



Sunday's Child

Tom Lewis

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Born to a white prostitute and a black prizefighting drifter. Raised on an island by tough, courageous men. Controlled by no one but herself.... SUNDAY'S CHILD. Sunday Everette has a childhood unlike any other in the 'Jim Crow' era of the South, growing up at the Pea Island Life-Saving Station among the barren dunes of North Carolina's stormy Outer Banks. In sheltered isolation, guided solely by the influence of the Station's heroic all-black crewmen, she blossoms into a strong and beautiful young woman with a spirit to match. But Sunday's secluded paradise cannot last. Her calm, simple days by the sea must inevitably give way to the fast-approaching storms of life. Unexpectedly, those darkening skies bring with them an unlikely mix of forbidden love, murder, and revenge--along with a Nazi submarine carrying millions of dollars in gold stolen from Hitler's Third Reich. First in a trilogy, SUNDAY'S CHILD begins the saga of three unique families from across the world, flung fatally together by three of mankind's most basic traits: war, love, and greed.

Sunday's Child Details

Date : Published April 28th 2006 by VP Publishing (first published 2006)

ISBN : 9780970579317

Author : Tom Lewis

Format : Paperback 304 pages

Genre : Fiction, Historical, Historical Fiction, War, World War II

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Karen says

This book didn't do much for me. I thought the premise was worth a read: A girl named Sunday grows up the only child/girl at the Pea Island Life-Saving Station in the Outer Banks, NC. We had visited a similar station in Michigan two summers ago, and I learned a lot about what these crews did in the past. So I suppose that also drew me to this book. However, the station and its activities were really no part of the story. I would have thought there'd be at least one life-saving event! And the book moved so quickly -- Sunday is dropped off as an infant, then the next page she's 5, then the next page she's 13, her first love gets just a few pages, etc. I felt like I needed more from the story throughout the whole book. This is the first book in a trilogy, but I didn't enjoy this enough to go keep going with the next books.

Chris Beck says

I learned that there were prisoner of war camps in North Carolina during WWII. It was interesting to be exposed to the various herbs used for treatment. The lard for burns and the spiritual practice for healing was intriguing. She recommended vanilla extract as a bug repellent. I wish I could have some of her sassafrass tea. I didn't know that there were so many sunken ships & subs along the shoreline. The relationships were believable. The issues between Sunday and her dad, the rescue crew, the healers, the CCC camp members and the captain from the sub stimulated thought. It is a trilogy and I wanted to learn more about Hitler's right hand man Bohrmann so I ordered the next book.

Andee says

An interesting read centering around the life and adventures of an interracial girl raised by the crew of an all black Life-Saving Station on the coast of N. Carolina... yet it is about so much more than just this. It is about the struggles of blacks and mixed race people, it is about self pride, WW2, racial bias, forgiveness, compassion, and an inner determination to not only survive but also to be proudly and fiercely independent. Filled with characters you can care about, a tad rough in spots but over all... it's one of those books you can curl up with in a comfy chair and never notice time rushing by.

Jeanne Julian says

What I liked: that the author is a local guy, who knows the nautical setting on North Carolina's Outer Banks, and its fascinating history. That the hero is a spunky young African American woman. What I didn't like: that she is super-human. There are some situations that really put a strain on my credulity. In that way, it's a sort of old school Gothic Romance, sort of like Young Adult fiction with "adult themes," as they say. I think people in my book group liked it much more than I did. That'll be interesting to see, since we haven't discussed it yet. I regret saying I wouldn't recommend it (though the local librarian said, "You're in for a treat") because I wish the author well. This is the first book in a trilogy.

A. says

I didn't feel this book was particularly well written, but the plot did keep me interested. I picked it up because of its setting on the Outer Banks where I vacation with my husband's family and because it was historical fiction. The story about a young girl growing up on the remote Pea Island with a collection of fathers but no mother to raise her is just the beginning of Sunday's many adventures in life. There is a sequel to this book, but I don't know much about it yet. I read this on the Kindle- I think it was a free download.

Debra Slonek says

Sunday Everette, of course, had a set of parents who began her life. She was conceived by a white prostitute and a traveling, black cook who had unknowingly fathered several other children. Sunday was raised and strongly influenced to live an abundant life by the exceptional Pea Island Life-Station crew, all men and all black. Pea Island is a barrier island along the North Carolina coast. This work of historical fiction took place during World War II. I am now aware of the strong German, military presence along the U.S. Atlantic coast and how they were responsible for the loss of many lives and many shipwrecks. An unlikely and yet, very believable and fulfilling romance develops. Even though Sunday lived through and experienced many hardships and sufferings, her struggles never festered into bitterness. An engaging story about an exceptional young woman, who continually chose to live her life abundantly, no matter what obstacles were placed in her path.

Luckngrace says

A story about the outer banks of my home state of North Carolina, Tom Lewis gives us an entertaining read. I enjoyed the history lessons concerning the islands of NC, the crew of black life-savers who patrolled the beaches, U-boat intrusions throughout the Outer Banks, folk medicines and sailing/fishing off the coast.

I liked Sunday Elliott and intend to read the other two books in the trilogy soon. As a Tar Heel myself, I especially enjoyed reading about my home state in the 1930's and 1940's. Descriptions were good, but not too overpowering. I read it quickly and enthusiastically and particularly enjoyed learning that Mr. Lewis spent his entire working life traveling with an orchestra; then, upon retirement, began to write. How cool is that!??!

laurenpie says

Enough already! Back off and give us a more believeable heroine!

Appreciated the first third of the book, but the main character becomes more and more unbelievable after that. Why not just stick with one thing? Why does Sunday (the heroine) have to be the world's greatest expert at everything under the sun? And, worst of all, why would this incredible fantastic blessed best-ever super-girl think it's okay to harbor an enemy soldier? Give me a break!

I did enjoy meeting Captain Benjamin Searcy and the men of the Pea Island Life-Saving Station, those sections were interesting and heartening.

Susan Poling says

It's about Pea Island on the OBX around the time of WWII. At that time Pea Island was used as an outpost for a Life Saving Station. Since it "cameout" of Manteo, thepostmen were all african american. When the illegitimate daughter of the cook is thrust into their lives the baby girl, named Sunday, becomes their daughter. Growing up with a bunch of men is quite an experience for Sunday. She develops skills foriegn to most women of her era. Eventually she becomes a "healer" for people on the neighboring islands using the herbs et.al. as she learned from the previous woman in that position. She also starts her own commercial fishing business and become quite successful.

Sound boring, well that's only because I don't want to give anything away, It is so good that I have embarked on the second in this trilogy.

Tara Chevrestt says

Once upon a time, there was the United States Coast Guard and there was Life Saving Stations. In 1915, the two parties combined. One of those Life Saving Stations was manned by an all African American crew. Those guys went above and beyond the call of duty. The location was Pea Island. (North Carolina) This book is not specifically about any of those guys in particular, but loosely based on the circumstances. It is about an all African American crew and one girl, raised by the seven men.

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