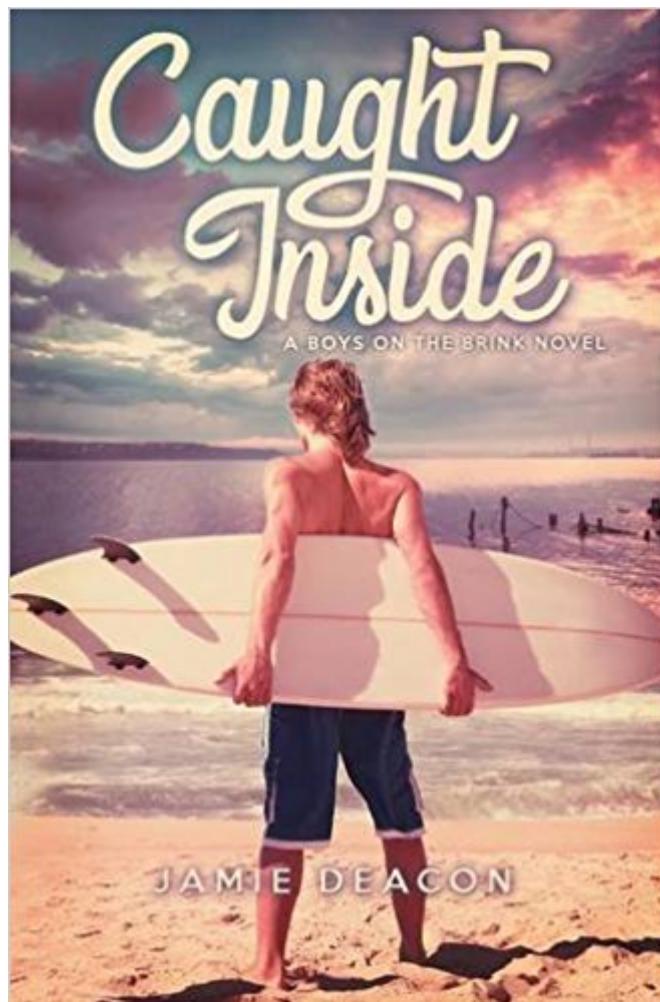


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## Caught Inside



## Synopsis

Luke believes he has his life figured out...and then he meets Theo. It should have been simple-a summer spent with his girlfriend Zara at her family's holiday cottage in Cornwall.

Seventeen-year-old Luke Savage jumps at the chance, envisioning endless hours of sunbathing on the private beach and riding the waves on his beloved surfboard. He isn't interested in love. Though his rugged good looks and lazy charm mean he can have his pick of girls, he has no intention of falling for anyone. Nothing prepares Luke for his reaction to Theo, the sensitive Oxford undergraduate who is Zara's cousin and closest friend. All at once, he is plunged along a path of desire and discovery that has him questioning everything he thought he knew about himself. No one, especially Zara, must find out; what he and Theo have is too new, too fragile. But as the deceit spirals beyond their control, people are bound to get hurt, Luke most of all.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This novel was a collection of firsts for me. I'd never read a sports romance before and up until now, the premise hasn't appealed to me. I'd never read a male/male romance before, either, though I'll admit it's been on my literary Bucket List for awhile. I'd also not usually a fan of YA/coming-of-age tales. But I picked this one up through Onlinebookclub.org as part of their Book of the Day program, without really looking at the description beforehand and I didn't know what I was getting into at first. So you'd think I'd think this would be a flop for me, right? Wrong. "Caught Inside" was beautiful.

From the writing style to the editing to the complex, flesh-and-blood characters, Jamie Deacon penned something unique and moving and wonderful to read. My interest was caught from the jump and I can honestly say that I enjoyed every page. I did find myself having to step away when the feels got to be too much, but I was always glad to pick this one back up again. The characters in this book were so realistic, I felt as if they could easily be friends, neighbors, family. I adore an author who can bring their people to life, regardless of genre, and Jamie Deacon did this masterfully!

