this book, the most annoying of which was her repetition of words and phrases, often right on the same page. "He was going to ask Carole" and then in the next paragraph, "He had decided to ask Carole." The second most annoying thing was all the cliches. It isn't often that I roll my eyes while reading a book. I also think she spends way too much time with her superficial descriptions of places and people and not enough time having them do things. I like the way other authors develop their characters by showing us how they behave, react and what they say in different situations. I think having a character kick a dog (3 words) tells you a whole lot more about them than 50 pages of superficial drivel, which this book is full of. I think Danielle Steel is a remarkable woman, but as an author, at least of this particular book, I don't see the magic or talent I expected from a person who has been called, "the world's most popular author." 447 pages. Two days. That's time I could have used elsewhere, feeding the hungry or ministering to the poor or sick. OK, probably just reading another book.

What has happened to Danielle Steele? I have never read a book so heavy on redundant, repetitive information. Throughout the book I caught myself saying "Okay, I get it." Only to find that the very next paragraph was belaboring the point made in the previous paragraph. How long does it take to

convey the point that these three guys love their annual European yachting trip for obvious reasons? How stupid does she think her readers are? This is the first Danielle Steele book I have read in approximately 10 years - - it will definitely be the last. And what is up with that ridiculous photo of her on the back cover dressed up like a polar bear in the seat of a fancy red car??? Give me a break! I had to take the dust jacket off so I wouldn't be embarrassed to be seen reading the book. Ugh!

I wanted to cry when I put this book down because I miss the Danielle Steele that wrote 'Thurston House', 'Family Circle' and others. For years now I have felt that she is simply putting out books because she is contractually obligated to by her publishers. I really feel like her heart just isn't in it anymore. She has become very idiosyncratic and predictable. Every book has her main character 'being honest.' I keep reading because I am a loyal Danielle Steele fan and I write this in hopes she'll read it and either decide she is writing because she loves it (like she once did) or decide to retire and let us love her through her earlier works. This book was just awful.

Oh my, all the terrible reviews for this book are true!! Ms. Steel is excessively repetitive....I mean EXCESSIVE. Ms. Steel goes into too much background on the characters way too early in the book...and she continues to repeat this information over and over and over and over...you get the picture. I too found myself saying, "Okay, we get it already..." I also agree with one of the reviewers who mentioned the bonding experience the men had. I don't know the men Ms. Steel knows and hangs out with, but she had these men talking about their feelings with each other, as well as how their dysfunctional pasts had affected them. Oh please, no man on earth talks that way. Especially to other men. This book is completely awful. The plot is so slow and does not grab the readers attention. I have read many of Ms. Steel's books and I believe this one is her worst. I have now started reading Sandra Brown and she is sooo much better. I recommend "The Alibi." So far that has been my favorite by her. She has mystery, suspense, romance... Her words are so much more descriptive and interesting than Ms. Steels. To sum it up, I was completely disappointed with the book "Toxic Bachelors." I highly recommend Sandra Brown, she is a much better author.

What is the fun in reading about 3 very immature and stereotyped characters? The book starts as "Sex and the city" at a yacht in the Mediterranean. The difference is that the main characters are male. Quiet entertaining in the first 20 pages. After that you can skip to the last chapters and these successful "teenagers" with the bodies and money of adults found the women that will change

their lives for ever. Ha! And of all them will find true love at the same time! Ha!Bottom line: bad novel from a very commercial writer

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