

Chapter 1 : Life, Some Assembly Required by Kaje Harper

Life, Some Assembly Required offers Kaje Harper's trademark -- a well-grounded story about REAL people. It also has a setting in what I will call Kaje's playground: family. I have admired (and respected) Kaje when she writes about family.

Dear Kaje, thank you so much for agreeing to answer a few of my questions. What a lovely thing to say. Are people often surprised when you tell them what you do for a living? I actually have a day-job that pays the bills, so writing is my joy, more than my occupation. Writing in itself is fun. My stories often surprise me as they unfold, like reading an unknown book, only better. Writing romance lets me write about hope. While real life can sometimes hurt people I care about, and there may be nothing I can do to help them, in my writing I can take my characters through hard times and bring them safely out the other side, into love. That hope of a better, shared future is what I want to create. I use my words to transmute pain, and fear, and prejudice, and loneliness, into love and joy. And it hurt to realize not just intellectually, but emotionally, that all love was not equal in so many eyes, that the world would hurt and reject two hearts that belonged together, just because they were the same gender. I began writing to mend that hurt, mostly for my own sake. I also like having both main characters be men, with no gender-role expectations. The characters begin as equals in every aspect, and the possibilities are wide open for stories of all kinds. I wrote for fun without publishing for 35 years. It was a personal pleasure. I treasure those reviews. By now, most people in my life do know what I write, including my boss, co-workers, and my family and friends. Most are supportive, if a bit perplexed by my choice of genres. Is it difficult to write characters with such strong values and yet never cross the line that would make them seem unrealistic? One of my biggest writing goals is to make my characters feel real. I try to show that they each have human fears and flaws, and times when they are too tired or frustrated to do the right thing. I do value compassion, integrity, empathy, kindness, determination, logic, and so my MCs tend to mirror that. I guess the people who stick around and read more of my work see enough flaws in my men, alongside their strengths, to believe and care about them. I know you already spend a lot of time with your characters, but if you could bring one of them to life, as a friend, neighbor, brother, who would you choose and why? I myself would choose Ben, by the way. I always wanted a son just like him. And a best friend like Tony. And a neighbor like Mac or Ryan, you get the picture. The fact that his sense of humor is sometimes silly, and he turns into a wolf now and then, would not be a problem for me. I prefer contemporary, but you tried your hand at paranormal romance and science fiction, too. What do you enjoy writing the most? Where are you most comfortable? I like mystery a lot. I have half a dozen gay cop stories that will never be released, just written because I enjoy doing them. In fantasy, I only have to be logical about my world-building, not correct in every detail. More writing, less research. John would probably say that Ryan is smart and compassionate, strong enough that John can relax and let him lead sometimes, great with the kids, and, um, really hot in bed. Ryan would say John is honest, kind, and solid. Patient, far more than Ryan is. A little too willing, sometimes, to put other people ahead of himself, but like a rock when you need someone you can count on. And Ryan would say that sex with John, as hot as it is, always feels like making love, not just fucking. Did you always intend to write a sequel to *The Rebuilding Year*? We left the guys at a very good place, but it was always clear to me that there was room for a sequel. But over time, a couple of characters began nagging me in my head. Ryan wanted to know how coming out to his family went, and Ryan can be pushy. And I came to think she was right. I was rather hesitant to write the sequel. When readers enjoy a book, they develop a proprietary interest in the characters. So as I wrote, and the book unfolded, there she was again, adding complications, as the guys try to come to terms with their blended and extended family. What would you recommend to new readers? Which book, in your opinion, best represents you and the rest of your work? I often suggest people start with a freebie. This story has trigger warnings for past abuse, self-harm, PTSD. Any of those will give a new reader a free look at my writing style. I really appreciate the chance to come by and talk about my books.

Chapter 2 : Smashwords “ Life, Some Assembly Required ” a book by Kaje Harper

Life, Some Assembly Required (The Rebuilding Year #2) by Kaje Harper March 27, I received this book for free from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Finding love in the ashes was easy. Building a life together? For the first time in his life, love feels easy. For John, loving Ryan is as natural as breathing. Now if only the rest of his life would fall into place. Would one month without a new surprise knocking him upside the heart be asking too much? This idea runs through all storylines of the book: There were some oft repeated phrases and descriptions. A few of them actually worked against the story, watering down what was probably the intended impact. I understand why but I think leaving it implied or described with a reaction as opposed to the action itself would have been more powerful. On this particular point, I would almost say another book is necessary. I now want more of how they view each other, having been in this relationship for awhile. I mentioned above about the sometimes heavy handed feeling regarding some of the social issues addressed, most of the time revealed through the conversations between the characters. The few times it felt off involved what felt like an informational offering instead of people talking. What a wonderful sequel to *The Rebuilding Year*! There are a lot of issues tackled in this book: All are handled with a deft hand woven in with laughter and love. I loved how real all the characters felt. No one was perfect, but they all had dimension. John was kind and caring to a fault, Ryan was loyal and supportive but had a jealous streak, Torey and Mark acted their ages. John and Ryan were there for each other every time it mattered though and the children are put first. However, they do it like adults, and the make-up sex! hot! In the end, *Life, Some Assembly Required* is a wonderful story about family. I highly recommend this.

