

New Australian Author Book Release

a LILY in the Valley

ANNIE CHANDLER-CUMMINGS

LILY HAS A BIG SURPRISE FOR ROSE, POPPY AND DAISY, AND IT WILL CHANGE THEIR LIVES IN UNEXPECTED WAYS...

Lily was widowed while pregnant with her daughter, Rose; her husband having been killed during active service in the Vietnam War. She never really engaged the thought of remarrying, filling her time building up her baking business from home, which supplied the local supermarket and cafes.

At her 70th birthday celebration, Lily delivered a big surprise to Rose, and her two granddaughters, Poppy and Daisy, that would change their lives in unexpected ways...

At the party, Lily also met Malcolm Vale, a dapper, widowed Englishman, who had also moved into the Retirement Village where her best friend, Ellen, had bought a unit. Lily enjoyed his flirtation at the many social gatherings they encountered one another and loved his wit and humour. However, Malcolm's very demanding daughters disliked Lily, believing she wasn't of their expected social standing.

Would their friendship and budding romance be strong enough to withstand the interference of those who disagreed with their union? Or would Lily and Malcolm find new love again when they least expected it to happen?

Visit shawlinepublishing.com.au for more details on the author, Annie Chandler-Cummings.

Price available on our site

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Audience: General

Location: Ridgewood WA

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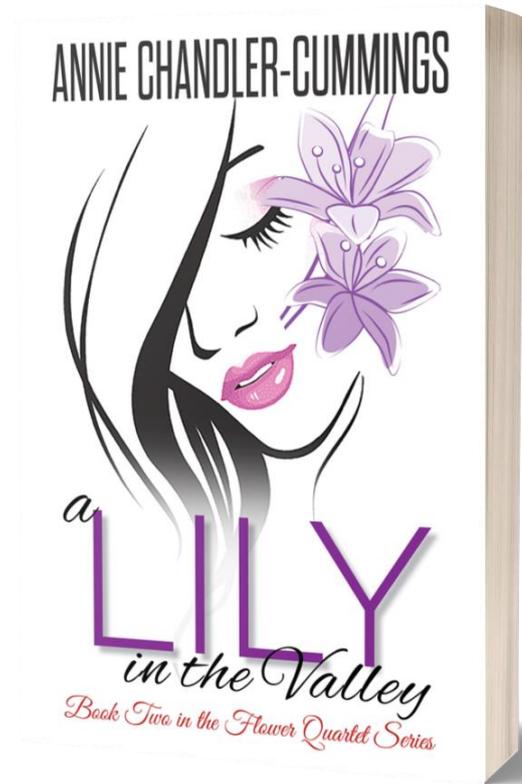
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Also in *The Flower Quartet Series*

a **DAISY** *in the field*

ANNIE CHANDLER-CUMMINGS

DAISY IS LIVING HER DREAM, LITERALLY.

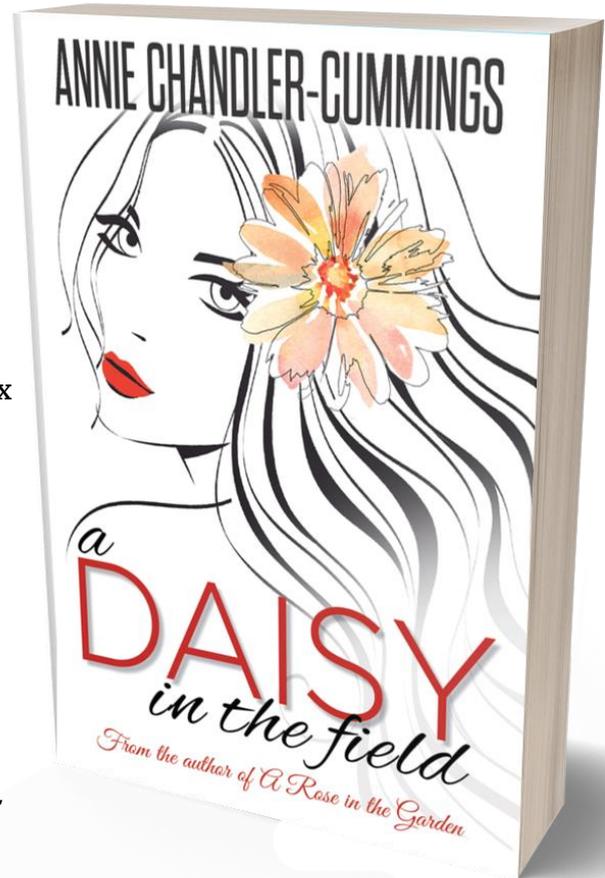
Her established garden centre, Daisy's Dream, is very popular and she has a scholarship to study Horticulture through the university, and she has the love of a very special man, Kyle. They have been in love since they were childhood sweethearts.

