



# When the Past Is Present: Healing the Emotional Wounds that Sabotage our Relationships

By David Richo

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## When the Past Is Present: Healing the Emotional Wounds that Sabotage our Relationships By David Richo

In this book, psychotherapist David Richo explores how we replay the past in our present-day relationships—and how we can free ourselves from this destructive pattern. We all have a tendency to transfer potent feelings, needs, expectations, and beliefs from childhood or from former relationships onto the people in our daily lives, whether they are our intimate partners, friends, or acquaintances. *When the Past Is Present* helps us to become more aware of the ways we slip into the past so that we can identify our emotional baggage and take steps to unpack it and put it where it belongs.

Drawing on decades of experience as a psychotherapist, Richo helps readers to:

- Understand how the wounds of childhood become exposed in adult relationships—and why this is a gift
- Identify and heal the emotional wounds we carry over from the past so that they won't sabotage present-day relationships
- Recognize how strong attractions and aversions to people in the present can be signals of own own unfinished business
- Use mindfulness to stay in the present moment and cultivate authentic intimacy

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**When the Past Is Present: Healing the Emotional Wounds that Sabotage our Relationships** By David Richo **Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #16376 in Books
- Brand: Richo, David
- Published on: 2008-07-22
- Released on: 2008-07-22
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.98" h x .58" w x 5.97" l, .81 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 224 pages

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### **Editorial Review**

#### **About the Author**

David Richo, PhD, is a therapist and author who leads popular workshops on personal and spiritual growth. He is known for drawing on Buddhist thought, poetry, and Jungian perspectives in his work. He is the author of *How to Be an Adult in Relationships* and *The Five Things We Cannot Change*. He lives in Santa Barbara and San Francisco, California.

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