



The World As He Sees It

A.M. Arthur

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Love knows no limits...but fear could keep them from seeing it.

Gabe lives a double life. As Gabriel Henson, he works multiple jobs to support his remorseless, alcoholic mother. As Tony Ryder, he does internet porn for extra cash and regular safe sex without complications. But when he encounters a scared young man freaking out in a night club, he's compelled to reach out. Ever since then, the memory of that young man has haunted him.

Tristan Lavalley lives his life thirty minutes at a time. After a traumatic brain injury three years ago, he gets through his day recording his life in spiral notebooks and sticky note reminders. A month after Tristan's embarrassingly public meltdown, another chance meeting with Gabe sparks a warm, emotionally fulfilling email relationship. Both men crave more, but fear of the next step stands between them.

And then Tristan gets the opportunity to take part in a clinical trial that could improve his memory—if the side effects don't kill him. But for Tristan, the possibility of a real life with Gabe is worth any risk...

Note: This book was previously published by Samhain Publishing. No significant changes have been made to this edition. Please read with tissues handy.

The World As He Sees It Details

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From Reader Review *The World As He Sees It* for online ebook

Lisa The Novel Approach says

The World As He Sees It is a sequel of sorts to *The Truth as He Knows It*, and while it can be read as a standalone, the experience is much better if the stories are read in order—for context and character development.

I really love Tristan from *The Truth as He Knows It*, and I was so happy that the author was giving him his own story. This is a love story between two very unconventional heroes. In fact, I would classify Gabe as more of an anti-hero.

We meet Gabe in the first book of this series, as the friend and sometimes porn scene partner of Shane, Tristan's best friend Noel's boyfriend. Gabe has had a pretty tough life—some would say by his own choosing. His dad owns the gay bar, *Big Dick's*, that is featured both in this series as well as *The Cost of Repairs* series. His mother is an alcoholic that he works three jobs to support—including his internet porn job, where he met Shane. His dad keeps trying to tell him it's not his job to take care of her, but he just can't walk away.

We learned of Tristan's story in the previous book; he has a traumatic brain injury from a gay-bashing that nearly killed him and Noel. His parents want nothing to do with him because of the gay, although they do still pay for his care and the long term care facility where Tristan lives. He has basically no short term memory, so he lives his life in notebooks and sticky notes, writing everything down so that he can refer back to them. Tristan meets Gabe when he decided he couldn't take it anymore, and goes out by himself one night to *Big Dick's*—where he loses his notebook and freaks out. Gabe helps calm him until Noel gets there, and it seems that somehow, Tristan remembers Gabe's eyes. Gabe, being the caretaker that he is, wants nothing more than to fix everything for Tristan. He's more than angry on Tristan's behalf for what has happened to him and how he's had to live his life since the attack.

I'm not going to recap the plot here. The essence of this story is truly two men who each have really big emotional needs in their lives, and how they have to fight to make a relationship work. They both know going into it that it won't be easy or follow some well-established formula. Everything is going to be an improvisation with a lot of obstacles thrown in—from Gabe dealing with Tristan's memory and health issues, to Gabe learning to put himself first and stop enabling his mother, to Tristan learning to deal with his own anger and sadness at his situation. I loved the evolution especially of Tristan coming to grips with what happened to him and his courage in asking his friends to stop treating him like a child and accept that yes, while he will always have issues, they need to help him grow and move on. Another aspect of this story I really enjoyed was Tristan's reaction to Gabe's porn career. So refreshing. :)

There is a lot of angst in this one, so if that's not your thing, stay away. Dealing with an alcoholic brings its own special set of issues, especially to a kid who feels misplaced guilt about his parents' breakup and his own sexuality. Tristan's further abandonment by his family and the decisions that his friends make without informing or consulting him drives a wedge between the group. Luckily there is enough love and support for them to persevere and reach their well-deserved happy ending.

The first book in this series gutted me, and I'm happy to report that while there is still a lot of pain and drama in this story, I wasn't left in tears at the end like that one, so that's a good thing, right!?!? I definitely recommend this for fans of this author and this series or the *Cost of Repairs* series as well. Well done.

