

BRAND NAME DATES
By Melanie Blazer
Cerridwen Press, 2005
Reviewed by :: Michelle Puffer
An E-book

Jill Anthony, newspaper photographer and self-imposed loner, has just had her life turned topsy turvy by her meddling mother and roommate. She can't understand why everyone thinks she needs to date to have a fulfilling life. Her career is good and she is content. When she is assigned a work project that throws her full tilt into the dating scene she tries to prove her point.

Suddenly, men are like clothes—fabric, size, color, cut, even care instructions can all be matched to her impression of her date's personality. All she has to do is get through the assignment and then she can get back to her previously normal, calm lifestyle. The problem is that she finds one piece of clothing she's not sure she wants to live without.

This is a very enjoyable novel that doesn't read like your typical chick lit. The heroine, Jill, was less self-involved than in other chick lit I have read, and she seemed much more like a real person. There is a suspense element in this story which helped add to the tension and I love suspense. Unfortunately, when the suspense part wrapped up it was over very quickly and never really mentioned again, which was a bit unsatisfying.

I loved the comparison of men to clothing and there were many amusing "I've been there" moments during Jill's research. In the end, this is a great read with some good laughs, along with some "you go girl" and "oh my God" moments. I look forward to reading more along these lines from this author.

4 Kisses