

Brazil's Best-Selling Paulo Coelho Posts Novels on Web for Free

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Publishing House HarperCollins has declared 2008 the year of Brazilian best-selling novelist Paulo Coelho. To celebrate the year-long event, the company is featuring Coelho's novels in its Browse Inside Full Access program.

Each month a different novel will be posted and readers will be able to enjoy it online for free by visiting the Harpercollins website.

Right now the New York Times bestseller *The Alchemist*, which just celebrated 20 years of its release in Portuguese, is the offering. And as a bonus, readers can also have a sneak peek of an excerpt from *Brida*, a novel by Coelho that has never before been published in English. *Brida* will only be available in stores on June 24.

The Alchemist is a simple tale of a young Spanish shepherd boy seeking a treasure in the pyramids of Egypt. Along the way, he learns to follow his dreams, listen to his heart, live in the present, and risk everything he has to pursue his destiny.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the book Harvey Weinstein has just announced that he intends to produce a film based on *The Alchemist* with Laurence Fishburne slated to direct and star. Production is set to begin in late Spring 2009.

Brida is a story of love, passion, mystery, and spirituality. Coelho wrote *Brida* right after *The Alchemist*, and it launched his career as an international novelist. It has never been published in English - until now.

With sales of over 85 million copies worldwide, Paulo Coelho's books have been translated into 63 languages and published in 150 countries.

The Brazilian author is the recipient of numerous prestigious international awards and was inducted into the Brazilian Academy of Letters in 2002. Mr. Coelho also writes throughout the world a syndicate weekly column.

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