Caipi says

Three years ago Tristan suffered a traumatic brain injury in a gay bashing. Since then his short-term memory only keeps for 30 minutes. That means, while he remembers everything until shortly before the attack, the last three years are a blank sheet for him. That's why he writes everything that he experiences on a notepad. One day he panics in a club and gets rescued by Gabe. And when they meet again some weeks later, Tristan doesn't remember Gabe, but his eyes, Tristan is sure he knows those eyes!

When Gabe rescues Tristan, he's absolutely impressed by him, can't forget him. And after they met the second time he starts a friendship with Tristan, at first only by email, later with Skype. And despite his own problems (he takes care of his alcoholic mother and shoots porn to pay her bills), Gabe can't get enough of Tristan, tries to spend more time with him.

Tristan is so happy about the growing friendship with Gabe and when he gets the opportunity to participate in a clinical trial to improve his memory, he takes it.

Although I am afraid that a lot about the clinical trial is unrealistic, I very much enjoyed this book. OMG, I was so happy when Tristan had his first real breakthrough and remembered what time breakfast and dinner are without checking his notes, that I cried!

My only complaint is that there were so many sex scenes in the second half that I was tempted to skip them.

4,5 stars

Eugenia says

Heartwarming, sweet, sexy and totally engaging!! I loved this story...both MCs had great depth and I loved both of them.

The premise behind this book that one of the MCs, Tristan, has been living with short term memory loss for three years after a gay bashing is interesting. There have been several movies that come to mind with this premise. How scientifically accurate it is, I don't know. What I do know is that Tristan's condition seemed well handled and described as it changed through the book.

Tristan was a fun character to get to know and see change as the story went on.

Gabe, solid, patient, caring Gabe has less of an arc in here than Tristan, but I found him beyond sweet and sexy. I also like how his job as a porn star(or model) was portrayed—there was no shame in what he did. This is good.

So, adorable characters, an interesting situation involving memory, and a focus on family made this book a solid read. Oops, I listened to it...the audiobook was OK. It's not Guy Locke's best work since at times his voice was wooden and almost robotic, while at others seemed spot on. Still, I listened to the whole thing (at

1.25 speed) in one go.

I skipped the first book and had no problem reading this one even if the MCs from the first had prominent roles in here. I didn't feel like I was missing out on anything since the focus was on Tristan and Gabe.

I'll likely go back and read the first and the next one in the series.

Veronica of V's Reads says

This is the second book in a series, but can be enjoyed as a standalone.

Tristan and Gabe met once in the bathroom of the gay bar Gabe's fathers own, Big Dick's, in the previous book in this series. Gabe was struck by Tristan's vulnerability, it flipped all his care-taking switches, when Tristan had a panic attack after he forgot where he was. This book picks up two months later when Tristan returns to Big Dick's with his friends Noah and Shane--and Gabe takes total care of them.

See, Tristan was gay bashed three years prior and his short-term memory is around 30 minutes. He copes by taking copious notes of all his interactions. His best friend, Noah, was also attacked with him--though Noah came out of it with only physical and emotional scars. Noah visits Tristan twice a week, oftentimes with his boyfriend, Shane. (The previous book was about Shane and Noah, and they have important recurring roles here.)

Gabe knows Shane from work--well in a couple ways. Gabe has been a gay porn actor for two years and did a few scenes with Shane in the previous book. He knew Shane wanted to get out of porn, so he helped Shane to get hired as a go-go dancer at Big Dick's. They are friendly, though there is no spark between them.

There is, however, a BIG SPARK for Gabe and Tristan. Gabe is drawn to Tristan, and wants to protect him. Gabe has his own troubles, though. He is living with, and paying the mortgage for, his verbally and physically abusive alcoholic mother. She never got over her husband being a closeted gay man, and Gabe suffered her abuse and disease for some time, before he was raised by his dads.

Tristan's memory is a problem that Gabe works through by having email communication. This way, Tristan has a physical record of their connection. In addition, they video chat and Gabe begins to make an impression in Tristan's mind. Add to this, Tristan is offered inclusion in a drug trial that may increase his short-term memory retention. The risks can be severe and debilitating, but they are worth it for him to try.

This is a sweet and sexy story that really felt complete. I liked Gabe bunches. He's a caring and compassionate lonely man. And Tristan is the same. He has been kicked, beaten and kicked again when he was down. Yet, he does look for a better life, a whole life that he can share with someone he loves. Gabe seems to be that man, but what will Tristan think about his mom? Or, the porn?