Chapter 3 : kajeharper | real men, real life, real love

"Life, Some Assembly Required" by Kaje Harper is part of 'The Rebuilding Year' series and continues the saga of former firefighter Ryan and head groundskeeper John as they work out the permutations of their relationship, complete with challenges provided by their respective families.

Thom is attracted to the generous veterinarian in the bi-pride bracelet. Maybe with Thom, Dean will finally be able to explore his long-neglected attraction to men. Particularly the one he gets. Now, thanks to the Supreme Court, that moment has arrived. What does it take to build forever? Their first meeting leads to first date, first everything for Mike. He and John just fit together right. But coming out to his family and classmates is harder than he expected. Worth it, but never easy. Rebuilding Year book 2 - re-release Price: Medical school is doable. Falling for his male housemate is a new challenge. John knows about loss - his ex-wife took his kids a thousand miles away. Renting Ryan a room helps fill his empty house, but their growing connection is nothing he expected. That I needed to stop avoiding the joys of the season, and get my solitary life out of its rut. Brian Kerr uses his Finding talent to hunt enemies for a dangerous criminal. But shared secrets may put them on the same side, if they live long enough. November 29, by Susan Lee. Included in this anthology: October 1, by Susan Lee. Hawk, and Aleksandr Voinov. Travis Brinkerhoff also finds it hard to fit in back home, after dropping out of college. When he meets Rick, keeping a safe distance seems smart, but Rick is hard to resist. January 15, by Divergent Publishing. Men fall in love while using sports equipment, musical instruments and flavored lube. Happy Hunting Under Covers. Congrats on the baby Katie! Then I was a hermit. For so long, I put up not just walls but whole stone bunkers to keep everyone out, emotionally and physically. I was protected from people, from ghosts, from specters real and imagined. I was safe, but alone. I tried my best to resist, but Tobin never believed in walls Price: The arrival of two strange wolves makes it clear that some outsiders still see his pack as a pariah, or a threat. For others, it has unwanted appeal. Compensations - Life Lessons 3. Mac, Tony and the kids have had a long complicated year. Each of them has dealt with fears and losses, joys and triumphs. Mac and Tony figure whatever happens, they can handle it, as long as they go through it together Price: Not just the risk of death from Japanese planes and submarines, but the risk of discovery, of discharge, imprisonment or worse. Only a special kind of love was worth taking that chance. And if they survived the war, they would need even more luck to keep their love alive through all the years to come. He had no idea. Sean was on the opposite side of the town-and-gown divide, but attraction knows no boundaries. And when personal tragedy brought them together, it was the beginning of something extraordinary. In Life Lessons, Mac and Tony decided that a closeted relationship was worth the risks and difficulties. Now, separated for the holidays, Tony on a Florida beach contemplates the joys and stresses of their hidden life, while Mac in the Minnesota snow handles a murder case that hits close to home. And in the evening, over the phone, they try to touch each other with words.

Chapter 4 : Life, Some Assembly Required | Kaje Harper | | NetGalley

Finding love in the ashes was easy. Building a life together? Not so easy. Ryan spent the first part of his life chasing pretty girls, love has finally come to Ryan in the form of John, a tall, lanky, red-headed landscape architect with wide shoulders and a five-o'clock shadow. For the first time in Ryan's life, love feels easy.

Goodreads Finding love in the ashes was easy. Building a life together? For the first time in his life, love feels easy. For John, loving Ryan is as natural as breathing. Now if only the rest of his life would fall into place. Would one month without a new surprise knocking him upside the head be asking too much? Plus six kinds of family ensuring nothing comes easy. B00W93W24S This post contains affiliate links you can use to purchase the book. If you buy the book using that link, I will receive a small commission from the sale. First of all, let me say that this is a great series. The Rebuilding Year was one of the books I read within my first year of discovering gay fiction. I loved it then and have reread it several times over the past few years. So when Kaje Harper announced that she was releasing a sequel, I knew that reviewing it was inevitable. It really is fantastic. Book two picks up exactly where book one ends. So there is still angst so much angst! There is also baby mama drama Kaje is probably wincing as she reads that sentence sorry Kaje! If you are like me, the baby mama drama will drive you crazy. You will talk back to this book. It will not argue back, no matter how much you argue, and it is a great addition to the series.

Chapter 5 : Read Kaje Harper Story: Life, Some Assembly Required [Book] â†’ Fantasy & Twilight Books

Auto Suggestions are available once you type at least 3 letters. Use up arrow (for mozilla firefox browser alt+up arrow) and down arrow (for mozilla firefox browser alt+down arrow) to review and enter to select.

