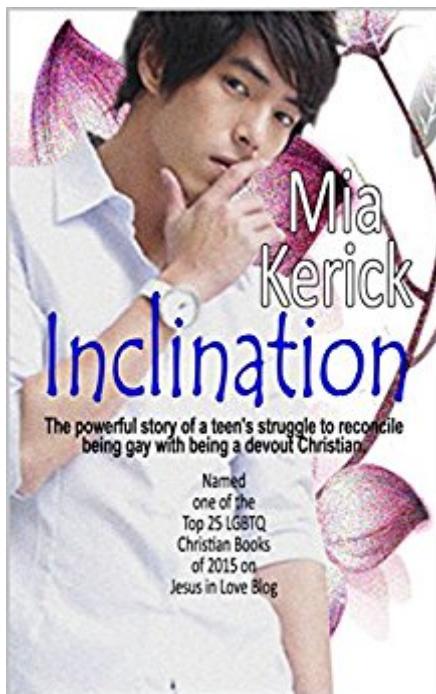


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# Inclination



## **Synopsis**

Sixteen-year-old Anthony Duck-Yung Del Vecchio is a nice Catholic boy with a very big problem. And it's not even the challenge of fitting in as the lone adopted South Korean in a close-knit family of Italian-Americans. Nor is it being the one introverted son in a family jam-packed with gregarious daughters. Anthony's problem is far more serious—he is the only gay kid in *Our Way*, his church's youth group. As a high school junior, Anthony has finally come to accept his sexual orientation, but he struggles to determine if a gay man can live as a faithful Christian. And as he faces his dilemma, there are complications. After confiding his gayness to his intolerant adult youth group leader, he's asked to find a new organization with which to worship. He's beaten up in the church parking lot by a fanatical teen. His former best pal bullies him in the locker room. His Catholic friends even stage an intervention to lead him back to the "right path." Meanwhile, Anthony develops romantic feelings for David Gandy, an emo, out and proud junior at his high school, who seems to have all the answers about how someone can be gay and Christian, too.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

On the surface, Anthony has the perfect life, a loving family, good friends, and his faith. Yet he has sleepless nights, worried about one thing he cannot change - he is gay. And Anthony, like so many young gay teens is trying to make sense of who he is while the world tells him what he is, being gay, is an abomination. The Catholic Church is pretty clear on its position about homosexuality, so Anthony can either hide it, or reject his religion. Those are the typical paths. Anthony, with help from his friend, David, discover another path which is to look at the Bible in historic context, learn passages that speak of love, not hate. This is a fantastic YA fiction. Ms. Kerick is a master of first person narrative. She really brings out Anthony to be a believable young man who struggles with his identity and his place in the religion that he loves. David is a confident young man who shows Anthony that God's love is for everyone, including gays. Their friendship and emerging romance is sweet. From the opening scene which sets up the struggle Anthony faces, to the end, Inclination is filled with typical teenage drama as well as soul-searching revelations. I highly recommend this book to any teen and I also recommend this to all the LGBT allies who may need counter-arguments to all the religious-based homophobic notion that homosexuality is forbidden in the bible. I learned so much reading Inclination. Kudos to Mia for writing this.

Realizing he liked boys sends Anthony Del Vechio on a search for his soul. He has been raised in a Catholic church and loves his youth Group Our Way. Everything he has been taught goes against what he is now feeling. He sets out doing a lot of research and trying his best to change how he feels, then realizes it's how he is made and can't be changed. This story is such a breath of fresh air from other young adult stories about young men figuring out or growing up gay. His family doesn't toss him out. On the contrary, they do everything they can to help him figure this out. There is a bully or two, but you can't hate them when you find out the reason they are lashing out as well. Inclination is a beautifully written story of emotional growth and one I think many gay families should read. If you are tired of all the angst-filled stories of young men tossed because they are gay or evil families and want a sweet emotional read full of love and understanding this is definitely one for you!

A timely and accurate look at what happens for many Christian teens when they come out or are forced out of the closet. Mia Kerick may have written a fictional story, but the storyline is deadly accurate. The book includes plenty of references to help readers come to the same conclusion that

we hope our young protagonist comes to: that you can be Christian and gay, and loved and accepted, all at the same time. If you are a teen who may think they're gay and are experiencing the all-too-often rejection by churches and "godly" folks, this is for you. If you are a Christian who feels that being gay is somehow wrong, this is for you. If you are a parent of a gay Christian kid, this is for you. If you are an ally of the LGBTQ youth in our world, this is for you. I highly recommend this book to all of the above, and then some!

After receiving my copy of *Inclination* I was skeptical to say the least. Mixing religion with a homosexual character is a tricky subject. When I actually got involved in the story, however, I was amazed at the depth of the characters. A lot of my past came rushing back and I forgot the story was ever about Anthony Duck Young Del Vecchio. Mia Kerick took a risk with such a touchy topic, but she nailed the emotions of young Anthony to a T. With this issue at the forefront of America, it is a welcome change from the run of the mill feel good stories we see all too often.

If you know a young person (or any age for that matter) who is gay and who is trying to come to terms with what that means in their relationship with God, then this is a must read book. Honestly, I have to say that this is the most important story I've read on the subject to date. I can tell that the author, Mia Kerick, has done extensive research of the Bible and I love how she gives a portion of scripture and then her character, David, explains what he feels God's intent was as it pertains to His gay followers. I think she hit the nail right on the head. The God I grew up learning about in Catholic school loved everyone. Period. This is a very moving story of a young man who is struggling to reconcile being gay while still being a Christian and serving the God he so dearly loves. Beautifully done, Mia. I think every young gay Christian would benefit from reading this.

It's been a couple of weeks since I finished reading this story. I've been so conflicted on how to rate it or even if I wanted to write a review. I seriously thought of just liking someone else's review. I don't belong to organized religion. I don't like to discuss religion. I know what I believe in. Reading this story made me realize just how unaware, and how small my world is. I knew nothing about the doubts, the worries, the anger and the hate there is for those who struggle to combine their faith and their sexuality. Anthony was surprising to me. I loved his strength and his convictions. I also worried that these would be a burden that would break him. And David, well, I am glad Anthony and David

found each other. I am also glad I took a chance on reading this story. I was curious but hesitant. It opened my eyes and expanded my world a little bit more.

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Inclination

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