The results were positive, and smoking hot. I never felt like either man was "settling." There was genuine attraction and affection throughout. Each man was as honest as he could be, and the full truth was not nearly as devastating as they expected. Expect an HEA and two guys who wear each other out the second they get some alone-time. (Or, "semi" alone-time.)

I received a review copy via NetGalley.

Debra says

Full release day review originally posted at [Sinfully... Addicted](#)

While this book can be read as a standalone, if you've read *The Truth as He Knows It* you will get so much more out of the story as Tristan's relationship with Noel plays a big part here. This one focuses on Tristan, who was introduced in the first book as Noel's best friend and who I instantly fell in love with. The two of them were victims of a gay bashing in college, leaving them both seriously injured, but leaving Tristan with short term memory damage. He is otherwise healthy but he is living in an assisted living facility with mostly elderly residents and while he retains all his memories up until the time of the assault, his short term memory tends to max out at 30 minutes. He has resorted to recording everything that happens in notebooks, on sticky notes and even on his hands. If something repeats enough, for instance Noel's boyfriend Shane visiting him, he will retain a sense of "déjà vu" but won't necessarily remember details; Shane becomes familiar to him, but he can't remember his name.

Tristan briefly met Gabe in the first story when he was alone at Gabe's dad's bar and freaked out when his memory failed. Gabe assisted him and never forgot him. When Tristan returns to the bar with Shane and Noel the two spend the night dancing and strike up a friendship. Gabe has his own issues revolving around living with and supporting his alcoholic mother and he is holding down two jobs, one of which is making gay porn films.

As the two men get closer and Tristan participates in a drug trial that may strengthen his memory, Gabe struggles with how to reveal his porn career without losing Tristan. There are also some unexpected problems that arise between Tristan and Noel as Tristan starts to become more independent and spends more time with Gabe.

For those who are wondering, this book is a lot lower on the angst scale than the first story. While Tristan's injuries and the life he has been living is heartbreaking, he is such a fun, sweet character and once he comes out of his shell his enthusiasm and joy just jumps off the page. He has times where his situation brings him down and he sees himself as a burden, or where he is jealous of Noel's relationship with Shane, but he is also intent on trying to improve and live a life outside of the care facility. When Gabe enters his life as another connection to the outside world, Tristan's flirtatious and loving personality really comes out. We get to know them first through their email correspondence before they start an actual physical relationship, which was a nice way to see that Gabe really wanted to be a part of Tristan's life regardless of his condition.

Gabe is a perfect match for Tristan. The enormity of his heart can be seen in his refusal to walk away from the mother who has used and abused him his whole life. He has been filming porn for two years to support himself and pay off his mother's debts. It also allowed him to have sex without attachments. Gabe is instantly attracted to and protective of Tristan, and he is able to give Tristan what he needs - someone who will love and treat him like an adult as opposed to someone who is broken or damaged. The sex scenes were hot and the chemistry between the two characters smoldered even when they were just looking at each other across a table.

The drama in the story comes mostly from everyone tiptoeing around Tristan and keeping things from him.

Both Noel and Gabe are keeping some pretty big secrets with the rationalization that they are waiting for the right moment or don't want to hurt Tristan, but of course we know that never works out too well. I liked the way Tristan handled himself in both situations. I'm pretty sure there will be a big division in readers' reaction to how the fallout from Gabe's porn job is handled, but I for one didn't have a problem with Tristan's reaction. It was not necessarily what I expected, but I liked that it was something different and that Tristan asserted his ability to choose what he would and would not accept in his relationship regardless of how Noel or anyone else might have wanted him to act.

Tristan and Gabe quickly became one of my favorite A.M. Arthur couples. The story was paced really well and had a happier, lighter tone than the first. By not getting dragged down in drama it allowed the focus to be on building a solid relationship between the two characters and finding ways to work around unmovable obstacles. There is a happy ending and I hope to see more updates on Tristan and Gabe in future books.

Janeylou says

4.5 stars

Teri says

I was really excited about this. After meeting Tristan in the first one, I just absolutely feel for him. His life has been rough and I couldn't wait to get more of him.

I liked Gabe, too. I thought he was good people.

