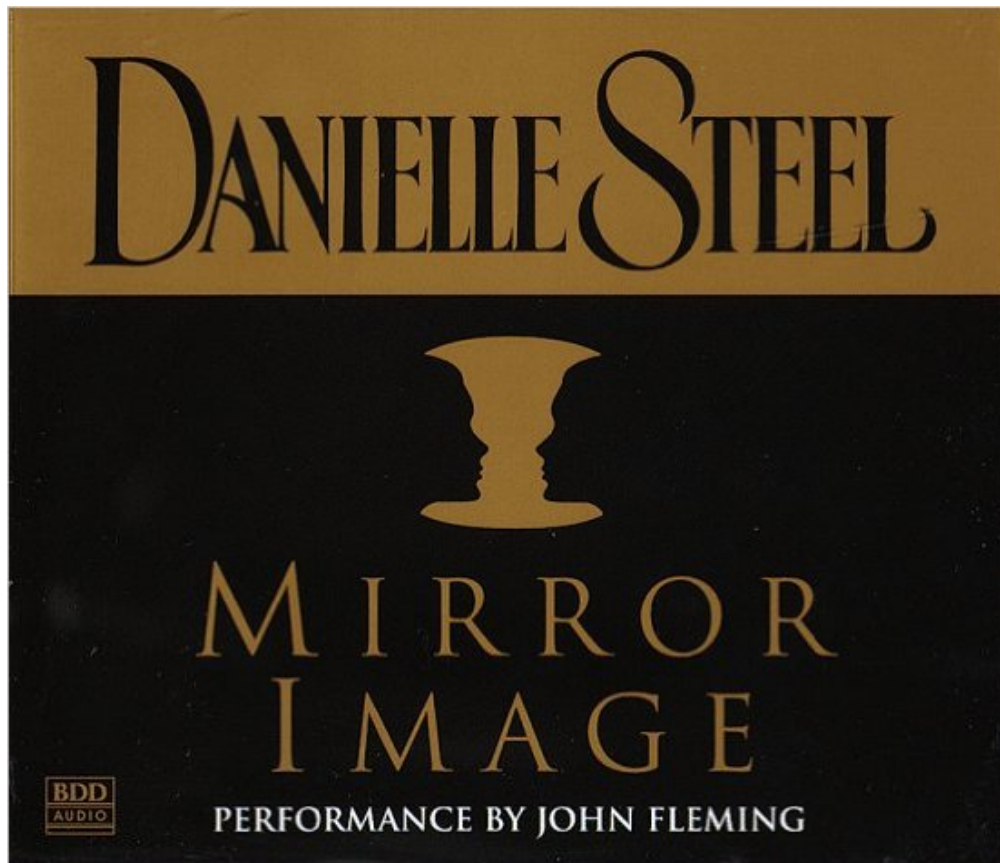


The book was found

Mirror Image (Danielle Steel)



Synopsis

To look at one was to see the other. For family, even the girls' own father, it was a constant guessing game. For strangers, the surprise was overwhelming. And for the twins Olivia and Victoria Henderson, two remarkable young women coming of age at the turn of the century, their bond was mysterious, marvelous, and often playful--a secret realm only they inhabited. Olivia and Victoria were the beloved daughters of a man who never fully recovered from his wife's death bearing them in 1893. Shy, serious Olivia, born eleven minutes before her sister, had taken over the role of mother in their lush New York estate, managing not only a household but her rebellious twin's flights of fancy. Free-spirited Victoria wanted to change the world. She embraced the women's suffrage movement and dreamed of sailing to war-torn Europe. Then, in the girls' twenty-first year, as the First World War escalated overseas, a fateful choice changed their lives forever. It began when Victoria's life was about to become a public scandal. It led to a painful decision, and brought handsome lawyer Charles Dawson into the Henderson's life and family. Hand-picked by the twins' father to save his daughter's reputation, Charles was still mourning his wife's death aboard the Titanic, struggling to raise his nine-year-old son alone, determined never to lose his heart again. Charles wanted to believe that for the sake of his son he could make an unwanted marriage work. But in an act of deception that only Olivia and Victoria could manage, the twins took an irrevocable step, which changed both their lives forever; and took one of the twins to the battlefields of France, the other into a marriage she longed for but could not have. From Manhattan society to the trenches of war-ravaged France, *Mirror Image* moves elegantly and dramatically through a rich and troubled era. With startling insight, Danielle Steel explores women's choices: between home and adventure, between the love for family and the passion for a cause, between sacrifice and desire. But at the heart of *Mirror Image* is a fascinating, realistic portrait of identical twins, two vastly different sisters who lead their lives and follow their destinies against a vivid backdrop of a world at war.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have only experienced three (going on 4) of Danielle Steel books. Any fan would know it's hard to choose a favorite... but "Mirror Image", I can say, left a smile on my face and a lasting impression. If you're big into family and the ties that bind siblings but you're also a hopeless romantic (like myself), then you'll simply LOVE this book. A thought provoking, heart-warming and heart-aching book, "Mirror Image" will teach you the power of love siblings can have for one another and the power of Love in general. If you have brothers or sisters... you can relate. If you have none... you'll learn the power... the eternal power... of the love siblings can share for one another as well as learn the healing power of Love. This was a breathtaking book... and well worth the read. Even the abridged version leaves an impression.

