



## The Sunflower

By Richard Paul Evans



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In the wake of personal tragedy, two people meet on a humanitarian mission in Peru. Christine is a shy, unadventurous woman whose fiancé broke off the engagement only a week before the wedding, and Paul is a former emergency room doctor whose glamorous lifestyle, stellar reputation, and beautiful fiancée are cruelly snatched from him one fateful, snowy Christmas Eve. Deep in the Amazon jungle, against a backdrop of poverty and heartbreak, they must confront their deepest fears and, together, learn to trust and love again.



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#### The Sunflower By Richard Paul Evans Bibliography

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#### **Editorial Review**

#### From Publishers Weekly

Author of the smash *The Christmas Box* and spinoffs, Evans delivers an entertaining albeit syrupy picking-up-the-pieces romance. Heartbroken and bereft when her fiancé backs out a week before the wedding, Christine Hollister allows herself to be talked into a volunteer work trip to Peru by best friend Jessica so that the pair can work together in an orphanage called the Sunflower. There she meets Paul Cook, the handsome but damaged former ER doc who left the U.S. after being blamed for a series of tragic Christmas deaths on the ward. The budding romance between Paul and Christine is totally predictable (including the awkwardness of their initial meetings). Evans adds a nice dramatic touch when Jessica's newfound boyfriend is seriously hurt while guiding a group of orphanage workers through the mountains near Machu Picchu, and he has a nice feel for framing devices, dialogue and scene-pacing. Evans also puts the jungle setting to good use during the couple's "dates." Although the various references to Christmas feel gratuitous, and a sudden appearance by jilter Martin doesn't do much to make the ending harder to anticipate, the finish nonetheless remains satisfying. (*Oct.*)

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#### From Booklist

Evans, author of *The Christmas Box* (1994) and *Perfect Day* (2003), returns with a heartwarming tale about two people who have to pick up the pieces after their lives derail in unexpected ways. Paul Cook is a successful ER doctor, but one night he loses two patients in one evening *and* his taste for medicine. Dental hygienist Christine Hollister is preparing for her wedding when her supposedly perfect fiance, Martin, tells her a week before the big day that he can't go through with it. Heartbroken, Christine allows her best friend, Jessica, to talk her into a group trip to Peru for charity work. Christine reluctantly agrees, and once there she tries to distract herself with her work. But when her wallet is snatched and the culprit caught by handsome Paul, Christine becomes enamored of the mysterious stranger. She begins spending time with Paul at the orphanage he runs, and as they grow closer, both begin to wonder what kind of future they'll be able to have together once her trip ends. Sweet and uplifting, Evans'new tale is as enjoyable as his previous ones. *Kristine Huntley* 

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#### About the Author

Richard Paul Evans is the #1 bestselling author of *The Christmas Box*. Each of his more than thirty novels has been a *New York Times* bestseller. There are more than thirty million copies of his books in print worldwide, translated into more than twenty-four languages. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the American Mothers Book Award, the *Romantic Times* Best Women's Novel of the Year Award, the German Audience Gold Award for Romance, two Religion Communicators Council Wilbur Awards, the *Washington Times* Humanitarian of the Century Award and the Volunteers of America National Empathy Award. He lives in Salt Lake City, Utah, with his wife, Keri, and their five children. You can learn more about Richard on Facebook at Facebook.com/RPEFans, or visit his website, RichardPaulEvans.com.

#### **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

#### **Sybil Moore:**

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#### **Anna Raynor:**

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