



# Finding Light

*Lisa Survillas*

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## **Finding Light** Lisa Survillas

“If you have a candle the light won't glow any dimmer if I light yours off mine.” ~ Steven Tyler

Friendship can be the most powerful light in a person's life. High school sophomore Amber Newberg has yet to learn this. Introverted and guarded, she doesn't make friends easily. She is in the Air Force Junior ROTC program at school, using it as a step towards building her future. Besides struggling with her best friend graduating, she expects this to be just another year.

Enter Shane Grafton. When the two are thrown together as partners in chemistry, a friendship outside of the classroom ensues. Having felt like an outsider as a result of his own upbringing, he's someone she feels comfortable with. As their bond grows, Shane is able to pull Amber out of her darkness, but can't get her to see what their relationship could truly be.

In a moment of courage, Amber decides to put her heart on the line. However, she quickly learns how fragile one's heart can be. Can she open her heart again to the possibility of being hurt? Or will she shut herself back down and miss out on the friendship of a lifetime?

## **Finding Light Details**

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Author : Lisa Survillas

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# From Reader Review Finding Light for online ebook

Stephannie Tolitsky- Swoon Worthy Books /Enticing Journey Boo says

Great YA romance novel. Full review @ swoonworthybooks.com

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## Michelle Schroer says

Right away I'm excited!!

This is a new author and her debut YA book!

The blurb sounds amazing - I'm ready to dive in!

4 bright \*\*\*\*\* from this gal!!!!

This is #1 in series of 2 with an HEA. There is no cheating in this book.

The book is written in dual POV which I LOVE like woah... But each time the author changes from Amber to Shane, the story backtracks. So instead of this forward flowing motion, I sometimes felt like I was on a motorboat out in the ocean. My one and ONLY other issue with this book was the ending. It is an HEA but I feel like it was of the HEA-for-now variety. So I feel a little like I'm waiting for the other shoe to drop as I wait for the 2nd in the series to be written and published. So, with the issues out of way...let's get to the good stuff!

The blurb tells us so many things about who Amber is. We learn a bit about Shane, too. But what we don't know are the why's or how's. The funny thing is? Neither of them want to let anyone in to get to know either. Amber is scared to the depths of her soul that the minute she lets someone in, the minute she lets someone care for her and her for them...she or they will be pulled away. She's shy, timid around crowds. Prefers to stick to the ROTC she's involved in at school. Amber finds it difficult to imagine that anyone would find her interesting or pretty enough to be worth the time to stick around. Amber doesn't realize that the path she's taken has made her stronger than she thinks. She's spent her whole life trying to find comfort in anything that was stable. But not much has been.

"...it's selfish of me. But just when I finally feel a connection to someone, they leave."

Shane comes from a family where his grandparents are the guardians of him and 6 others. His brother included. Finances are tight - really tight - and things are stressful to say the least. He's always felt that he is just a burden to them. Shane has no trouble making friends, however, he holds them more than an arm length away. He's fiercely independent - doesn't want to rely on his grandparents, but until he graduates, he knows he has to. He is kind and has one of the biggest hearts of all book boyfriends. He has always had this passion to play football, but never bothered asking his grandparents. Didn't want to be a burden.

"I was a pro at it at my old school. Everyone knew who I was, but nobody knew me."

Shane and Amber end up Chemistry partners and as the weeks go by they find a middle ground. When Shane first sees her, he thinks she's beautiful with long blond hair and has beautiful eyes. She sees him as tall with gorgeous eyes and blond hair. And muscular. Amber never wants to talk to anyone, except her best friend Lily, and she finds herself needing to talk to him. Shane feels the same about her. There is something between the two of them and they barely know each other. She finds herself very distracted by him and this

is all unfamiliar to her. He is overwhelmed by the need to keep his distance but pull her close all the same time.

