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Posted on 21 February 2017 By Tahlia Newland

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Perception ? PDF eBook or Kindle ePUB free

A Matter of Perception is a collection of short stories that Tahlia Newland has created. I have always been a fan of the whole powers and depth of characters portrayed in books and as I read *Mistral's Mistake* and *A Hole in the Pavement* which were the two that I loved, I automatically loved the anthology. As you read on each of the six short stories represent a theme in them. As I was reading through them all I started to get the sense of life lessons hidden within the words of the pages.

The Boneyard The Boneyard really piqued my interest as I read it. It is true that people live their lives in danger by making assumptions before hand and this can cause a drastic change in your life. In other words, think before you act or else you will end up deeper into the mud than you were before and no one likes being dirty.

The Rose Coloured Glasses I really like this short story also. As we should all know everything living has emotions and sometimes certain emotions rise up higher than all of the others. As we humans forge on during our day we like to let our emotions overrun ourselves and change our views of what we see and this could be a bad thing in certain situations or, hopefully, a good thing. It is important that we do not let our emotions cloud our own judgment. And this is my advice to everyone even though I suck at giving advice. This book is a collection of short stories with a variety of themes and settings. I'll give each one a little attention so none of them feel left out. If you want to know the author's intentions in writing which I always do, be sure not to skip her thoughtful explanation of the themes at the end.

The Drorgon Slayer's Choice The first story was a fantastic encounter between an unnamed photographer's assistant and The Gods. This fast paced, thrilling glimpse into a bigger tale begins with a blow to the head, awakening new and fascinating senses and perceptions in the young woman, who then proceeds to get snarled up in a battle fought by James, a Drorgon Slayer and a god. An unexplainable attraction forms between the two and James seems determined to see where it will go. But can a regular girl and a god really find something that lasts. This incredible tale has a fascinating take on gods and human mythology that I'd like to read about. I enjoyed how the main character's disability, epilepsy, became an advantage, allowing her to see what regular humans couldn't, which was intriguing. The myriad of questions left unanswered led me to believe this was very much a preview for another book, *The Drorgon Slayer's Choice*. This short story made me curious about hearing in the following book, but unsure just how many of my questions would be answered.

The Bone Yard This is a chilling tale of supernatural creatures helping a woman trapped in tragedy, with a cruel twist ending. I enjoyed the emotion and the wildly imaginative supernatural characters, but felt left out here and there by abrupt or absent explanations.

Mistral's Mistake Wizards battle with the power of colored light. Mistral and her apprentice Ealanor must bring wayward Damien to account for his crimes. This story feels

like a segments from the middle of a larger story and I was forced to read and reread certain passages to understand what was happening I truly enjoy the style of bursting information onto a reader, not boring us with endless explanation, but clarity can be compromised with this technique Tahlia succeeded overall in pulling it off. A Hole In The Pavement Norris follows his Goddess, Georgia, on their way to the bus and through an obstacle course of neuroses turned real I loved Norris fragile sincerity and both characters sweet overcoming of their hang ups This was my favorite of the tales. Not me, it can't be. This story was a surreal switch off between an ancient world and modern Is the main character an unwilling sacrifice to foreign gods, or a modern woman battling deadly cancer I liked the warmth and depth of this story, exploring the characters feelings facing death. Rose Coloured Glasses Sally is a chubby, frizzy haired office girl, enjoys a new perspective on her coworkers with some fantastic glasses Through them she sees new depth in others and possibly love This story was full of rich description and challenged me to see beyond first impressions Tahlia's writing is very loving. Tahlia's tales were vivid and rich Her characters are deeply real, as if she is writing about people she knows, not making up individuals They learn deep and vital lessons in each of the stories. The first three stories felt a lot like excerpts from larger stories while the final three were true short stories, encompassing the entire subject on their own I thoroughly enjoyed all the stories, especially the daring honesty of her emotions There were a few ungainly expressions and descriptions, with people and events thrust in with little explanation, which became confusing at times On the other hand, it contributed to the thrill of her writing and the attraction of the story Not once was I bored with too much explanation, which is a problem in a lot of writing I've read lately Tahlia has a unique, charming style that is bold, honest, and thrilling I feel like I know her after reading her work. Tahlia delivers another solid book, this time by way of a mix of short stories I loved the little intro, A drop from the well of creativity I loved the way the stories were characterised like children, it made me smile, especially this line Inspiration falls like a drop of mercurial silver into the vast depths of my open mind It hovers in space, then collects and merges with a gaggle of ideas and images until it hangs pregnant and heavy with a pressing need to deliver. I just adore that imagery What a welcome intro Now, the content While some of the short stories weren't really my favourite, I can't fault Tahlia for producing a flawlessly written book, it was The subject matter was uplifting and inspirational in each piece, dealing with self exploration of your mind and understanding perception, dealing with death and even the dangers of making assumptions. By far, my favourite story was The Dragon Slayer's Choice I felt the most connected with the characters, even though it was probably the most far fetched in terms of plot. In closing, if you are after a delightfully uplifting and exploratory adventure that is easy to read, well crafted and inspirational too, all while galloping through romance, YA, drama, science fiction and fantasy genres, pick this one up Bouncing through the perceptions of different characters in diverse situations is certainly a way to break free of the usual

