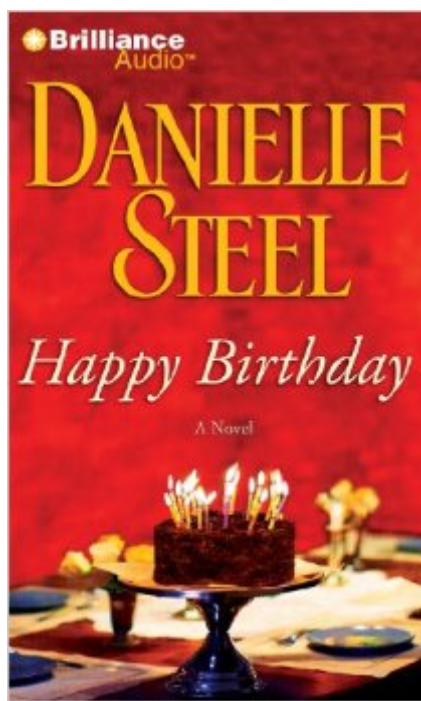


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# Happy Birthday



## Synopsis

Valerie Wyatt is the queen of gracious living and the arbiter of taste with a successful TV show. Since her long-ago divorce, she's worked hard to reach the pinnacle of her profession and to create a camera-ready life in her Fifth Avenue penthouse. So why is she so depressed? All the hours with her personal trainer, the careful work of New York's best hairdressers, cosmetic surgeons, and her own God-given bone structure and great looks can't fudge the truth or her lies about it: Valerie is turning sixty. Valerie's daughter, April, has no love life, no rest, and no prospect of that changing in the foreseeable future. Her popular one-of-a-kind restaurant in downtown New York, where she is chef and owner, consumes every ounce of her attention and energy. Ready or not, though, April's life is about to change, in a tumultuous transformation that begins the morning it hits her: She's thirty. And what does she have to show for it? A restaurant, no man, no kids. Jack Adams once threw a football like a guided missile. Twelve years after retiring from the NFL, he is the most charismatic sports analyst on TV, a man who has his pick of the most desirable twentysomething women. But after a particularly memorable Halloween party, Jack wakes up on his fiftieth birthday, his back thrown out of whack, feeling every year his age. A terrifying act of violence, an out-of-the-blue blessing, and two extremely unlikely love affairs soon turn lives inside out and upside down. In a novel brimming with warmth and insight, beginning on one birthday and ending on another, Valerie, April, and Jack discover that life itself can be a celebration • and that its greatest gifts are always a surprise.

## Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Brilliance Audio; Abridged edition (July 24, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1423320972

ISBN-13: 978-1423320975

Product Dimensions: 5 x 1.4 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars • See all reviews (417 customer reviews)

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Authors, A-Z > ( S ) > Steel, Danielle #755 in Books > Books on CD > Romance #3924

in Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > General

## Customer Reviews

When Valerie Wyatt's 60th birthday rolls around, there's no reason to celebrate as far as she can see. In spite of the fact that she looks closer to 40 than 60, is the much-loved television queen of home entertaining, and has an empire that includes glossy books, furniture, fabrics and gourmet food, she finds it hard to enjoy her success on this dreadful day. Especially once an intrepid reporter unearths her true age and announces it on a particularly popular radio show for everyone to hear."Danielle Steel takes three birthdays that fall on the same day, all of them uninspiring to the birthday girl or boy, and turns them into the start of something life-altering."April Wyatt, Valerie's daughter who happens to share her birthday, feels much as her mother does as she passes a mile marker that makes her take stock of her life. While 30 isn't exactly ancient, marriage and children have eluded April up to this point. Like her mother, professional success resulting from hard work and dedication are her entire world. Her restaurant that features exquisitely tasty home-cooked cuisine consumes every aspect of her days at the cost of a personal life. Jack Adams, former NFL superstar and four-time Super Bowl winner, is also celebrating a birthday --- his 50th. What should be a cause for celebration turns into a case of recrimination for this Hall of Famer after he suffers an excruciatingly painful herniated disk in the midst of a night of wild abandon with a much younger woman. Feeling like a has-been, Jack isn't exactly ready for cake and confetti himself. In spite of themselves, however, these three birthday mates will soon realize that their best days are definitely not behind them.

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