This book has a major flaw but I still loved it. Victoria and Olivia were identical twins who were very close and the book stated over and over again that the only people who could tell them apart were Bertie, the housekeeper, and Geoff, Charles' son. First, this is kinda insane. My first serious boyfriend had an identical twin and it is an amazing thing to see how 2 people are so physically alike. But after 2 minutes you can tell them apart, everyone could. I would not doubt which was which even in the dark. But let's say they were the exception to the rule. Once the twins switched what happened to Bertie and Geoff being able to tell them apart? Aside from this flaw I still loved the book. I was sad when it ended. That is a sign of a good book to me. I highly recommend Danielle Steele's *The Ring*, her best novel, to me. Also, *Message from Nam*, *The Promise & Ghost* are great books.

Mirror Image is the story of "mirror" twin sisters Olivia and Victoria. The two have been raised since birth by their father who cannot tell them apart. When they were children they would "switch identities" to do things the other twin didn't want to or couldn't do. They try to pull this off in adulthood after Victoria has an affair with a married man and then is forced to marry her father's

lawyer. To add some spice to the story Victoria's sister Olivia is very much attracted to Charles, the lawyer, and his young son Geoff. Geoff was on the Titanic with his mother when it sunk. She died and so now Charles is raising Geoff on his own. This is why he agrees to marry Victoria. The "switch" occurs after Victoria decides she cannot be married anymore and wants to go to Europe to help with the War. This story seems to be about a good twin and a bad twin. As sweet as Olivia is Victoria is just as bad. The story was OK but it seemed to take forever to set up everything. The switch doesn't take place until halfway through the book. After that things seem to move more quickly and the story becomes more entertaining. The characters are typical of those found in Danielle Steel novels. The whole "switching" storyline did seem to be a little far-fetched to me. How could a husband not know that someone else was pretending to be his wife?? In fact, no one seemed to notice that Olivia was standing in as Victoria. I just don't see how this could happen in real life. This was an OK read to pass the time. I have read much better Danielle Steel books. I would recommend *Malice*, *No Greater Love*, *The Ring*, or *Lightning* instead of this book.

The plot itself made me want to read this book. I found it intriguing how it revolved around a pair of beautiful twins who are identical only in appearance. The fact that Victoria had an affair with a married player causes her father to engage her to Charles. However, Olivia is obviously the one suited to him. She's the one who finds him respectful and whom adores his child. The new engagement is convenience only on both parts of the party. There is no love. Victoria marries to cover the scandal of the affair and Charles needs a mother for his child. Victoria eventually convinces Olivia to switch. She wants to go to the battlefields. Victoria sinks in a ship but later is discovered that she is actually alive. From that point on, both the twins find love. And voila, you got the plot. And yet, it was just so poorly written at times! (the first half anyway). There were many times where Danielle Steel kept talking about 1) how identical they looked 2) how beautiful they were 3) how Charles felt Victoria was more wild and feisty. 4) how ppl kept staring at their remarkable beauty. It just started getting corny after a while and I found myself rolling my eyes at times. I get the point after the first 5 times... I love Danielle Steel's books but this one isn't as good as some of her others. For another book with almost identical plot, I suggest reading 'Deceptions' by Judith Michael.

So many people on gave this book a bad rating, so when I picked this book up I was almost afraid to read it. But I am so glad I did. This book starts out only one year after the Titanic tragically sinks. We meet Olivia and Victoria Henderson, two strikingly beautiful mirror image twins. One could not tell one from the other. Olivia is the calm and surreen one where as Victoria is the wild feminist.

After a visit to New York, Victoria disgraces her good name. Her father becomes so horribly enraged and forces her to marry a man she didn't love. A man meant for her sister Olivia. His wife had died on the Titanis and he was left taking care of his little boy. This book will take you to New York all the way to war ravaged France. You will laugh and cry and look at life in a whole new beautiful day. This novel will make you love yourself and love the simple blessings you are granted. Don't let yourself pass this book up. Embrace it and love it like a beautiful child. Let the words speak to your heart and soul. And along the way LEARN! You will love this book.

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