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The Right Time: A Novel



Synopsis

Filled with heartbreak and betrayal, triumph and fulfillment, *The Right Time* is an intimate, richly rewarding novel about pursuing one's passion and succeeding beyond one's wildest dreams. Abandoned by her mother at age seven, Alexandra Winslow takes solace in the mysteries she reads with her devoted father and soon she is writing them herself, slowly graduating to dark, complex crime stories that reflect skill, imagination, and talent far beyond her years. After her father's untimely death, at fourteen Alex is taken in by the nuns of a local convent, where she finds twenty-six mothers to take the place of the one she lost, and the time and encouragement to pursue her gift. Alex writes in every spare moment, gripped by the plots and themes and characters that fill her mind. Midway through college, she has finished a novel and manages to find a seasoned agent, then a publisher. But as she climbs the ladder of publishing success, she resolutely adheres to her father's admonition: Men read crime thrillers by men only and so Alexandra Winslow publishes under the pseudonym Alexander Green, her true identity known only to those closest to her, creating a double life that isolates her. Her secret life as the mysterious and brilliantly successful Alexander Green and her own life as a talented young woman expose her to the envious, the arrogant, and Hollywood players who have no idea who she really is. Always, the right time to open up seems just out of reach, and would cost her dearly. Once her double life and fame are established, the price of the truth is always too high.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I couldn't put it down. Then am always sad when it's over. She is one of my favorite writers. Can't wait for the next book.

INTRO: The Right Time is a novel by Danielle Steel. I chose to read it despite my characteristic habit of avoiding books in this genre by women. I suppose that is a reflection of the main point of this novel, but, hey, I am just a guy. Read on to learn more about what I liked, and what I didn't like...
DIALOGUE QUALITY For the most part, the language used by the characters comes across as authentic. At least until we get to the last couple of chapters, in which it doesn't quite feel right. In fact, the ending feels like she lost interest in what she was writing.
*** ARE THERE PROFANITIES USED? *** There are very few profanities, but only one f-word, which pops up without warning. While I thought its use was shoe-horned into the story and, hence, was not necessary, I think a lot of younger folks will get a kick out of it.
BLUSH FACTOR There are no graphic sex scenes. In fact, sex is only referred to in the most polite, respectful manner possible, so, except for the one f-word, you should have no embarrassment while reading this to your 80-year-old grandmother.
POV Third person Point of View.
CLIFFHANGER? No cliffhanger ending.
Q - How was this book obtained? A Bought on .Q - Is this a fast, easy read or is it more of a leisure read? A Leisure.Q - My biggest pleasure or disappointment? A The last three chapters were rushed. To give a feel for the editing, and the style and flow of this work, I am posting a brief excerpt below.
Excerpt
"took over his brain, which was no longer an if but a when. He hoped it wouldn't be soon. Bill Buchanan had agreed to become Alex's trustee, so he could help make decisions for her, as well as be executor of Eric's estate, but neither of them had come up with a satisfactory place for her to live once he was gone. The medication seemed to slow the episodes down a little, but he was aware of them, even for a few instants, almost every day. It was getting harder and harder to work at the office, and two

months after his diagnosis, the CEO called him in and told him he was no longer on top of his game. Eric assured him he would get things back in control, he said he'd had a slump recently, but the CEO reminded him that he would reach retirement age in a year, and felt he was ready for it now. "Why not enjoy the good life?" He tried to make it sound like a positive experience, but he made it clear they wanted him to leave. It felt like the beginning of the end. They gave him a wonderful retirement party and a bronze plaque a few weeks later, but after he stopped working, Eric found himself at home all day with nothing to do. He went on long walks, and at times forgot where he lived. It would come back to him while he was walking, but late one afternoon, he couldn't remember his address or his name. A kind young woman saw how lost he looked, and drove him around the neighborhood searching for his home. He remembered then, and he was surprised to realize how far he'd walked. Alex was already at home when he got in, after thanking the young woman for getting him safely back to his address. "Who was that who dropped you off, Dad?" She was a very attractive young woman, and Alex wondered if he was dating someone he hadn't told her about. She knew how bored he was now that he'd retired. And he wasn't reading the crime books he loved as much as he used to. "No one, just a friend from work I ran into this afternoon." He couldn't tell Alex that she was a stranger who had picked him up and brought him home like a lost child. More and more he felt infantile and not the adult he used to be. The realization of it filled him with rage. He was short-tempered with Alex now, which was the last thing he wanted to be. And she looked hurt when he shouted at her. He didn't seem to be.

Steel, Danielle. *The Right Time: A Novel* (Kindle Locations 614-632). Random House Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.

Bottom Line: Although I did not love *The Right Time*, I did come to better understand how I may be missing out on some good mystery writing by tending to ignore crime fiction by women. (Before you hit me, bear in mind I do read crime fiction by women that hints at romance. Books by Eden Baylee, based on Toby Neal's Lei Crime series of novels are among my favorites). Four stars out of five. 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.

I'm only part way into it and I wish someone had written what I'm about to. The whole beginning is

so pathetically sad. I want to stop reading it and ask for my money back. Apparently there's more sadness upcoming if her love interest dies of cancer. I've read everything Ms. Steel has written. This has to be a first.. geez.. save your money and watch a romantic comedy for free on Prime!

Most of her books have been good, but no longer willing to take the gamble at her current prices for ebooks. She has had some books in the last decade that have been lacking her usual strong style.

I just finished this book and I loved every minute that I read it! I love all of Danielle Steel's books! She is my favorite author and I can not wait till her next book!

A beautiful story of a young girl who became an orphan and a very successful writer. The love she found and lost due to cancer and then to meet and find a second love is beautiful. Enjoy and read.

I loved this book - a big departure from some of the more recent ones. Kept me very interesting and characters and plots well developed. Only disappointment was the ending - way too abrupt for me.

Danielle Steel has written another great book! I have been a lifelong fan of her books and in the past couple of years she is writing different and it is great.

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