



## Silent Honor

*Danielle Steel*

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## **Silent Honor** Danielle Steel

In her 38th bestselling novel, Danielle Steel creates a powerful, moving portrayal of families divided, lives shattered and a nation torn apart by prejudice during a shameful episode in recent American history.

A man ahead of his time, Japanese college professor Masao Takashimaya of Kyoto had a passion for modern ideas that was as strong as his wife's belief in ancient traditions. It was the early 1920s and Masao had dreams for the future—and a fascination with the politics and opportunities of a world that was changing every day. Twenty years later, his eighteen-year-old daughter Hiroko, torn between her mother's traditions and her father's wishes, boarded the *SS Nagoya Maru* to come to California for an education and to make her father proud. It was August 1941.

From the ship, she went directly to the Palo Alto home of her uncle, Takeo, and his family. To Hiroko, California was a different world—a world of barbecues, station wagons and college. Her cousins in California had become more American than Japanese. And much to Hiroko's surprise, Peter Jenkins, her uncle's assistant at Stanford, became an unexpected link between her old world and her new. But in spite of him, and all her promises to her father, Hiroko longs to go home. At college in Berkeley, her world is rapidly and unexpectedly filled with prejudice and fear.

On December 7, Pearl Harbor is bombed by the Japanese. Within hours, war is declared and suddenly Hiroko has become an enemy in a foreign land. Terrified, begging to go home, she is nonetheless ordered by her father to stay. He is positive she will be safer in California than at home, and for a brief time she is—until her entire world caves in.

On February 19, Executive Order 9066 is signed by President Roosevelt, giving the military the power to remove the Japanese from their communities at will. Takeo and his family are given ten days to sell their home, give up their jobs, and report to a relocation center, along with thousands of other Japanese and Japanese Americans, to face their destinies there. Families are divided, people are forced to abandon their homes, their businesses, their freedom, and their lives. Hiroko and her uncle's family go first to Tanforan, and from there to the detention center at Tule Lake. This extraordinary novel tells what happened to them there, creating a portrait of human tragedy and strength, divided loyalties and love. It tells of Americans who were treated as foreigners in their own land. And it tells Hiroko's story, and that of her American family, as they fight to stay alive amid the drama of life and death in the camp at Tule Lake.

With clear, powerful prose, Danielle Steel portrays not only the human cost of that terrible time in history, but also the remarkable courage of a people whose honor and dignity transcended the chaos that surrounded them. Set against a vivid backdrop of war and change, her thirty-eighth bestselling novel is both living history and outstanding fiction, revealing the stark truth about the betrayal of Americans by their own government...and the triumph of a woman caught between cultures and determined to survive.

*From the Paperback edition.*

## **Silent Honor Details**

Date :

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Author : Danielle Steel

Format : Kindle Edition 416 pages

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## From Reader Review Silent Honor for online ebook

### Tara Chevestt says

Does anybody remember the tv show that was popular in the 1970s called All In The Family? If so, you will remember Archie Bunker's wife, Edith. Take Edith and put her in a kimono and you have the heroine of this book, Hiroko. A more submissive, puppy eyed female you will be hard pressed to find. I read a good hundred pages and then some and grew so sick of all the bowing and the eye lowering. I couldn't take anymore. Strong woman, my arse! I know it was customary for Japanese women to behave this way in those times, but must we be reminded of it every other sentence?

I did, however, like how Steel manages to convey the prejudice and racial tension in California during World War 2 tho. She seems to be historically accurate as well. Pretty impressive for a romance writer.

To summarize the plot for you: Hiroko's parents send her from the only home she has ever known in Japan to San Francisco to attend college for a year. She meets a white man that is enamored with her submissive ways and of course, he wants her. But after Pearl Harbor, the American Japanese have major obstacles for face on top of the restrictions placed on Japanese/Caucasian relationships.

Had there been less bowing, a lot less eye lowering, and more spunk in the heroine, I would have actually liked it.

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### Lyra Biendima says

A story about a Japanese family and their struggles in life way back Second World War. This is a journey of a lifetime and survival after a big and devastating loss, how they cope and continue their life after all those things. Love comes in special package in this novel because it doesn't show romantic love only but everlasting and immeasurable love to family and friends, this is a good read to everyone who still wanders about the typical people who experienced and live in times of war. I still marvel how much bravery the characters the author put up in this novel, they have all this characteristics that you will eventually love and idolize because of how the author turns things out and their actions to each of them.

This is not only a journey of a lifetime for the characters but a journey as well to the readers because in each new chapter is a new adventure that you surely will love to indulge into. Expect some unexpected characters to turn the plot into something warm and light-hearted, you'll love how it goes by then. Expect some crying also in the last chapters of the novel, in there you'll see the real emotions the characters shed from the rest of the story, it is a must wait part of the story, I'm telling you.

The combination of love and loss, hope and war, suffering and freedom, are what makes this novel precious and very well-written.

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### Kerry says

Heartbreaking truth about what really happened with a fictional love story intertwined. I love her books with

real historical events in them.

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### **Farah says**

It was so badly written I hated it, yet the story good enough to enjoy. So basically it was a very bumpy experience, going through badly described passages and unnecessary repetitions and cringe worthy plot twists and just every imaginable literary mistake ever.

I do not feel it was a complete waste of time as it educated me on a well researched and novel side of the WW2. But I do wish it was better told.

This was my first experience with Danielle Steel and I do not see myself looking for anything by her in the near future.