It was nice to see Noel and Shane again. (I may still like Shane the best)

There were things in here that didn't work for me, and there were things that wouldn't work for me *personally* but for the way the characters handled it or felt about it (realistic or not) it didn't bother me too badly, but still made me pause.

I learned something too. I know what fluffing means. And what a fluffer is.

Anyhoo....I'm going to just put a little warning tag in here under this spoiler, okay? Cuz I can see some people having an issue with a thing or two in here. (view spoiler)

I'm glad this was less angsty than the previous book, because that one almost killed me. I didn't feel there was unnecessary drama in this. Gabe's mom was...ugh...hope that all works out there. Noel had some moments when I wanted to smack him. It was unfair, I mean, I know he was protective of Tristan and I get that but he had an attitude at times. He was pretty self aware however and did at least recognize when he was out of line. Still love Shane. Tristan turned out to be a little different than I had imagined from the first one. He had such a rough time with his parents being assholes and the pressure from his family and then the attack and everything. I liked the emails. I kind of wish I could have read the ones that Gabe wrote about their intimate moments together, but I guess I'm just pervy or whatever.

There were times when maybe the conversations weren't exactly ...I don't know, a few of them felt off, but overall, I did like the book.

Karen says

Back in book #1 of this series we met Officer Noel Carlson and through him we got glimpses of Tristan, Noel's best friend from college. We also learned that Noel and Tristan were victims of a gay bashing a very violent one that left Noel physically scarred and Tristan with a traumatic brain injury that seriously impaired his short term memory. Tristan's memories of what happened before the accident are the only thing he can retain. Anything and anyone after the accident is usually forgotten within a very short time frame (around 30 minutes). To combat this and in an effort to try and have some control over his life Tristan makes notes copious notes about everything. The simplest things like what time meals are, when Noel's coming to see him (Thursdays and Sundays, see he makes good notes).

I loved Tristan's character so much and at the same time he made my heart ache. I've worked with people with ABIs and TBI (Acquired Brain Injury/Traumatic Brain Injury) and it can be heartbreaking watching them struggle to have some control over the simplest things in their life. Trying to return to the person they once were or to simply adjust and accept who they've become. Of course as with most things each case is different depending on the extent of the injury and the affected part of the brain.

I can't say that this book wasn't filled with angst because to be perfectly honest it was. So for those of you who haven't read this yet here's where I use the spoiler tags...

(view spoiler)

Yet in spite of all the angst and issues I sincerely enjoyed this story. The fact that both Tristan and Gabe's issues were for the most part natural progressions of their main problems and/or challenges helped to make things seem more natural and less contrived at the heart of Tristan's issues was his TBI and for Gabe it was his mother's alcoholism and his sincere desire to help her get better and can I just say here that in the end the course of action that Gabe choose in my opinion truly was the best decision he could make for both his mother and him.

I liked Tristan and Gabe. Tristan was strong and spunky and determined to get his life back and Gabe was patient and wonderfully supportive of Tristan and the challenges presented to him by his medical condition. He was exactly the type of person that someone with an ABI or TBI needs . People like Gabe do exist I've seen them. Kind, supportive, loving and patient beyond human comprehension.

My one issue with this story...believe it or not...was the sex. Sweetbabyjebus!!! There was more sex than a whorehouse having a 2-for-1 sale on a Saturday night!!! I know Tristan felt he had 3 years to make up for but honestly? Could he not have done some of it off page?

I bet you're thinking I forgot about that parent rant, right? No, but I did decide that Tristan's waste of oxygen

piece-a-shit parents weren't worth it and sadly Gabe's mother in spite of the fact that she did get her act together finally earned little redemption in my eyes but it did make me happy for Gabe. Also let me just add that Gabe's dads were fan-freakin-tastic!!! I loved them. They were what parents are suppose to be loving and supportive and just all round awesome dudes.

So at the end of it all I'm giving this one 4 stars because I adored Tristan and Gabe and because of Woody and Buzz (you'll have to read the book if you want to know who they are) But mostly as my friends son told her "Mom, every boy needs a Woody and a Buzz." what can I say the kid knew of what he spoke.

Annika says

Audiobook review

3,5 stars

The World as He Sees It is the second book in the *Perspectives* series but it can be read/listened to as a standalone. Sure, the couple from the first book have a huge presence in the book and there are events referenced to that book, but it's nothing that keeps you from enjoying and following this one.

