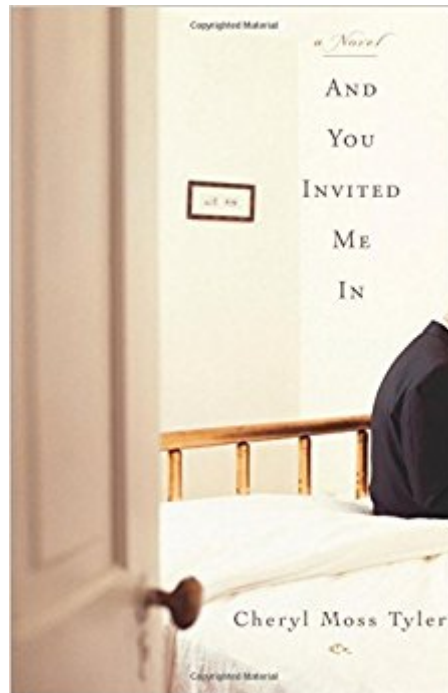




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And You Invited Me In: A Novel



Synopsis

When Alex Marshall left his stifling small town behind, he felt freedom for the first time in his life. Rejected by his conservative Christian hometown for his homosexuality, Alex becomes a successful lawyer, active in the gay community and committed to his partner, Scott. But tragedy strikes in the form of Aids, as it rips away Alex's dignity and crushes his body. He is near the end of his life. Annie Whitley, Alex's sister, is faced with a difficult choice when a call from Alex comes out of the blue. Should she travel to care for her estranged brother -- who represents the lifestyle she's been taught to hate and fear -- or stay away, deny him, and follow what the town demands? Choosing Alex, she begins to see how her decision impacts the entire community. *And You Invited Me In* addresses the moral dilemma that many face: how can people accept or even tolerate a way of life so different from anything they have been taught to believe is acceptable? This interwoven tale speaks of love, compassion, and true belief, as a family reconciles and a town comes to understand the truth of its faith, and is resonant with the hymn of equality. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. -- Matthew 25:35

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"As an avid reader, I found this book to be highly enjoyable. Mrs. Tyler seems to have captured what it must be like to be a gay man living with AIDS in a fundamentalist society." -- Mike Myrick, pastor from Nashville
"And You Invited Me In is a powerful story of unconditional love and grace."

This story grabbed me and reminded me of all the emotional roads that...gays and lesbians experience every day.... I wept as I recalled the many people who have crossed our paths in ministry who are the Scotts, Alexes, Annies, and Samuels. It is my prayer that God will use this real-life story to break all our hearts and cause us...to realize what really matters in life." -- Todd Ferrell, president of The Evangelical Network

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I commend the author for writing on the topic of unconditional love in a situation (AIDS/homosexuality) which a Christian disagrees with. How does a believer maintain integrity while loving as Jesus would? Tyler's placing her perspective within a novel provides the reader an opportunity to suspend judgment while following the developing story. One comes to care for each character who is struggling with their past and present. Initially I found some difficulty in following who was who and each person's back story (there are many characters), but after awhile that got ironed out. Once into the book, I read it straight through. The author knows the context of many conservative Christians and does a fair job of showing the range of attitudes without stereotyping. Her depiction of the gay characters is also thorough, neither sanitizing nor alarmist. The complexity of the plotting mirrors the complexity of each main character. Each struggles with hurts, need for attachment and a history of regrets, the main Christian character Annie included. Each faces personal sin and the need for transparency whatever the personal cost. I wondered how she would end the story of Scot and was pleased with her decision to not tie up loose ends with a tidy conclusion. There is room for another book to follow Scot on his journey of new faith. "And You Invited Me In" would make a great choice for a book group discussion.

The authors of this novel have done an outstanding job of delving into the explosive mix of emotions Christians must feel in sorting out their beliefs regarding homosexuality and Christian love and fealty to family. In less capable hands, this premise could have melted into melodrama, but these authors have handled it with great compassion and insight. I hope to read much more from them in the future.

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Collection) The American Girls Party Book: You're Invited! The Show Must Go On! (You're invited to a Creepover) You Are SO Not Invited to My Bat Mitzvah! I Am Invited to a Party! (An Elephant and Piggie Book) Chemical Physics of Ionic Solutions; a Selection of Invited Papers and Discussions.. The 30 Day Romance Novel Workbook: Write a Novel in a Month with the Plot-As-You-Write System (Write Smarter Not Harder) Get Your Sh*t Together: How to Stop Worrying About What You Should Do So You Can Finish What You Need to Do and Start Doing What You Want to Do Get Your Sh*t Together: How to Stop Worrying About What You Should Do So You Can Finish What You Need to Do and Start Doing What You Want to Do (No F*cks Given Guide) Get Your Sh*t Together: How to Stop Worrying About What You Should Do So You Can Finish What You Need to Do and Start Doing What You Want to Do (A No F*cks Given Guide) Visual Aid: Stuff You've Forgotten, Things You Never Thought You Knew, and Lessons You Didn't Quite Get Around to Learning You Know You're in Rhode Island When...: 101 Quintessential Places, People, Events, Customs, Lingo, and Eats of the Ocean State (You Know You're In Series) You Know You're in Kansas When...: 101 Quintessential Places, People, Events, Customs, Lingo, and Eats of the Sunflower State (You Know You're In Series) You Know You're in Michigan When...: 101 Quintessential Places, People, Events, Customs, Lingo, and Eats of the Great Lakes State (You Know You're In Series) How to Get More out of Being Jewish Even If:: A. You Are Not Sure You Believe in God, B. You Think Going to Synagogue Is a Waste of Time, C. You Think ... Hated Hebrew School, or E. All of the Above! The House on an Irish Hillside: When you know where you've come from, you can see where you're going Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Titan's Curse: The Graphic Novel (Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Graphic Novel Book 3) Glass Houses: A Novel (Chief Inspector Gamache Novel) Frozen Junior Novel (Disney Junior Novel (ebook))

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