

THE BIG LOVE

By Sarah Dunn

Back Bay Books/Little Brown & Co., 2004

Reviewed by :: Barbara Gisondi

If you think every chick-lit heroine is a jaded twenty-something looking for love and the perfect pair of Jimmy Choo's, then you haven't met Alison Hopkins.

Alison is not "typical chick-lit". A thirty-two year old newspaper columnist for an alternative weekly in Philadelphia, she's a therapy junkie and lapsed Evangelical Christian. She also thinks she's found 'The Big Love' of her life with live-in boyfriend, Tom. It's a shame that he doesn't feel the same.

On the night of their first big dinner party as a couple, Tom takes off--presumably to the corner store for a jar of mustard. Ten minutes later he calls from a pay phone and says he's still in love with his college girlfriend and won't be coming home.

Newly single Alison is left to face her fears of being alone, looming biological clock, unraveling career, and broken relationship with God.

First time novelist Sarah Dunn is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and a former sitcom writer. She has created a story that is part chick-lit and part literary fiction, making 'The Big Love' a thought provoking and unusual read.

4 Kisses