This is the second story with an amnesiac character that I've read in the past couple of days. This one though is a bit different from other amnesiac stories that I've read. I reminds me of the movie *50 first dates* where the main character needs to get the love interest to fall in love with him again each and every day. Where all new memories get erased and nothing new sticks.

Life for Tristan Lavalley changed three years back when he and his best friend were the victims of a gay bashing and he suffered a traumatic brain injury. Now he lives his life thirty minutes at a time before it all gets erased. To say that he feels lonely and shut out from life is putting it mildly. He desperately wants more, but don't know how, but joining his best friend and his boyfriend for a night out and a birthday celebration seems to be a step in the right direction.

Gabe's life isn't a dance on roses either; working several jobs and taking care of his alcoholic and abusive mother. It leaves him with little time to relax and enjoy friends or relationships. One of those jobs is working as a bartender at a night club, and it is there he encounters the man he can't get out of his head. So when he returns he takes a chance and reaches out, and the rest, is as they say history.

I loved Tristan and Gabe together, they were so sweet. They had passion, trust and understanding. They were there for each other as much as they were able. Their relationship might have started out with some hot and heavy dancing and grinding, but developed over time via emails where they really got to know each other and started to build a foundation. When Tristan is offered a place in a clinical trial he gladly takes it – risks and side effects be damned.

Can I just say that I admire Tristan so much, I mean living life half an hour at a time, not remembering new people, where you are, what you are talking about from one moment to the next must be so terrifying - to say the least. But that was never the vibe you got from him. Sure the frustration over the situation was there, as were the loneliness, but more than that he had this determination through it all. A true fighter.

There are a couple of things that didn't really work for me, but that's all highly subjective and all on me. Let's

start with the whole clinical trial and miracle medicine for Tristan's brain injury. It was too far-fetched for my tastes. Sure I am well aware that for many books you need to suspend all beliefs and go with the flow, but with miracle cures I just can't. It's too much for me. My second issue is the amount of on page sex. This book is very hot and heavy - how can it not be when one of the main characters works in the porn industry? But still, a bit too much for my tastes. But like I said, this is just me and shouldn't keep anyone for picking up the book.

Guy Locke did a fantastic narration or rather performance of this book. With a wide range of different voices and some accents it was always easy to tell characters apart and following along. And adding a whole lot of feelings made the characters come alive for the listener. Just the way I like my audios and makes me want to come back for more.

A copy of this book was generously provided by the author in exchange for an honest review

Caz Malpas says

3.5 - 4 UNFORGETTABLE STARS!

Tristan has short term memory loss caused by a brutal attack, Gabe is a porn star who after witnessing Tristan having a major melt down (in book 1) can't seem to get Tristan out of his head. They meet up again by chance and so the story begins. Not as much angst as in book 1, thank the Lord, my nerves couldn't of taken it. A sweet story about overcoming debilitating conditions and sticking by your loved ones no matter what. To fully enjoy this book I would recommend reading book 1 first.

Cadiva says

Far more enjoyable with less angsty stuff

I really liked this one, the drama and angst levels were so much more manageable compared to book one in the series.

I absolutely adored Gabe, he was perfect for Tristan, supportive without being patronising and willing to work with his short term memory issues.

The email correspondence was a clever way of getting the relationship development needed without the difficulties involved with Tristan's disability.

Shane also was much improved in this one while Noel had a brief period of being a dick but it was good to see them still together and thriving.

The sex was also lovingly crafted as Gabe found ways for Tristan to keep the feelings of their love making even when he couldn't find the memory.

I liked the way the medical trial was handled too with encouraging development not a miraculous recovery

and how Gabe was giving Tristan hope for the future no matter what happened.

Ele says

2.75 stars

I suppose this book can be read as a standalone but I strongly recommend against it. Like with all A.M.Arthur's books that are part of a series, the stories are intertwined, characters from other books come and go and scenes from a previous book might be important for the next one.

This is the story of Tristan and Gabe. We met both of them in *The Truth as He Knows It*. Tristan is Noel's friend, a gay bashing left him with no short-term memory and he has to jot down everything to stay in the present. One night, he decides to go out all alone but the night ends in disaster. This is where he meets Gabe for the first time. Gabe is a porn star, Shane's co worker from the first book. A friendship starts which eventually leads to a relationship.