monotony of story telling Such holds truth in Tahlia Newland s anthology, entitled A Matter of Perception It is through several short stories that Ms Newland introduces us to characters that see their lives through only one perspective without stopping to see that the world is not only black and white, but various shades of grey, along with a prismatic and colorful variation of outlooks Newland delivers tales that will make the reader ponder on what level they regard their own problems and view of life After reading Author Tahlia Newland s anthology, you ll be convinced to see your own life through rose colored glasses Nely Cab, Author of Creatura When Tahlia Newland, an on and off blog buddy of mine, asked me to read and review her collection of magical realism urban fantasy short stories, there was no way I could refuse, but the truth is I d have read this collection of six tales no matter who the author was. Taken together, these stories are a collection of different ways to perceive fantasy, and to use fantasy to perceive reality The collection feels like a complete suite all moods and tastes are well represented Taken separately, well, let s do that, shall we The Drorgon Slayer s Choice An unnamed photographer s assistant sees an interdimensional monster, and is rescued by a god, though she does some rescuing of her own It s a great blend of action, romance, and philosophy This was my favorite of the collection, and not just because it s the longest or most developed I really wanted to know what happens next The Bone Yard This one is the darkest in the series, in terms of mood It involves a woman in a desperate situation being helped by supernatural beings, though the twist at the end is rather grisly A balance of classic horror and modern terror. Mistril s Mistake With great power comes great responsibility, even when you re a wizard The colored light battle had me imagining light sabers but only a little , but the story about taking ownership of your actions is actually very good More, please A Hole in the Pavement What if our emotional troughs became literal holes that we fell into That s the premise of this story, and Newland envisions it beautifully It was delicate and delicious. Not me, it can t be Mind blowing alternate points of view between a modern woman undergoing chemo and an ancient fantasy world woman about to become a ritual sacrifice and each are apparently dreaming of the other in a fabulous riff on the old Am I a man dreaming I am a butterfly, or a butterfly dreaming I am a man conundrum I was teary at the end. Rose Coloured Glasses Easily the lightest tale in the sextet, this story is about an office worker named Sally who discovers a new perspective on her colleagues and a possible new romance thanks to a very special pair of glasses Haven t we all wished for these at some point I believe that any fan of fantasy, magical realism, or just a really gripping tale, will find this collection of stories compelling and entertaining, but what really puts the cherry on top is Newland s explanation of the themes, included at the back of the book Excellent book group fodder, but perfect for a plane trip, as well. Goes well with hot chocolate and a brownie. This collection of six short stories by Tahlia Newland explores the nebulous distinction between truth and perception though the stories vary in setting and theme I think the first three stories have the potential to be developed into longer works while the last three are complete in themselves. The first, The Drorgon Slayer

s Choice, is billed as a romantic urban fantasy though I think it fits the paranormal romance genre better. A blow to the head results in a young woman able to see a deadly otherworldly battle raging on Earth to which humans are oblivious. When her ability to perceive the Gods and their enemies is discovered she is offered an extraordinary choice. Newland does a credible job of creating a unique mythology, and I like the idea of modern day Gods whose role have changed over the millenniums. However I don't think the story particularly needed the romantic element, I think it's hard to sell a romance in such a compressed format, even one that relies on instant attraction. The Bone Yard was enjoyable with a creepy atmosphere and unusual premise and a chilling twist. I liked it for what it was but I think it could be fleshed out further to be complete. In *Mistrals Mistake* we step into the middle of a battle between two magic users who were once lovers. Damien has fallen prey to the lure of power his abilities can afford him while Ealanor is tasked to stop him. What follows is a struggle between light and dark, both literally and figuratively, until one emerges the victor. I liked the battle of lights and the connection between its colour and its purpose. It's an interesting idea that could work for an urban fantasy novel. However, I thought the ability of the magic wielders to shift form rather random. Still a neat story with a moralistic ending. *The Hole in the Pavement* was probably my favourite story of the collection. Every morning Norris follows Georgia to the bus stop, a silent admirer without the courage to approach her in even the most benign of ways until Georgia falls and Norris overcomes his own doubts to reach out to her. A clever mix of the metaphorical made literal. I enjoyed the message of the story. The concept was interesting but I struggled with the execution of *Not Me, It Can't Be It*. It was not until the end that its intent resolved for me. The final story *Rose Coloured Glasses* is not a unique idea but fits perfectly with the overall exploration of perception that underpins this collection. Sally gains a new viewpoint on her colleagues when she tries on some unique glasses left on her office desk. I thought this was a well written and sweet story. While I do think some stories are stronger than others, overall *A Matter of Perception* is a collection of imaginative and thoughtful stories that are easy and quick to read. To read this review and like it check out my site at www.ufreviews.com. This is a collection of short stories, which I have to admit isn't always my cup of tea, but this was actually a collection I enjoyed. Normally the short stories I do read have the same characters from series I like or involve the same group of people. This collection of short stories was a really interesting concept in that they all have to do with all the different ways to perceive the fantasy genre. One of the biggest problems I have with collections of short stories is that they are not always cohesive, but this collection does not suffer from that problem at all. I think I should start with the story I liked the least, which would have to be *The Bone Yard*, and that largely because I am one of those people who don't like stories that freak me out or scare me. But if you are one of those people who love the kind of horror fantasy with a twist genre, then this story is so for you. Now there was a huge range of stories in this collection, and I think my favorite was the story *Not Me, it can't be* which was really sad but also a really touching tale.

