

Globally Acclaimed Author Paulo Coelho Donates Three Digital Books in Spanish, Portuguese, French, and English to Nonprofit Worldreader

Titles Include “Christmas Stories,” “Stories for Parents, Children and Grandchildren,” and “The Supreme Gift,” Available for free to Readers in Africa on Mobile Phones and E-readers

San Francisco, CA – November 10th, 2015 - Worldreader, a global nonprofit dedicated to improving literacy in the developing world through access to digital books, today announces the addition of three extraordinary titles to its digital library from acclaimed Brazilian author, Paulo Coelho, whose books have sold more than 195 million copies worldwide, have been released in 170 countries, and translated into 80 languages. These best-selling titles have been donated to Worldreader’s digital library for young readers using e-readers in schools and libraries in sub-Saharan Africa, and for readers on mobile phones everywhere in Africa.

The titles donated are *The Supreme Gift*, an adaptation of Henry Drummond’s famous sermon on love written to appeal to all faiths; *Christmas Stories* a collection of ten Christmas tales accompanied by Paulo’s ruminations on a life well lived; and *Stories for Parents, Children, and Grandchildren*, a collection of timeless and magical tales from around the world retold by Paulo and illustrated by his wife, Christina Oiticica.

“The power of digital technology to enable access to books and ultimately improve people’s lives is undeniable,” says Paulo Coelho. “This is precisely why we are donating titles to Worldreader. We’re thrilled that millions of readers in Africa can now enjoy timeless tales for free and at the click of a button.”

Worldreader currently works with over 250 authors from around the world including Stan Lee, Tad Hills, Nnedi Okorafor, and publishers including Penguin Random House, Simon & Schuster and Longhorn Publishers (Kenya).

“We are honored to share three of Paulo Coelho’s best-selling titles with our readers in Africa,” says David Risher, Worldreader’s Co-Founder and CEO. “His writing is light-hearted, but it asks us to grapple with life’s biggest question: Who am I? The stories have already resonated with millions; we’re thrilled to be able to introduce them now to readers throughout Africa.”

About Worldreader

Worldreader is a global nonprofit bringing digital books children and their families, empowering them to read, think, and grow in order to improve their lives and their world. In its first five years, Worldreader has reached 5.6 million readers in 69 countries with a digital library of 28,500 local and international e-books via e-readers and mobile phones, and plans to reach 15 million readers by 2018. To read free books on your mobile phone, visit read.worldreader.org. For more information on Worldreader, visit www.worldreader.org.

About Paulo Coelho

Paulo Coelho is considered one of the most influential authors of our times. His books have sold more than 195 million copies worldwide; have been released in 170 countries and translated into 80 languages. Born in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in 1947, Paulo Coelho is the author of some of the most read titles of our time, such as *The Pilgrimage* or *The Alchemist*, the book that made him internationally famous. Paulo Coelho has written many other books which have touched the hearts of people around the world, among them *Brida*, *Veronika Decides to Die*, *Eleven Minutes*, *Aleph* and *Adultery*. He has received numerous prestigious international awards. He is member of the Academy of Letters of Brazil since 2002 and a Messenger of Peace by the United Nations since 2007. In 2009 he received the 2009 Guinness World Record for the most translated Author for *The Alchemist*. Also, he is the writer with the highest number of followers on social media. To learn more about Paulo Coelho, visit his blog: <http://paulocoelhoblog.com/>.

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