I don't usually go for stories with porn stars, but Tristan was a very interesting character and I wanted to read his story. And to be honest, Tristan was the only thing that I trully liked. He was adorable and brave through his struggles. And admittedly, what he went through was heartbreaking.

"Lonely. Horny. Scared. Sick and tired of his broken brain. Desperate to be whole again. All of the above. All the time."

First of all, I'm happy to inform you that this isn't a major angstfest which was my main complaint with the author's latest books. No unnecessary drama here.

My issues with this book were pretty much the same with the previous.

* The lies. Lies again. Gabe doesn't reveal his profession to Tristan. Actually, they start dating, get in a relationship with each other, have sex and THEN Gabe decides that he must inform Tristan that he is a porn star. Btw, Gabe does porn because he wants to. Yes, the extra money come in hand since he takes care of his alcoholic mother, but he admits that he chose to do this because he likes easy and uncomplicated sex.

*Tristan's reaction when Gabe told him he does porn. Totally unrealistic, like Noel's reaction in the first book, at least as far as I'm concerned. (view spoiler) Again, for someone else it might not be a problem but to me it seemed unbelievable and frankly, it killed my romance dead.

So, even though this started out good, unfortunately it did not meet my expectations.

P.S In this book, Tristan takes part in a clinical trial that will help him improve his memory. I don't know how accurate this was medically, but it didn't really matter to me. The author did a nice job with Tristan's medical condition in my opinion.

Review cross-posted on Reviews by Jessewave. ARC provided from the publisher in exchange for an honest review

Lyn says

Even though I didn't really enjoy book 1, Tristen, who was a secondary character, left such an impression on me, I decided to read his story.

At the age of 20 a bashing left Tristen with short term memory. He can't remember anything past 30 minutes. He carries a notebook with him, and writes everything down so he can refer to it after each memory loss. Tristen has also been living in nursing home, because his parents are not interested in having a gay son.

Gabe is a waiter/bartender and a porn star. He's lonely but not interested in a relationship because he's taking care of his alcoholic mother.

Tristen is so sweet and feisty and Gabe is so patient and protective. I loved them together. I stayed away from the audio this time and enjoyed book 2 so much more. Even the writing seemed better.

My only complaint...the ending seemed a bit rushed, but overall, I really enjoyed Tristen and Gabe's story.

Christy says

I will be completely honest and admit I've been almost afraid to read this second book in A.M. Arthur's 'Perspectives' series. The first book had me sobbing, horribly, at the end even though Shane and Noel got their happy ever after. My fear going into this installment was because this is Tristan's story, Noel's best friend, and since I already knew what the issues were with Tristan, I was positive this would be a difficult read for my heart and soul.

To figure out his mindset. Except he knew what it was, because he felt like that most of the time.

Lonely. Horny. Scared.

Sick and tired of his broken brain. Desperate to be whole again.

All of the above. All the time.

Three years ago Tristan's world imploded, and he suffered a very traumatic brain injury. Thus, he lives his life in thirty-minute increments as that's the most memory he can retain. He reminded me of the movie 'Memento' although I was pretty sure that Tristan wouldn't experience that same plot. A couple of months ago he went to Big Dick's alone, without Noel, and lost his notebook and then couldn't remember where he was and had a mini-meltdown. That's how Gabe met him. Gabe's dad's own Big Dick's and Gabe hasn't been able to forget the young man with the memory problems. So when Noel, Shane, and Tristan return for a fun night, Gabe spends hours talking and dancing with Tristan, and doing a great job with Tristan's limits. What begins from there is an email relationship that is so sweet I found myself tearing up a few times.

Gabe has way too much responsibility, although he has chosen it, but I understand because he loves his mother. His mother is a raging alcoholic and Gabe lives with her, takes care of her, cleans up after her, and pays all the bills which is why he does the part-time porn. He doesn't make enough as a waiter and occasional bartender at his dad's club. Gabe is, in essence, a fixer, even though he doesn't want to admit to that. He also doesn't want to admit he's getting attached to Tristan, but when Tristan begins this trial for a new memory drug, Gabe is right there cheering him on.

