

Summer lovin'

Love, duty and chronic illness explored in 'The Last Sunrise'

By Dana Simpson
TV Media

As the last sunrises of the summer crest on the horizon and the weather returns to a cooler standard, things are just starting to heat up on Prime Video. "The Last Sunrise," a new film based on the popular romance novel by Anna Todd, premieres Wednesday, Aug. 26, on Prime Video.

Directed by "Scream: The TV Series" actress Carlson Young, who has previously also directed the psychological horror/thriller films "The Blazing World" (2021) and "Trust" (2025) as well as the Prime Video rom-com "Upgraded" (2024) starring Camila Mendes ("Riverdale"), "The Last Sunrise" stars "Desperate Housewives" diva and recent Nespresso representative Eva Longoria as a mother keeping secrets from her daughter (Maia Reficco, "La Dolce Villa," 2025) on a summertime trip to Spain.

"The Last Sunrise' follows Ry [Reficco], a college student with a chronic illness, on a summer escape to Mallorca with her mother [Longoria]," reads the official description, per Prime Video. "As she unexpectedly falls for Julián [Fernando Lindez, "Elite"] and begins to embrace living in the moment, her worsening condition and long-hidden family secrets threaten to unravel everything before the summer ends."

The teen romantic drama is based on the novel of the same name by American YA novelist Anna Todd, who also penned the wildly popular After series, which has sold over 12 million copies worldwide (according to AnnaTodd.com) and includes the 2014 novels "After," "After We Collided" and "After We Fell" as well as the author's 2015 additions, "After Ever Happy" and "Before." Although not a part of the After series itself, "The Last Sunrise" has no doubt profited from the author's glowing bestseller reputation, with the adaptation of the May 2025 novel having been greenlit less than three months later.

The news was initially reported by Deadline, which wrote in July 2025 that "Todd's involvement as producer of 'The Last Sunrise' continues her transition from bestselling author to filmmaker," citing the 2017 creation of Frayed Pages Media, a new entertainment company, and the fact that Todd also "recently produced the Colleen Hoover adaptation 'Regretting You' [2025]," which premiered in theaters Oct. 24, 2025, before landing on Paramount+ Dec. 23.

There has also been talk of a possible sequel to "The Last Sunrise," as reported by Deadline this past June when senior film reporter Matt Grobar



Maia Reficco in "The Last Sunrise"

wrote that "Last Sunrise" writer and relative newcomer "Anna Klassen has returned to pen the second film, based on a previously unannounced new novel by Todd, who will ultimately be putting out a book trilogy." The entertainment journal did make sure to mention, however, that "reps for the studio declined comment" when approached to confirm the rumour.

As for "The Last Sunrise," the first film in Todd and Klassen's potential trilogy, the Prime Video trailer points to several fun beach romps, club nights and romantic moments between Ry and Julián, the heir to a local fishing business, before the tone shifts to imply waves on the horizon for the young pair.

"That's the boy you're seeing? A Garcia?" says Ry's mother, Isolde (Longoria), midway through the film's trailer, explaining that, "The Garcias own some of the most valuable docks on the island and we can't build the hotel unless we buy them."

This revelation, of course, spells certain emotional disaster for Ry, who will inevitably be forced to choose a side in the escalating battle at the heart of their Mallorcan town. Although, on one hand, Ry's mother represents a devotion to her own family, Isolde's career in the real estate business means a large Americanized hotel on the quaint Spanish island, something that could sink Julián's multi-generational family business and cost them their hard-earned livelihood in the process.

Proof that life is full of tough choices and that answers aren't always cut and dried, "The Last Sunrise" tests one young woman's boundaries and convictions as she wrestles with a massive moral dilemma amid flare-ups of tuberous sclerosis and the side effects of navigating a change in medication.

This complicated tug-of-war is part of the reason that lead actress Maia Reficco accepted the project.

The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon

Today [July 21], Health Secretary RFK Jr. said the parasite outbreak linked to iceberg lettuce is under control. Well, that's good enough for me. Yeah, this is the type of strong leadership we needed two months after the outbreak began. But RFK Jr. is spinning it. He's like, "Hey, look at it this way. We just gave every American a free colonoscopy prep."

Meanwhile, amid the parasite outbreak, Taco Bell has seen a drop-off in customers. I didn't even know Taco Bell used real lettuce. I assumed it was just shredded health inspections dyed green.

A new statement from the American Heart Association said that drinking five cups of coffee a day is safe and might benefit heart health. Even the American Cocaine Association was like, "Are you sure about that?"

Jimmy Kimmel Live! (R)

This planet is home to at least eight million different species. Some scientists believe the true number could be more than a trillion. There is so much to learn about our animal friends. And in studying them, we learn a lot about ourselves. For instance, researchers from Australia and Sweden are doing a study about drug pollution in the water and they found that salmon that are exposed to cocaine swim nearly twice as far as those that do not have a coke problem. The study found that the cocaine salmon swim around 20% faster. And also, they never shut up.

Florida, as we all know, is very button-down, very normal. Whereas California, it's a mad house. Listen, I've lived in both states. I've lived in Florida. I've lived in California. The only thing Florida does better is get manatees addicted to meth. If you're looking to buy a hot dog from a woman in a G-string, Florida is the place you want to be.

Roughly 50,000 TSA employees are currently working without pay. More than 300 TSA agents have quit since the shutdown started, and the number of agents calling [in] sick have skyrocketed, which of course has resulted in massive delays. It often takes hours to get through airport security. Now, the staff shortages have gotten so bad. I don't know if you guys knew, but officers at some airports are being instructed to only do searches on travelers they find attractive, which is weird.

Late Night With Seth Meyers

The American Heart Association published a new report yesterday [July 20] that said adults can safely drink up to five cups of coffee per day. But you know, maybe start with one.

President Trump criticized Canada in a post last week [July 12-18] on Truth Social for failing to take preventative measures to avoid wildfires that sent smoke into the U.S., and added, "The cost is incalculable." So he didn't write that post.

Homeland Security officials in Newark recently announced that during the World Cup tournament, they seized more than 3,000 counterfeit jerseys. Just as well, because they weren't great counterfeits.