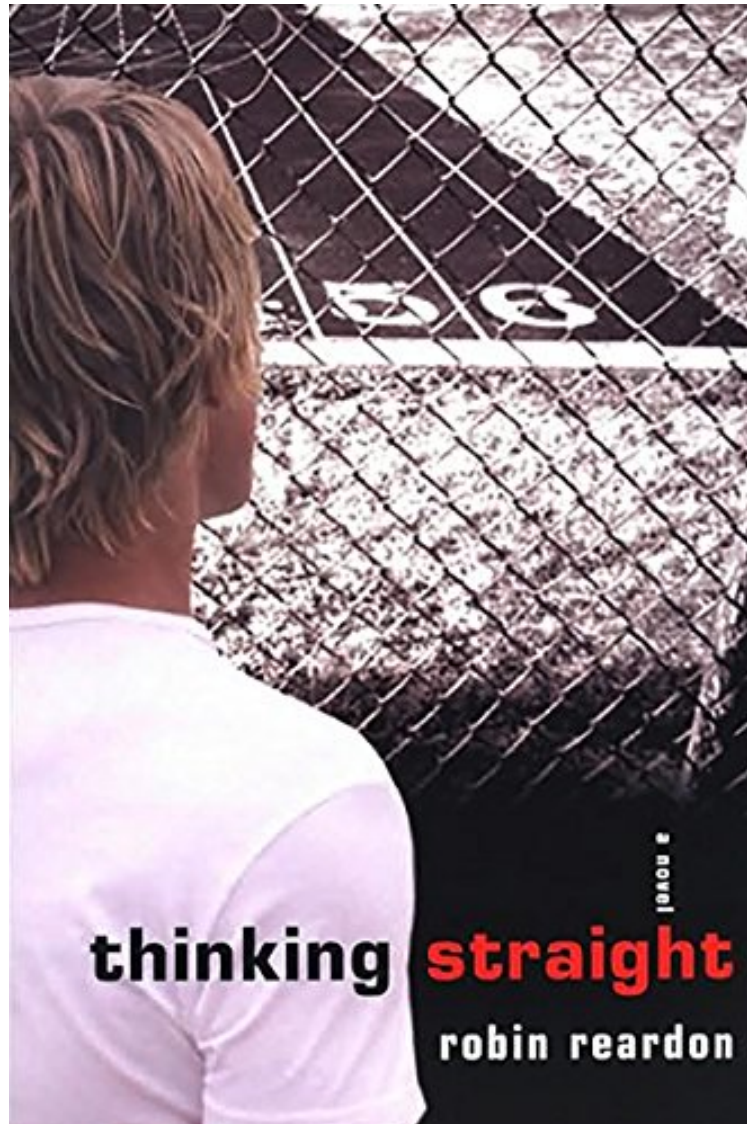


# Thinking Straight

Von Robin Reardon

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**Von Robin Reardon : Thinking Straight** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Thinking Straight:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.  
berzeugender ZweitlingVon User 123Als der sechzehnjhrige Taylor Adams seinen streng kirchlichen Eltern mitteilt,  
dass er schwul ist,stellt ihn der Vater vor die Wahl, fr mindestens 6 Wochen zur "Umpolung" in die evangelikale  
Besserungsanstalt "Straight To God" zu gehen - oder gleich auf die Militrschule. Taylor entscheidet sich fr das  
vermeintlich kleinere bel, denn so kann er seinen Freund und Mitschler Will danach hoffentlich wiedersehen. In der

"Straight To God" herrschen scharfe Regeln, um die Insassen - widersetzliche, drogenabhngige, kriminelle oder auch homosexuelle Jugendliche - wieder auf den rechten Weg - zu Gott - zu bringen. Von Sechs-Tage-Arbeitswoche ber Rede- und exzessiver Bibelstunde bis zu ffentlicher Blostellung reichen die Methoden. Taylor muss durch dieses System lavieren, ohne seine inneren berzeugungen und Werte zu sehr zu verbiegen. Ein schwerer Weg, und schon nach einer Woche ist er ein anderer. Doch nicht nur er, sondern auch die Gegenseite ist auf seine Fhrungsqualitten aufmerksam geworden... Robin Reardon ist es gelungen, nicht nur die Hauptfigur, sondern auch die anderen Charaktere plastisch und keineswegs eindimensional anzulegen. Keiner ist wirklich nur das, was er am Anfang zu sein scheint. Verzweiflung, Einsamkeit, Missbrauch, aber auch Freundschaft und Widerstand werden glaubhaft thematisiert. Die Handlungsstrnge erscheinen logisch und so spannend, dass man das Buch kaum aus der Hand legen kann. Man bedauert, wenn man am Ende angekommen ist, einem Ende, das Taylor in zwei Wochen so gereift hat wie vielleicht sonst zwei Jahre. Insgesamt ein sehr empfehlenswertes Buch mit einer jugendgemien Sprache, deren gelegentliche Ausflge in die erklrte "IM lingo", die Chatsprache, vielleicht nicht unbedingt hten sein mssen. Man darf auf das nchste Buch der Autorin, das Ende 2010 erscheinensoll, gespannt sein.

