



Slam

By Nick Hornby

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Slam By Nick Hornby

Just when everything is coming together for Sam, his girlfriend Alicia drops a bombshell. Make that *ex*-girlfriend-- because by the time she tells him she's pregnant, they've already called it quits. Sam does *not* want to be a teenage dad. His mom had him at sixteen and has made it very clear how having a baby so young interrupted her life. There's only one person Sam can turn to--his hero, skating legend Tony Hawk. Sam believes the answers to life's hurdles can be found in Hawk's autobiography.

But even Tony Hawk isn't offering answers this time--or is he? Inexplicably, Sam finds himself whizzed into the future, for a quick glimpse of what will be . . . or what *could* be. In this wonderfully witty, poignant story about a teenage boy unexpectedly thrust into fatherhood, it's up to Sam to make the right decisions so the bad things that *could* happen, well, don't.

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Slam By Nick Hornby Bibliography

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Editorial Review

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Starred Review For Hornby, author of *About a Boy* (1998) and *High Fidelity* (1995), the move from adult to young-adult fiction represents more of a natural progression than a change in course. So it should come as no surprise that he has written an accomplished teen novel featuring a character whose voice hits its groove at the downbeat and sustains it through the final chord. Sam is a disarmingly ordinary 15-year-old kid who loves to skate (that's skateboarding, to you and me). But then he is blindsided: his girlfriend gets pregnant, and he lands in the middle of his mum's nightmare (she had Sam when she was 16). This may sound like an old-fashioned realistic YA problem novel, but it's a whole lot more. Sam, you see, has a sort-of-imaginary friend: the world's greatest skater, Tony Hawk, whose poster Sam talks to when he has problems. And the poster talks back, maybe, or maybe Sam is just reciting quotes from Tony's autobiography. And is it really Tony who is "whizzing" Sam into the future for glimpses of what is to come? With or without Tony's help, Sam gives us the facts about his very eventful couple of years, but as he reminds us, "there comes a point where the facts don't matter anymore . . . because you don't know what anything felt like." Which is where Hornby comes in. We know exactly how Sam feels—even when he feels differently from the beginning of a sentence to the end—and it feels just right: a vertiginous mix of anger, confusion, insight, humor, and love.

Ott, Bill

Review

...a sweet and funny story about mistakes and choices. -- *VOYA*

...full of pleasures that readers familiar with Hornby should recognize, such as the kooky subsidiary characters and clever off-center dialogue... -- *Kirkus*

...full of wit, humor and pathos. -- *San Francisco Chronicle*

A sure bet for Hornby fans of any age -- *Publishers Weekly, starred review*

A sure bet for Hornby fans of any age. -- *Publishers Weekly*

Hornby's witty, gentle genius shines through. -- *USA Today*

Hornby...shows he understands the psyche of an adolescent boy just as well as he does those of men. -- *KLIATT*

The characters are given the opportunity to grow with charm and wit while facing the challenges of young adulthood. -- *School Library Journal*

Vintage Hornby: a witty trek inside the emotional life of the modern male. -- *People*

Well-balanced wit and weight, prominent pop-culture placement...and an exploration of that tricky line that separates youths from adults. -- *The Washington Times*

About the Author

The New Yorker calls bestselling author Nick Hornby "the maestro of the male confessional." His bestselling adult novels include *High Fidelity* and *About a Boy*, both of which were made into highly successful movies.

He lives in the UK.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Desiree Schwindt:

What do you in relation to book? It is not important along? Or just adding material when you require something to explain what the one you have problem? How about your extra time? Or are you busy individual? If you don't have spare time to accomplish others business, it is make one feel bored faster. And you have free time? What did you do? Every individual has many questions above. They have to answer that question since just their can do that. It said that about guide. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is suitable. Because start from on guardería until university need this Slam to read.

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