There is a moment in the book where I wrote a note...'and I'm hooked'. Make no mistake. I was already enjoying where we were headed with the plot and how the characters and secondary characters were developing. However, this book has that potential to just grab you. Out of nowhere. I couldn't put it down and needed to know that each of them would be alright in each of their situations as well as with what was forming between them. I became so motherly while reading this. Protection mode. I wanted to yell and scream at certain times. But those times that each of them needed someone, or something...the other was right there. Sometimes planned and sometimes not - they became what the other needed. It was utterly amazing to read the changes taking place with each of them in regards to their 'normal'. They were branching out...to someone who felt safe to the other and could keep their secrets without worrying what he/she would think. This book will make you feel like you've run a marathon at times and will have you swooning at what a gentleman Shane is to Amber. And I know I mentioned the secondary characters briefly but that wasn't enough! All the characters were written with such care and compassion. I can feel it emanating from the pages of my kindle. The morals and standards of the characters were phenomenal! They are super! There are parts of this book that are very real and could really close home. I'll warn you now...there is a possibility of tears. But it's all worth it in the end! Great YA read for sure!

Oh Lisa Survillas... I'm looking forward to much more!!

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## **Maria says**

3.5 Stars

Review Under BookJunkyGirls

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## **Romancerwblog says**

3.25 out of 5 stars

I received an ARC for of this book in exchange for an honest review...

I signed up for this blog tour without knowing a lot about this book. I really enjoy teenage love stories and drama so usually when I get a YA tour offer; I try to jump on it. (Yes, think Twilight, I love Edward Cullen and am not ashamed of it!)

The story is told from alternating POV's of the two main characters, Amber and Shane. Both of these characters are broken and going through family and personal issues but neither one wants to open up to anyone, including each other. There are a lot of typical teenage days filled with school and homework as well as football and surprisingly, ROTC. I thought it was interesting to have that piece in a book since most of the time you deal with the prom king and queen or most popular kids in YA books. Kudos to Lisa Survillas, for bringing out some other kids in a typical school to the spotlight for a time. I really like Shane and think he is a good character to read about. He seems to really want to live a good life and move past the things in his life that are not ideal and he wants to help Amber do the same. The problem? Will Amber be able to let him into her life?

I also enjoyed the other characters in the book Lily and Eric. They are both good at adding some interest to the story with their own personality. I especially think that Eric has a story to tell in regards to his life.

I do think this a cute story with a relatively low drama storyline. A couple of suggestions I would offer would be with the alternating POV. As much as I love to read the thoughts in each characters head, I felt like it was a little bit more deja vu for me because it was the same scenes told right after each other. I prefer it when the POV alternates with different scenes. That is just my opinion, others may love this POV. I also felt like the story ended a little too soon, I would have preferred it to end with a little more time gone by or an epilogue. But, maybe there is an additional book planned. Overall, if you like books with teenage love, you should pick this one up.

<http://romancerewind.blogspot.com/201...>

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### **For the Love of Books says**

4 SWEET STARS! This book is sweet and cute. Amber and Shane have been through some rough stuff but I thought that their relationship was cute and fun to read. The writing style its self wasn't my favorite it was alternating POV which is something I normally like but this seemed repetitive and didn't help with the flow of the story. With that being said I still enjoyed it. ~ Leslie

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### **Tabitha Willbanks says**

This was a fabulous debut novel from Lisa Survillas. While you are reading, you are going to want to wrap Amber and Shane up in your arms and never let them go. I cried my eyes out reading this book, and I know you will too. I can't wait for the next book and the next part of Amber and Shane's story.

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### **Akeisha -Til' The Last Page BB says**

\*I received an ARC for Finding Light in exchange for an honest review\*

The story revolves around Shane and Amber who are both new at their high school. Shane a 16 year old and Amber a 15 year old both has a heartbreaking past that kids they age should not have to experience.

Amber was intelligent and funny however, she was also guarded when it came to letting anyone into her life. The fears that she experience was real and understandable for a girl her age.

Then there is Shane, who was also guarded when he first started at the high school but soon learned that the people around him where down to earth and just friendly. He was charming, romantic, dedicated and a great friend. Shane's story showcased the troubles most teens go through while being a high school student. It was great seeing this prospective and not the rich kid I own the world attitude.

Finding Light was written in a dual point of view. This is where the story falls apart for me. The events that took place was told in the exact same way from both point of views. There was a change in title so you knew who was telling the story however it got boring reliving the same events from both Amber and Shane.

I think if the story was told from both point of views and would have incorporated different scenes it would have made the story a little more interesting for me.

This was a good first attempt for the author and if you love YA than I would say to give this book a try, the only way you will know if it's for you is to read it.

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### **Rumpled Sheets Blog says**

Told in dual POV, Finding Light is A-M-A-Z-I-N-G debut novel.

Really great young adult story that is quite high on emotional level but it is also very beautiful.