The characters were really vivid and it was so easy to identify with and really feel for. This story was for sure my favorite of all of them because of the characters. I thought the really fun story within the collection was *Rose Coloured Glasses* which is such an enjoyable read. This great pair of glasses allow for this girl to see people in a new light, and it is such a cool idea. I thought the writing in all of the stories was really well done and really enjoyable. So if you are someone who enjoys short stories, this is a really good collection of stories. I really did enjoy them all.

Review *A Matter of Perception* Tahlia Newland
A Matter of Perception, is a collection of urban fantasies and magical realism that is wonderfully written and thoroughly engaging. I enjoyed all the stories, which although unrelated, share a thread of meaning. All the characters are engaged experiences that fall on the edge between this reality and what lies beyond, some knowingly, others completely by accident. However, the author does a wonderful job of making all the situations believable and all the characters people I cared about. My favorite story is *Not Me, It Can't Be*, which tells the story of an ancient priestess marked for sacrifice, who brings hope to her later incarnation, a woman undergoing chemo in modern times. A beautiful and moving reincarnational drama. I also enjoyed the first story, *A Hole in the Pavement*, a sweet tale about a shy man who finds the strength to talk to his dream woman, a modern goddess, and at the same time figures out how to stop falling into holes. *Mistral's Mistakes* is a darker tale of what can happen when psychic powers are studied for the purpose of power rather than the gift they offer, and how karma can be turned around to create unanticipated outcomes. In *The Bone Yard*, a woman is hoodwinked by sirens of the sea, and in *The Rose Colored Glasses*, a modern woman discovers the truth about her office mates when she finds glasses that offer different versions of her reality. A very satisfying collection by a talented writer. I recommend it highly.

A Matter of Perception



Tahlia Newland

Urban fantasies & magical realism stories

A Matter of Perception was six for six keeping me engaged I read the entire anthology in one sitting What makes it an interesting collection is that it provides such a variety in tone and supernatural elements, yet it s held together, yes, by that common supernatural denominator, but also some thought provoking philosophies on life.If I had to pick a favorite, I think it would be Not Me, it Can t Be I found that such a lovely and surprising tale juxtaposing seemingly different life experiences, only to find a poignant commonality between them Newland s structuring of the story is very effective and the wording throughout so graceful All the other stories are such pleasurable reads as well I ve always been a fan of ghost stories and mythology, so the haunting atmosphere Newland creates in The Bone Yard was obviously appealing to me and I so did not see that ending coming This story is a nice one to follow my previously reviewed The Drorgon Slayer s Choice as love stories, they both also dapple in philosophy as their human protagonists face choices in a supernatural world new to them Newland s vibrant descriptions of magical combat in Mistril s Magic are engaging to visualize, the crime scene beginning such a hook, and I liked how on the fence I felt about Damien by virtue of Eleanor s sympathies for him I find characters treading the grey areas interesting than outright evil villains Finally, A Hole in the Pavement and The Rose Coloured Glasses are both so sweetly romantic with a magical realism that readers can actually identify with, for no matter how superhuman the characters experiences might be, these are really tales of the very human vulnerabilities within and interactions between us all.In addition to her beautiful writing, imaginative worlds, and well crafted characters, Newland does well with parceling out back story, definitely leaving questions in my mind that made me want to keep reading for the answers And I m so impressed with how concisely she concludes each of these stories on just the right note Overall, A Matter of Perception is a very appropriate title for this anthology s content, as Newland s collection of stories provokes her readers to question their perceptions alongside her characters. `Download Book ? A Matter of Perception ? Take A Journey Into A World Where The Hidden Becomes Manifest And The Lines Between Fantasy And Reality Blur This Collection Of Imaginative And Entertaining Stories About Ghosts, Sirens, Light Spectrum Mages, Realm Hopping Gods, Alien Monsters And Ordinary People Will Warm Your Heart And Make You Smile, Shiver, And Maybe Even Wonder About The Nature Of Reality Itself The Theme Of Individual Perception As A Result Of Our Assumptions, Beliefs And Emotional Experience Bind These Otherwise Diverse Stories Into A Unified WholeA Matter Of Perception Has Been Awarded A Place On The Awesome Indies List Of Quality Independent Fiction This Second Edition Does Not Contain The Paranormal Romance That Some Reviewers Mentioned

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