I appreciate her books because they are often about real people, real life. And DOES provide that closure. It just takes a while to get there. John and Ryan navigate family politics and come to grips with their new identity as gay men. I was so over her, her nasty husband, and their insistent homophobia. I realize John had to deal with her for the sake of his children, but he was far too diplomatic for my tastes. And the request she made at the end? They gave and took, and I believed in their relationship. However, I wanted more romance and more smexy and less family drama. I have admired and respected Kaje when she writes about family. Never for once, I questioned their relationship. However, they have to deal with the ins and outs of being couple when it comes to their family and friends. Cynthia the pregnant ex-wife on the other hand, was a bit of a challenge. In my review for , I wrote ". All of this made Cynthia slightly more than just a two-dimensional villain. I commended Kaje for that. I never really like it when our hatred towards a character being served in a silver-platter as a plot device. I guess even a villain should be not too easy too hate: Overall, it is a well written and down-to-earth family story, as I know Kaje will deliver. It flows nicely with fairly sexy times and rather mushy stuffs in between. I was beyond excited to get more John and Ryan, but this book was filled with so much Thankfully nothing relationship related, but still John and Ryan h Well damn, this was an exhausting read! Nothing sat simmering for long or was kept hidden for another day I wanted more quiet time with John and Ryan There were way too many fade to black scenes for my liking. I needed more focus on John and Ryan, the couple. Overall this was a nice read. Even with all the outside drama, it was refreshing to see a committed couple handle everything maturely and not let any of the outside stresses affect their relationship. She is a genius, and I am a huge fan of her slow-burn romances and long, well-developed plots. They are a beautiful couple, and I was excited to see what new ground they would cover together. This second installment deals with the daily challenges, the joys and sorrows of a gay couple of being out and proud , or what can happen when you are being outed accidentally and some p I have mixed feelings about this second and final? Worrying about the future can put a strain on your day-to-day life in general and dealing with an unexpected surprise can put a damper on your state of mind in particular. Though while there had been problems, there was enough room for Ryan and John to show how much they love each other. Some of you might be interested to know that John and Ryan can still heat up a bed very nicely, too. Unfortunately I was right when I smelled plot twist which did not appeal to me at all. Wrong for There, I said it. Overall not a bad read by any means. While I enjoyed the dialogue quite a bit, I felt it came off as too mushy and sugary in places. Though my recommendation comes with a certain reservation. I wish Ryan and John much success and love for their future rainbow-colored life.

Chapter 6 : Life, Some Assembly Required (The Rebuilding Year #2) by Kaje Harper – Penny Reads Ro

Finding love in the ashes was easy. Building a life together? Not so blog.quintoapp.com spending the first part of his life chasing pretty girls, love has finally come to Ryan in the form of John, a tall, lanky, red-headed landscape architect with wide sh.

To learn more about the author you can check out her website or follow along on Facebook. For the first time in his life, love feels easy. For John, loving Ryan is as natural as breathing. Now if only the rest of his life would fall into place. Would one month without a new surprise knocking him upside the heart be asking too much? Contains two formerly straight guys learning to navigate the gay-guy waters, sometimes without a paddle. Plus six kinds of family ensuring nothing comes easy. Ryan, John and Mark are recovering after a devastating fire that leaves them all a bit freaked out. Ryan is pulled between family, love, and medical school and the stress is starting to show. All these two guys really want is to settle down together, love each other, and enjoy life but there are an awful lot of obstacles to overcome first. Ryan and John are happy and wildly in love. The drama throughout the story comes from assorted family members. John is an incredibly nice guy – so nice that nothing ever really rocks his boat. He just goes along for the ride throughout most of the story. He lets his ex wife steamroll him for most of the book, although I did feel bad for her situation. It took all the way to the end of the story for John to finally stick up for himself and his relationship with Ryan. I just felt he had turned into a bit of a door mat in this book. I think he was incredibly patient with his own family and putting up with John and Cynthia. Maybe even a little too patient. Telling a few people off might have gotten results faster than patience. This is an incredibly well written book and it was nice to see how things are moving along with this family. If there is a book three to this series, I would love to see more of their relationship and less stress from outside sources.

Chapter 7 : The Nocturnal Library: Interview With Kaje Harper, Author of Life, Some Assembly Required

Ryan is in love for the first time in his life. He and John just fit together right. But coming out to his family and classmates is harder than he expected. John has managed the coming out part, but dealing with his teen kids, his ex-wife, her husband, and Ryan's relatives turns something simple and sweet into a complicated life.

Chapter 8 : The Rebuilding Year Series by Kaje Harper

Life, Some Assembly Required by Kaje Harper Review by Lauren Source: copy from netgalley; all opinions are my own Official Summary: After spending the first part of his life chasing pretty girls, love has finally come to Ryan in the form of John, a tall, lanky, red-headed landscape architect with wide shoulders and a five-o'clock [].

Chapter 9 : Life, Some Assembly Required - ePub - Kaje Harper - Achat ebook | fnac

** Audio books of Life, Some Assembly Required and Building Forever, with narrator Gomez Pugh, to release December Projects in progress * Book 3 in the Tracefinder series.*