So, what could possibly go wrong?

Kyle is seconded to the Army and required to spend six months overseas. However, he suffers an injury on patrol and while healing alone, he begins to re-evaluate what is important, including his relationship with Daisy.

As Daisy studies back home, she finds that a dashing professor is keen to help her further with her studies and is confused by her emotions and loyalties in her life.

Is love stronger than war for Daisy and Kyle? Or is this a fork in the road for these lovers to pursue their individual desires?



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New Australian Author Book Release

a ROSE in the garden

ANNIE CHANDLER-CUMMINGS

WOULD ROSE FORFEIT A NEW LOVE FOR SOMETHING THAT MAY NOT EVEN EXIST...

OR DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR HER A CHANCE AT TRUE HAPPINESS...?

Just when Rose is accepting romance into her life again, someone from her past arrives to turn her world upside down.

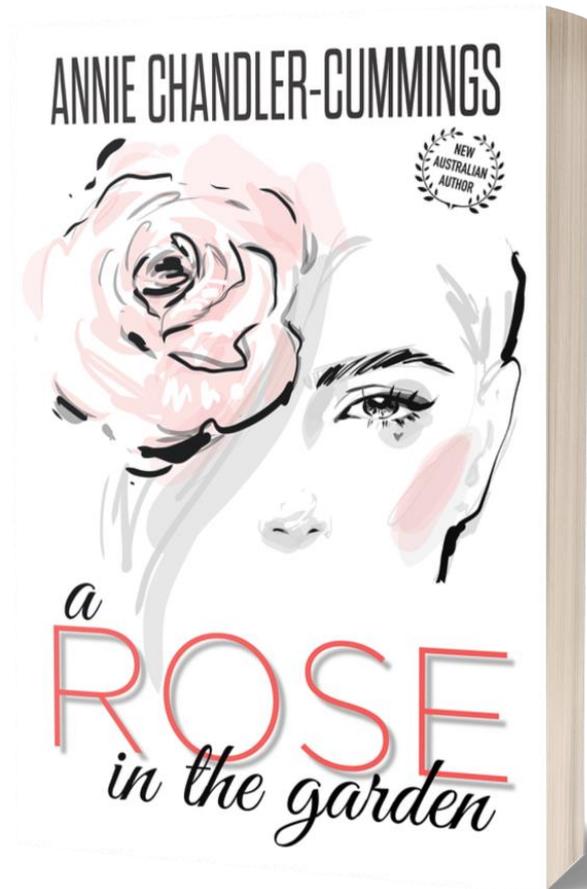
Rose, a young widow, is given a cruise by her family for her 50th birthday and on which she is accompanied by her friend, Linda. One night, over dinner, Rose and Linda meet the cruise ship captain's father, Leon Gardner. Linda and Rose 'adopt' Leon, often taking him on their excursions and dine with him each evening for enjoyable conversation and laughter.

Richard Gardner, the captain, upon being introduced to Rose becomes quite smitten. As he walks the decks one night, he saves Rose from falling into the pool...and from then on, they see each other often...

