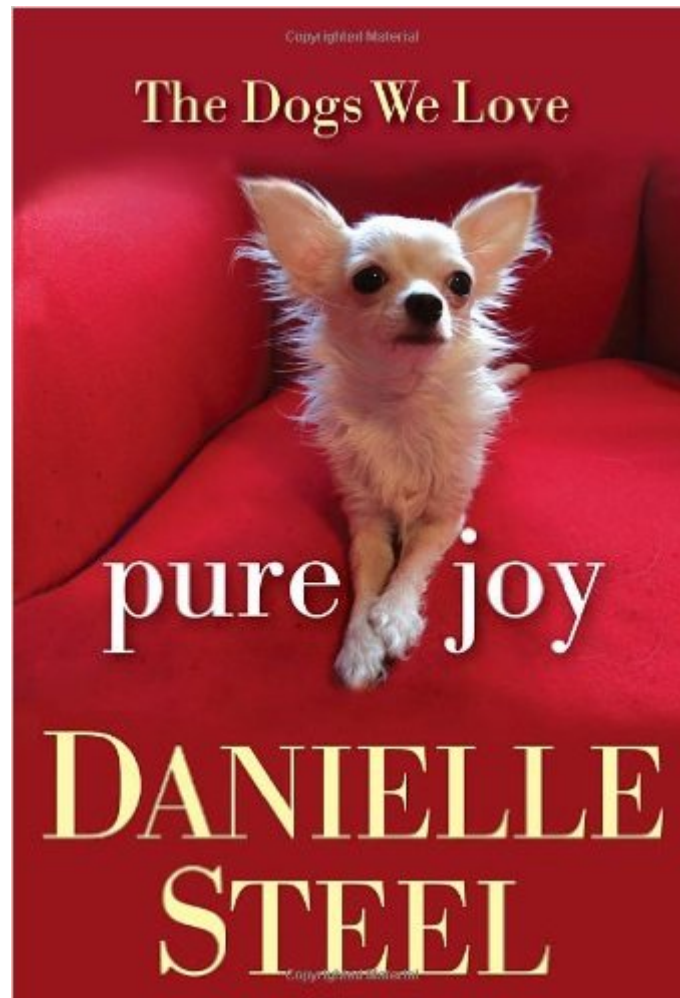


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# Pure Joy: The Dogs We Love



## Synopsis

**NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER**In this moving memoir, Danielle Steel tells the story of how she met a dog the size of a mouse with a personality that could light up an entire room. From Minnie's arrival at home in San Francisco to clothes-shopping jaunts in Paris, her adventures provide the perfect backdrop for a heartfelt look at the magic that dogs bring to our lives, and how they become part of the family, making indelible memories. We meet Steel's childhood pug, James; and Elmer, the basset hound who was steadfastly at her side in her struggling days as a young writer; Sweet Pea—unveiled in a Tiffany box for a dog-loving husband—and all those lucky dogs who shared a household of nine children, other canines, and one potbellied pig. As she reflects on the beloved pets who have brought joy, and sometimes chaos, to her home through the years, Steel also shares her thoughts on the trials and tribulations of bringing a new dog into a household, the challenges of housebreaking and compatibility, the losses we feel forever. Filled with colorful characters (human and otherwise), delightful photographs, practical wisdom drawn from long experience, and brimming with warmth and insight on every page, *Pure Joy* is a love letter to this special relationship—and one of the most charming books yet from the incomparable Danielle Steel. Praise for *Pure Joy* • "The mega-selling [Danielle Steel] shares happy memories of her numerous dogs. . . . Steel brings readers into her life, recounting delightful moments with her many dogs, the dogs her children have owned, and her newest friend, Minnie, her tiny Chihuahua. . . . Plainly told with honesty and affection, these stories are an affirmation of the timeless connection between humans and their canine companions." • "Kirkus Reviews • Steel doesn't just love to write blockbusters; she loves dogs. Here's her valentine to all the dogs she's raised (looking to be mostly of the small sort), with lots of black-and-white photos throughout. A heady commercial combo." • "Library Journal

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Danielle Steel delivers a heartwarming, inspiring story about all the dogs in her life. She speaks with compassion and happiness that tugs at the heart, reminding me so much of the love I also have for dogs. As I read on about her delightful dog stories she shares with the reader, I was relating to so many things she said that rings the truth. I agree with her belief of how dogs can fill in the void of loneliness and solitude, as I observe how much happiness my daughter has been given from her dog. She is a Special Needs, and 'Valentine' plays a big part in her life, for happiness and therapy. It was the best gift I could have ever given her and not a day goes by, where she doesn't share another funny story about Valentine, that warms my heart to see the joy on her face. Danielle Steel reminds us all about an imperfect world, filled with heartbreak, and disappointments. She discusses the 'empty nest syndrome' and how lonely it can be for people of all ages. The author also reminds us of how good a dog can make you feel about life, how the companionship of a dog compensates for many who live in isolation, and how much of a gift a dog can be as it continues to love. In addition, Danielle Steel shares her stories about all the dogs she gave to friends and family, that proved to be a rewarding experience in her chapter titled, "The gift That Keeps On Giving." There are also precious photos of the dogs she has owned, including her pride and joy, Minnie Mouse. Chiquita was her first Chihuahua, and Minnie Mouse is the object of her affections. Minnie is her most lovable dog, who warms her heart, and makes her laugh. She had Chiquita, until age sixteen. The author also shares her funny, family dog stories, and touching stories of loss.

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