





Design icon Lee Radziwill in her Paris apartment (Apr/May 2009).

7. Buy Antique (Houses)

"It always strikes (and delights) me how much decorating is like writing. You take a blank, empty space (or house or room or page) and create an entire universe in it—a story, a history, a look, a feel, a mood. You fill it with beautiful things you love, you design it just the way you want. You breathe life into it, and it comes alive; it has a soul either by the time you decorate it or create it in a book, and it becomes real. I love designing and decorating. So far I've only decorated 19th-century (and turn-of-the-century) houses, and never a modern one. I love the challenge, charm, and legends of old houses, the aura of the people who once lived there, whether in a book or a home." —Danielle Steel

Steel is the best-selling author of 162 books, including her latest novel, The Dark Side.

2001

In the wake of 9/11, a renewed interest in

2002

New York City's billionaire mayor, Michael Bloomberg, hires Jamie Drake to renovate Gracie Mansion but never moves in.

Everyone covets Diane Keaton's all-white kitchen in Something's Gotta Give.