Kurzbeschreibung You are told: God has made you something God can't love. Fix it. How would you respond to that demand? "I know God doesn't make mistakes, and if I'm gay it's because that's what he wanted. What you wanted. And I think the challenge is to get everyone else to see that. This is their test, not mine." If only Taylor Adams had kept on lying to his parents, none of this would have happened. He wouldn't have been shipped off to Straight to God, an institution devoted to "deprogramming" troubled teenagers and ridding them of their vices--whether it's drugs, violence, or in Taylor's case, other boys. Not that Taylor has a problem with being gay, or with reconciling his love for God with his love for his boyfriend Will. . . At Straight to God, such thoughts--along with all other reminders of Taylor's former "sinful" life--are forbidden. Every movement is monitored, privacy is impossible, and no one--from staff to residents--is quite who they first appear to be. There's Charles, Taylor's clean-cut roommate, desperate to leave his past behind. . . Nate Devlin, a handsome, inscrutable older boy who's alternately arrogant and kind. . . gorgeous, secretive Sean, who returns to Straight to God each year to avoid doing prison time for drugs. Here, where piety can be a mask for cruelty and the greatest crimes go unpunished, Taylor will learn more than he ever dreamed about love, courage, rebellion, and betrayal--but the most surprising lessons will be the truths he uncovers about himself. In this smart, insightful new novel, Robin Reardon presents a compelling exploration of the journey from boy to man, and a testament to the strength that comes with accepting both who we are, and whom we love. Find out what happens. Scroll up and order your copy today. From Publishers Weekly Reardon's stirring novel grapples with homosexuality and born-again Christianity. When Taylor Adams comes out, his parents ship him off to Straight to God, a camp for those who have gone astray. The nightmarish camp seeks to exorcise the satanic influence from its charges, some of whom are gay, and some of whom are petty criminals or drug addicts. The camp's strict guidelines include no speaking for newbies (who wear yellow stickers on their clothing), the writing of Moral Inventories to be shared with group leaders, and prayer meetings. Taylor is furious about his incarceration, but through his intellect and open nature, he discovers leadership qualities in himself and learns that not everyone is the religious automaton they appear to be. Reardon's first novel (A Secret Edge) was geared to young adults; this new book, which includes frank language and sexual encounters, tries to reach out to older readers, albeit sometimes awkwardly (the explanation of text message-like acronyms, for instance, is clunky). While the extremes of the evangelical movement are harshly depicted, Reardon does a decent job overall of staying off a soapbox. The result is thoughtful and convincing. (May) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Kurzbeschreibung You are told: God has made you something God can't love. Fix it. How would you respond to that demand? "I know God doesn't make mistakes, and if I'm gay it's because that's what he wanted. What you wanted. And I think the challenge is to get everyone else to see that. This is their test, not mine." If only Taylor Adams had kept on lying to his parents, none of this would have happened. He wouldn't have been shipped off to Straight to God, an institution devoted to "deprogramming" troubled teenagers and ridding them of their vices--whether it's drugs, violence, or in Taylor's case, other boys. Not that Taylor has a problem with being gay, or with reconciling his love for God with his love for his boyfriend Will. . . At Straight to God, such thoughts--along with all other reminders of Taylor's former "sinful" life--are forbidden. Every movement is monitored, privacy is impossible, and no one--from staff to residents--is quite who they first appear to be. There's Charles, Taylor's clean-cut roommate, desperate to leave his past behind. . . Nate Devlin, a handsome, inscrutable older boy who's alternately arrogant and kind. . . gorgeous, secretive Sean, who returns to Straight to God each year to avoid doing prison time for drugs. Here, where piety can be a mask for cruelty and the greatest crimes go unpunished, Taylor will learn more than he ever dreamed about love, courage, rebellion, and betrayal--but the most surprising lessons will be the truths he uncovers about himself. In this smart, insightful new novel, Robin Reardon presents a compelling exploration of the journey from boy to man, and a testament to the strength that comes with accepting both who we are, and whom we love. Find out what happens. Scroll up and order

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