Luke’s struggle to come to terms with his own feelings and his undeniable attraction to Theo is very real and visceral. It wasn’t hard to empathize with him. Nor was it hard to feel for Theo. The poor guy was already battling to deal with and recover from a broken heart, then he found himself trying to reconcile his desire for his cousin’s boyfriend and his guilt over said desire. Their explorations, both physically and emotionally, felt natural and not once overdone or crass. The author treated them and their situation with respect, which is something I’ve struggled to find in romances lately. Nothing seemed to be written for the salacious shock value. As a reviewer, author, and editor, the technical aspects of a novel play a rather large part in my enjoyment of a novel. The editing here was flawless, the dialogue was wonderfully and realistically written, and details remained consistent. Bottom line: Even if you’re not a fan of coming-of-age stories, athletes as main characters, or homosexual pairings, I urge you to give *Caught Inside* a try. The struggle to find love and acceptance is one we’ve all faced, regardless of gender, sexual preference, age, or ethnicity.

Luke is *Caught Inside* this conflict of sexual orientation. He is dating Zara and is on vacation with her. Zara has a cousin named Theo. The moment Luke meets Theo, unfamiliar feelings begin to rise within his core being. Luke is falling for a guy and that scares him a lot. The feelings that he senses are unyielding, undeniable and no matter how much he tries to alleviate it to be a passing phase, it does not cure the problem. As Theo and Luke get closer, Luke’s relationship with Zara becomes problematic. Luke does not wish to cheat on her and also does not know how welcoming the world will be once they know that he is into men. The vulnerability of the case was written true to the purest of nature. Whether you were against or with his sexual struggle, the literary standard representing this conflict was beautifully written. The Author fascinates you with his style of writing so much so that it was very easy to feel and to understand the exact emotions Luke felt when he realizes his true desires. The daunting nature of telling everyone about it is written so well. The chances of him losing all his friends, being mocked,

left alone, abandoned, questioned or being looked at in a disgusting way were all brought into this novel tale. Other characters in this story also partake roles alongside, for instance, Dean is Luke's friend and does not take the news very well. However, the focus is more on Luke and his decisions. I look forward to reading more by this Author. Written by Jeyran Main

This book is very different than anything I've read - and that is very likely because I've never read a coming of age story centered around a gay character. That said, I loved this book! The writing was amazing and so easy to follow that I got sucked in every time I picked it up to read another chapter. It's very hard to believe this is a first novel by this writer. I also loved the emotions in the story. It gave me a real sense of what Luke was going through as he found himself drawn to Theo. At one point, I wondered if the drama would get old, but it never did. The characters all had their own personality and stayed true to that throughout the book. I felt badly for Zara and wanted her to find out the truth, and when she did, her reaction was what I expected from her. But she also redeemed herself in the end. I wasn't sure what to expect out of this, but I'm really glad I grabbed a copy! I'll definitely be following this author and I plan to check out his next book which I really hope will be out soon!

In wave scoring, *Caught Inside*, by Jamie Deacon, would be a perfect ten. But I'll give it five gripping stars. The descriptive language is flowing and addictive. The characterizations are genuine and layered. The dialogue is realistic and dynamic. And the plot! Deacon took me on a raw emotional ride, rife with risk and regret, betrayal and self-discovery. And like a wave, the journey to shore was unpredictable. I wasn't certain where the story would lead me, as Deacon kept switching directions until the last page. I thoroughly enjoyed *Caught Inside* and I look forward to Jamie Deacon's next book.

Jamie Deacon has written a great coming of age, same sex attracted story. I was a little worried when I started reading that the story would unfold like a daytime or teenage soap opera. However, I found myself totally sucked into this tale and keen to find out how it ends. My four star rating is based on the following: good writing supported by good editing, realistic and flawed main characters with a great support cast, and totally absorbing story. Highly recommended read.

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