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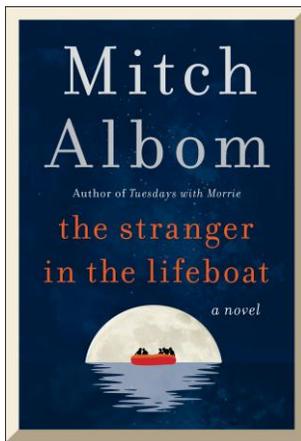
NEWS

Pure Publicity 615-595-8466

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THE STRANGER IN THE LIFEBOAT

A Novel
By Mitch Albom



New York Times bestselling author Mitch Albom has a genius for finding the sweet spot where the spiritual and the earthly collide in our lives. In such beloved books as *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*, *The Next Person You Meet in Heaven*, and *The First Phone Call from Heaven*, this “writer with soul” (*Los Angeles Times*) has taken reader to the celestial realm to seek meaning in our corporal existence.

Now, in his captivating and thought-provoking new novel, **THE STRANGER IN THE LIFEBOAT** (Harper), Albom explores the essence of God on earth through a riveting story that is equal parts mystery and parable.

An explosion on a billionaire’s yacht during a gathering of some of the world’s most influential and innovative movers and shakers leaves ten disparate souls struggling to survive in a life raft. One of them writes an account of the grueling ordeal to his beloved, and those pages are later found, washed up on an island shore on the opposite side of the Atlantic. It falls to a decidedly secular and cynical police inspector to investigate what actually happened on that raft, where it seems one man, pulled from the angry sea by the others three days after the disaster, claimed to be the Lord.

The beguiling narrative alternates between sea and land, between before and after—and between skepticism and belief—as Albom keeps readers guessing about the verity of the survivor’s testament and the circumstances that brought these souls together. What really happened to cause the explosion? Will the men and women on the boat survive—or are they already en route to heaven or hell? Is the mysterious man really who he claims to be?

Mitch Albom has repeatedly challenged our understanding of faith and the necessity of seeking answers where we least expect them. His books have sold more than 45 million copies worldwide. *Tuesdays with Morrie* is the best-selling memoir of all time, with over 17 million copies sold internationally, and was adapted for the stage and as a television movie which garnered four Emmy Awards. *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* has sold nearly 10 million copies and also became an acclaimed television film. With **THE STRANGER IN THE LIFEBOAT**, this master storyteller offers a fresh take on themes that have defined his estimable work.

Mitch Albom is a best-selling author, screenwriter, playwright and nationally-syndicated columnist. The author of five consecutive #1 New York Times bestsellers, his books have collectively sold more than 33 million copies in forty-two languages worldwide. He has founded six charities in and around Detroit, including the first ever 24-hour medical clinic for homeless children in America, and also operates an orphanage in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti. Albom lives with his wife, Janine, in metropolitan Detroit.

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