Yet, Rose also has feelings for another male passenger on the ship, Abe Shah, who she also believes holds a connection to her late husband, and he may even be her late husband...

For Captain Richard Gardner, a divorcee, his feelings for Rose may become complicated as his daughter, Dayna is very protective of both her father and her autistic son, and becomes jealous of the relationship Rose has with both of them, especially as Rose is adapt at talking with special needs children from her work in schools years earlier...

This is the third book of a quartet. The quartet is about four women spanning three generations of one family.



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A Conversation with Annie

When did you write your first book and how old were you?

First book that I completed? At sixty years young. It is this book, A Daisy in the Field. I had written the outline for a trilogy years ago and it was going to be about three sisters: Daisy, Poppy and Rose. I changed it to a quartet: Daisy, Lily, Rose and Poppy – four women over three generations in one family.

Why did you write ‘A Daisy in the Field’ and the other stories in the Flower Quartet? What were your inspirations?

I had an idea for a few years and had started to write down information about the characters: three sisters- Daisy, Poppy and Rose. As I said above, I changed it. I decided to write about Daisy first, even though she is the youngest; the second daughter of Rose, granddaughter of Lily.

Once again, a sentence just popped into my mind: Daisy was living her dream... literally. And it went from there. I wrote a synopsis, then went on the plan out the other three books and how they would all come together (catching the wedding bouquet at each wedding). I also wanted a common thread to run through the stories- men in uniform, both armed forces and police, and the dangers faced and how it affected the relationship.

I saw Daisy and Kyle as being childhood sweethearts but then coming to a crossroad in their relationship when something happened that had the potential to affect their futures. I looked at the different ways men and women, generally, deal with such a situation and how it impacts a relationship.

I wanted to take the readers on a journey through a lot of different emotions, let them feel what the two main characters were feeling and why they made their decisions. And I wanted the readers to empathise with them, or at least understand why they did what they did at that time.

And, more than anything else, I wanted to entertain the readers. To let them be lost in another world, far away from their own problems for a while.

Where do you get your information or ideas for your books?

They just happen. Sometimes it will be when I am doing something and an idea pops into my head. An example: a few months ago, I was at the lights, waiting to cross the road (walking). I thought: “Why him? Why her? Why on that street corner?” I’ve wrote that down as soon as I could and am working on the outline to a story at this present time.

Do you hear from your readers much? What kinds of things do they say?

Yes, I do. And, overall, they are very complimentary. Some have offered suggestions for other books, storylines. Others have said how they would have liked the story to end, or what they would have liked added. Some reviews for ‘A Daisy in the Field’: “I’ve fallen in love with this family and can’t wait for the other three books in the Flower Quartet.” (Beth J 30 yrs old) and “Love the romance and ‘those’ scenes... hot! But it’s more than just that; there is a real story, and my emotions were all over the place. I loved it and wanted more.” (RC 60+years)

How did you decide on the best characters for ‘A Daisy in the Field’?

The characters wrote themselves and developed as the story did. Sometimes, I went back and rewrote passages to include something more, to give the reader another clue on who the characters were and what they felt. I drew on aspects from people I know, have known. Each character is not just one person from my life, but a delightful mixture of many. Sometimes they are who I would have liked to have been. I wish I was more like Daisy.

How did you create or model your characters to fit the requirements of the story and the expectations of the readers?

Teaching special needs children, I learned that you fit your teaching style to suit the child and not the other way around. With my writing I do the same. I let the character develop as the story progresses. Sometimes I am as surprised as the reader with what happens in a chapter or with what a character does and how they react. Daisy is very much like that. She goes with what is happening and adjusts to the situation.

What drew you to the subject matter of the book and also these characters within?

I’m a romantic at heart and have always loved romance novels. However, I’m also a strong woman and love books about women overcoming obstacles in their lives (authors: Nora Roberts, Liz Bryski). I’ve tried to combine the two.

