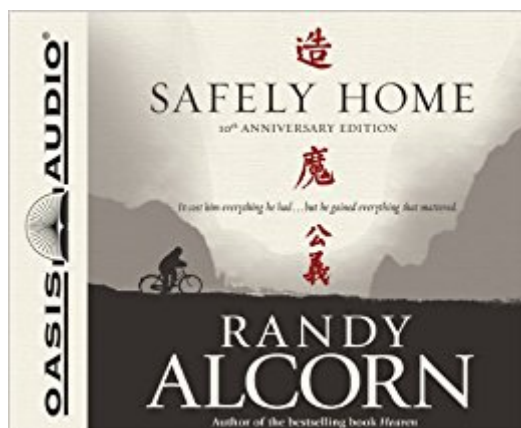


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# Safely Home



## Synopsis

American business executive Ben Fielding has no idea what his brilliant old college roommate is facing in China. But when they're reunited in China after twenty years, the men are shocked at what they discover about each other. Thrown together in an hour of encroaching darkness, watched by unseen eyes, both must make choices that will determine not only the destinies of two men, but two families, two nations... and two worlds.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Executive Ben Fielding hits upon a perfect plan: he will make his company millions of dollars by using Chinese labor to manufacture its electronic components. To kickstart his plan, he visits China, where he stays with college roommate Li Quan, whom he hasn't seen in over 20 years. From Li, Ben learns that his initial impressions of China from his research and from visits over the years are false, but Ben doesn't believe Li's stories of the persecution of Christians until Li is taken to jail. As Ben rediscovers Jesus through Li's faith, he discovers the truth that God does not promise an easy life on Earth, only eternal happiness after death. Part of this novel appeared as a short story in The Storytellers' Collection (LJ 9/1/00); here, its strength is magnified tenfold. Alcorn (Lord Foulgrin's Letters) lifts readers high with joy and casts them down in immeasurable sorrow as Ben and Li's story unfolds with intense emotional impact that recalls Sylvia Bambola's Refiner's Fire (LJ 6/1/00). Required for all collections. Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

While a fictional story, this is not art for art's sake. There's a strong message in this story of an American businessman who has lost his Christian faith. He travels to China, where he meets his college roommate, who is practicing Christianity in the midst of persecution. The persecution leads the American back to his faith. Steve Sever's presentation of the Chinese voice is quite good; he captures the speech pattern of someone whose native language is Chinese. His deep voice is always clear and strong. However, this is the voice of a professional radio announcer, not the voice of a storyteller. And the voices from heaven are a bit hokey.   
 M.L.C. 2002 Audie Award Finalist - © AudioFile Portland, Maine

I read this Book the first time probably 15 years ago, but decided to read it again after hearing Randy Alcorn speak on April 2, 2016 in Dallas, TX. So many times Christian books and Christians can be so disappointing, But as I listened to Mr. Alcorn speak I knew he was "for real". His books, though fiction, are true to the word of God. Oh that I could be so real ... He makes me want to "real", to be like his Li Quan. If you read this book, you will never forget Li Quan. You will never forget this book, and you will always remember the author who could put such words, such thoughts, such lives on paper. You will long to read his books again as I have reread so many of his books ... but this is the best. It was a privilege to hear Mr Alcorn speak and a privilege to be able to read "Safely Home" again.

If you are a believer then this book is life changing...it is a "fictional" account of the persecuted church in China and gives a glimpse of the scriptural view of our eternity in Christ and the non-importance of our temporal lives here in the "shadow-lands." The last few chapters I needed a tissue to catch the trail of tears that coursed down my face...the awe and beauty of service to God, and the reality of the shortness of life in the here and now. This book is a gentle reminder as to what really matters in the life of a Christian believer and what our focus should be in this very fallen world.. This is a beautiful and haunting view of God's perspective on suffering and is an encouraging reminder that suffering will not be forever. I bought extra for gifts and believe I will be back for more....not a quick read, but an important one.

I really enjoyed the story line of this book and that the incidents in the story are based on real life events though maybe not all having happened to one person. The turn around of the character Ben was wonderful to watch unfold. It was a real eye opener to see the shroud covering the true merciless and inhumane persecution of Christians in China and in the 21st Century!!! Right after

reading this book I was made aware of even more overt Muslim persecution of Christians in Indonesia!!! It is really too bad that mainstream medias do not report on these incredibly offensive tortures and murders that are going on around the world! This book really brings the issue to the forefront. Maybe if more people were aware there might be more action taken world wide against such abuse. I gave the book only four stars because I was not particularly fond of all the scenes from heaven and the extensive Bible quotes (didn't know which Bible the book was using). Though the element of Christianity, devotion, sacrifice, and healing was key to this story, I thought the infusion of the Bible verses and commentary from heaven's inhabitants was a little too much. If that is your thing than disregard this criticism... you will love it!!!

Reading *Safely Home* as a Christian has really made me appreciate the freedom of worship we have in our country. It's a precious freedom that we often take for granted. We have at least 5 Bibles in our home that are regularly read, but imagine if we were persecuted for Christianity or weren't able to read God's Word regularly? Generations before us, and those in other countries have suffered persecution for their Christian beliefs. We are able to meet freely in the our churches, yet, we often take that liberty for granted. *Safely Home* is a story about the meeting of Christianity in the two settings --- one free and one not free. It is the story of two unlikely friends. The only thing I wasn't crazy about in the story was the split scenes between Heaven and Earth. In the end, I was completely fine with it. What do we really know about Heaven, anyway? It's only what we can imagine. Thanks, Randy Alcorn, for a thought provoking book!

This is a great and intriguing story about China, the persecution of some of the Chinese Christians there and how we in the West have turned a blind eye to human rights violations. Yet God is still in control and works the awful stuff out for the greatest good. I loved the Chinese proverbs that were scattered throughout the story. Randy Alcorn did a really good job on this book.

The atrocities of Christian persecution are described in detail throughout this fiction story. "4" instead of "5" stars for redundancy and having the main characters constantly talk to themselves...annoying. I'd recommend the book, because every Christian needs to know how we are to be praying for our brothers/sisters in Christ.

love this book. I have read this more than once and it always makes me think about reality and how what we see is just a small part of what is really going on. May God use this book to encourage

people to reconsider the big picture, to know that Jesus is alive and how much He loves us. Also that believers will be reminded to share the good news of the gospel and to not be ashamed because we have nothing to be ashamed of. This is very well written. Though it is a book of fiction it has many truths in it. It will make you think.

Safely Home is a profound and brilliant novel about the plight of Christians in the house churches in China. The story revolves around an American executive and his Chinese college roommate 20 years after they have graduated from Harvard. Woven throughout are delightful Chinese proverbs, intense meaningful conversations between the two roommates, the truth of the Bible, and many trials and adventures. The book gives insights into various Chinese eras and subjects including Buddhism, the Dali Lama, Mao, the Boxer rebellion, and Tiananmen Square. The corruption of people in power and the blind collusion of big business are vividly shown. Safely Home beautifully depicts the humble acceptance of suffering for Christ. The ending gives a thrilling view of the doorway to heaven

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