



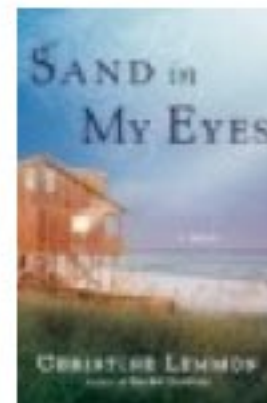
## Sand in My Eyes

WRITTEN ON JULY 21, 2010 BY [JENNIFER \(5 MINUTES FOR BOOKS\)](#)

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Do you have an older wiser mentor who can encourage you in matters of motherhood and marriage? If not, do you wish you did?

Anna is a struggling, harried mom of three kids under the age of 5. She and her husband have disconnected from each other, and she feels like she just can't get it all together. She's recently quit her job in New York City, and they've moved to Sanibel Island, Florida, in hopes of slowing down.



Just when she thinks that she truly is going to lose it, the old woman next door, Fedelina, manages to work her way into Anna's life with a gift of an orchid that needs TLC. This orchid, and Fedelina's instructions about how to make sure it gets what it needs so that it will bloom, causes Anna to evaluate how much attention she's paying to her own needs in the midst of this trying season of life.

In addition to the encouragement that Fedelina gives her, Anna gleans wisdom from notes and letters that Fedelina shares with her that her own mother wrote to her back in the early 1900's.

It's a reminder that although so much has changed in the last 100 years, the bond of a woman to her children is the same. The worries and concerns and things that confuse a woman's priorities may be different, but the feeling is universal.

This story is told in a unique way alternating between excerpts of Anna's novel-in-progress, letters, conversations, and real-time events. I loved the way the story came together, and I don't want to even hint at the surprise in the plot that could only be realized with the narrative unfolding in this way.

Christine Lemmon's [Sand in My Eyes](#) is a clean read that will resonate whether you have someone like Fedelina in your life or not. There's no doubt that you will appreciate and enjoy her wisdom, and no doubt you will relate to some of Anna's story.

We have a **great giveaway** for one of you (U.S. and Canadian shipping addresses only):

**A beach bag of summer books including [Sand in my Eyes](#) and [Sanibel Scribbles](#) by Christine Lemmon, [The Opposite of Me](#) by Sarah Pekkanen, [The One That I Want](#) by Allison Winn Scotch, [Georgia's Kitchen](#) by Jenny Nelson, [The Icing on the Cupcake](#) by Jennifer Ross**

Leave a comment if you'd like to win, and we'll announce the winner in our giveaway post on August 4. **THIS GIVEAWAY IS CLOSED.**

The winner of the novel [Free to a Good Home](#) is #25 Steph

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