

## Japan Angel Dedication

Lisa Johnson  
Angel Representative for Richard Paul Evans

It is a great honor to be in your country and witness the dedication of the angel on this sacred ground. We grieved with you during your time of great loss due to the Tsunami. You have suffered a great deal and we extend our heart-felt condolences.

Mr. Evans regrets not being able to attend. His daughter is expecting his first grandson and he didn't want to miss his birth. He sends his best regards and appreciation to our friends here in Japan.

This angel is one of 118 throughout the world. Thank you for being willing to accept this angel and her message of hope.

Many years ago Mr. Evans wrote a story called "The Christmas Box". In the story a woman mourns the loss of her child at the base of an angel statue. Although the story is a work of fiction, many people in the United States came looking for the statue. Mr. Evans asked two world-renowned artists, Jared Fairbanks-who is here with me today, and his father, Ortho if they could create an angel statue that would bring families hope and healing.

The completed statue was placed in the Salt Lake City Cemetery and dedicated on December 6, 1994. Since that time the angel has continued to spread her wings throughout the United States and Canada.

If you look at her face you can see that she is looking up, reminding us to look up and find comfort. Her hands are outstretched to remind us to reach out to each other in love and compassion. Her wing bears the word "Hope". And hope portrays the message we leave with you today. It is our hope that this statue will be a symbol of peace and hope.

May you be blessed for all the good that you do, may you forever find peace here at the angel, and may you reach out to those in need of comfort.

Lastly, Mr. Evans and we would like to express our warmest appreciation for Mr. Yasuhiko Sata's efforts to make this great project happen. Thanks to him, the angel alighted on the land of Japan.

Thank you.