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### **Jennifer Davis says**

I really liked this book. I thought Danielle Steel only wrote romance so I was surprised by how much I enjoyed it and how little romance was in it. Even less than the Breaking Dawn in the Twilight Series! The stories of what so many Japanese and some not went through during WW2 in America is heartbreakingly true. Her research was amazing, and accurate. I learned a few things myself, and can only hope history doesn't repeat itself when it comes to what so many went through at that time.

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### **Elena Delos says**

Estremecedor, creo que es una de las novelas mejores logradas de D. Steele, de hecho, hasta me hizo repasar mis clases de historia y abrir los ojos a todo lo que tuvieron que pasar los japoneses a los que pilló la guerra en Estados Unidos.

Finalmente uno va madurando junto a Hiroko, y puedes ver la guerra más allá de "los buenos y los malos".

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### **Lita Lestianti says**

I imagined how's life during world war because of this novel. The author described it successfully mixed with love story and career. How hard the life is at that time.

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### **Breeann Kaczmarczyk says**

This book tells the story of a girl from Japan who comes to the states right before Pearl Harbor. Once Pearl Harbor happens, her world is turned upside down. I really enjoyed this book. It shows how, even though she was an American, how horribly people treated her for being Japanese as well. I liked this book so much I've read it again :)

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### **Alison says**

I was never an actual fan of Danielle Steel. I only read 3 of her books before Silent Honour and was not particularly super impressed. However, I stumbled upon this book during a book sale and because it fell under the label of historical fiction thought I'd give it a go. Now that I have finished it, I can say that I'm glad I did so.

At first, I was kind of sceptic about it. The diction seemed kind of juvenile especially when compared to the witty diction used by John Grogan in Marley and Me, my previous read. However, as I immersed myself into the story, I found the diction very comfortable and flowing to read, and I would have finished it sooner hadn't I enjoyed the story so much that I did not want it to end (I willingly dragged the story myself :P)

I love how Steel tackled the themes of love, rejection and racism in the story and although the story's period is too contemporary for my taste, I was really into it. It was interesting to get a different side of Pearl Harbor's story and I thoroughly enjoyed the insights, Steel gave into the Japanese world. I found myself emphasising greatly with the character especially with Hiroko and even shed a few tears at some of the poignant moments.

All in all, I really enjoyed the book and will definitely add any of Danielle Steel's historical fiction to my growing to-be-read list anytime soon.

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### **Tara says**

An amazing historical-fiction that I couldn't put down.

Set during WWII from the perspective of a Japanese girl who had come to the US to study when the Japanese attack Pearl Harbor and the hardships and discrimination her family and other Japanese-Americans went through at the time.

The culture, historical events, and love story that unfold filled me with such emotion reading through this often sad but also BEAUTIFUL story.

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### **Orinthia Lee says**

Besok ya reviewnya~

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### **Caroldenise2002 Mitchell says**

Wow! I read a lot of Danielle Steele and at first I liked the book. But then the story digressed. Hiroko seemed like the stereotypical Japanese girl who was bound by tradition with all of the bowing and placement of "san" after peoples names. This star character did not have a mind of her own. She's the first Steele character that I hated.

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It saddened me that the author had Peter having so much sex with Hiroko out in a muddy, dirt field right after Hiroshima. Peter, a white man to me was extremely disrespectful to want to have wanton sex with a 19 year old; (he was in his late 20's.) right after she had been discriminated against at St. Andrews; she lost her home, dignity and material possessions. Had this been one of Danielle Steele's white characters they would have been impugned by having sex in such a heinous living environment.

At the end when Hiroko goes home and finds her family have been bombed; I was hoping the last person she'd see was Peter; and, of course there he was. Not a good book. Liked the first few pages and then hated it after that.

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### **Kathryn says**

I have not read a Danielle Steel book in well over 25 years. I just outgrew her, or so I thought. At book club we read Nisei Daughter by Monica Itoi Sone which was a non-fiction story of one women's life being Japanese in Seattle and going into an internment camp. Danielle Steel's book Silent Honor was brought up as well-written fictional story about the same subject. I thought this book was very well crafted and I became so attached to all of the characters. I will now look into what else Danielle Steel has written over the past few years.

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### **Yuska Vonita says**

Nangis bombay. Bacaan cepat juga. Selesai dalam 2 hari. Ciri khas Danielle Steel banget, cerita tentang generasi kedua. Yang selalu mengganggu dari buku-buku Danielle Steel adalah informasi berulang. Deskripsi tentang seseorang atau kejadian udah dijabarkan di hal 20 (misalnya) ntar nongol lagi di halaman 50.

Bikin depresi pas bagian Hiroko dan keluarga Tak mengungsi di camp penampungan orang Jepang selama PDII. Banyak fakta menarik tentang kejadian di camp. Ternyata Golongan Setia ribut dengan Pemuda No-No (pemuda yang menolak berikrar setia pada Amerika karena merasa dikhianati, padahal mereka sudah jadi WN Amerika).

A bit sinetronish. Ada tokoh baru muncul di tengah cerita dan endingnya yang terlalu cepat.

Overall, buku ini menghibur untuk yang lagi mumet kayak gw.

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### **Janet says**

I read this book years ago. I forgot completely about it until I read "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter an Sweet." (Now that was a good story.) Wasn't as I remembered. I was kind of disappointed in it. Her research was good though. Making it okay.

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