Lisa beautifully developed and delivered Amber and Shane's story. I love that it was written in dual POV and I was able to see both sides of the story.

Lisa is definitely an author we should keep our eyes on.

Looking forward to read the next book.

????? 4.5 ☆ read ?????

>>>ARC received in exchange for an honest review<<<

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### **Debbie says**

I was given this book by Paranormal Romance and Authors that Rock, for a fair and honest review.

This is a sweet tale of young love. 15 yr old Amber and 16 yr old Shane are both newbies at their high school, although Amber has already been there a year. They come together in chemistry, and each finds something in the other that they needed, but didn't realise.

The story itself is good. The tales of Amber and Shane's past were sad, heart breaking in places and watching them open up to each other was beautifully written.

I struggled with the WAY it was written. I am not a fan of first person, present tense and I make no apologies for saying that. A good book will negate that fact. This one was written from both Shane and Amber's point of view, with each change titled so you didn't get confused. BUT BUT BUT as each change occurs, it was a rewrite of the previous scene, from the opposite person's viewpoint. Not just that, the whole conversation was rewritten. It became annoying. I skim read at the best of times, but I started skipping whole pages.

If you can see past this, it's a good solid YA book, no sex or violence, although some reference to drug and alcohol abuse, and the aftermath of such, makes it a good read for all. I would let my 12 yr old daughter read

it.

3 stars

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### **Karen says**

This is a great YA read. The two characters are from broken homes and have so much to try to overcome. I felt so many emotions and so connected to the characters. The way the storyline is written, switching back and forth points of view, show how both characters share similar thoughts and emotions and how their bond grows through them. I hope there will be another book so I can watch these characters grow. Great book from a first time author!!!!

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### **Mayra says**

Overall I did enjoy reading the book.

It is written in two view points. I did like it at times because it gave extra insight into the life of the characters when Amber and Shane weren't together. I found it too repetitive and started to skip the conversation in the second viewpoint (Shane's). There are a lot of errors that can be fixed with more editing. I must admit that I was disappointed in the ending. It was way too rushed! There is a lot of potential to make Finding Light shine brilliantly because the author has talent. I found myself crying a few times (okay, okay at times for a few chapters nonstop lol). I wish the book was longer. I want their story to continue. I look forward to reading future books written by author Lisa Survillas.

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### **Lisa Survillas says**

Of course I love it, I wrote it!! Hope you love it too!!

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### **Sara says**

Very cute love story. I enjoyed the fact that it was not your typical most popular girl and boy love story but more of a real high school relationship.

The different points of view were fun and engaging however for me it was a little hard to follow at the beginning of each character.

Looking forward to more books by Lisa!

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### **United Indie Book Blog says**

Finding Light was a very sweet book. The main characters had such a genuine and adorable friendship. They didn't rush into anything and really had an old fashion relationship in that they didn't have cell phones to text and there was no mention of social media or even internet access at home. Their relationship was a lot like relationships prior to cell phones and the internet.

Both main characters came from a very unconventional family. They both had secrets that they kept them from opening up to anyone else. My heart went out to both of them. They really didn't get to be regular teens since both of them lived in very dysfunctional homes. Amber was so scared that people would leave her life and Shane did not want to end up like his no good brothers.

The writing was well done but it was kind of annoying how we basically read both sides of the stories. It was very repetitive and I found myself skipping huge chunks of the second telling of the story. It made the story drag on and would have been a better read if their sides of the story intermingled more. The concept of each chapter being divided into two with each half being told by each of them was a good one but it was a bit too wordy and drawn out.

I did like Amber and Shane a lot. They were both very strong characters that were very broken but found away to overcome the way they were raised. I would certainly read more by this author. The main characters were well written. I would give the novel 4 stars.

Reviewed by Aubrey

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### **Nicole says**

High school is rough for everyone but when parts of you aren't perfect it's worse.

Amber is used to being let down and makes choices that allow herself to avoid getting hurt. She has one friend and does what she can to stay 'invisible' in school.

Shane's life isn't perfect, until he meets the shy, withdrawn Amber.

Together they put their hearts on the line. Will they be enough for each other to heal from their pasts. Together can they find light.

Lisa is a new author to me and I look forward to reading the rest of her books. This was a great story. It shows that not everyone has a perfect life and that everyone needs to learn how to open their hearts up.

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