

LAST BEST CHANCE

by BROOKE DUNNELL

ABOUT THE BOOK

When Rachel, a forty-something single woman, finds herself running out of options on her path to motherhood, she seeks treatment at a fertility clinic in Central Europe. Telling half-truths to her family and the clinic's medical team, Rachel questions how far she will go to become a mother, even as she struggles to articulate her desire to become one.

Meanwhile, expat Jess loves her new life with Viktor despite their struggle to make ends meet. Even so, Viktor and his friends live their lives passionately while Jess feels confused about her life's purpose.

With the city preparing for a green-energy expo, Jess sees the opportunity to ignite a career dream, while Rachel fears that it might jeopardise her dream of having a child. Will a chance encounter between the two women give each what she desires?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Brooke Dunnell is an author, manuscript assessor, mentor, creative writing competition judge and workshop facilitator. Her short fiction has appeared in journals and anthologies around Australia. She has been shortlisted for the Carmel Bird Digital Literary Award, the Woollahra Digital Literary Award and her novel *The Glass House* won the 2021 Fogarty Literary Award.



MEDIA NOTES

- *Last Best Chance* is a timely exploration of difficult moral decisions regarding adding to the population during climate change versus the desire to bring a child into the world. It underscores the darker parts of seeking IVF treatments overseas.
- The perfect choice for book club members seeking material relating to motherhood and the emotional journey of fertility. It brings the discussion to the fore in a way rarely seen, and in doing so champions, the female experience of the often unspoken pain of infertility.
- Brooke's short fiction has appeared in *Best Australian Stories*, *New Australian Fiction 2021*, *New Australian Stories 2*, *Twice Not Shy: One hundred short short stories* and the 2020 *Big Issue* fiction edition along with other journals and anthologies. In 2023 she received a *Westerly* Mid-Career Fellowship. She has a PhD in Creative Writing from the University of Western Australia

PRAISE FOR THE AUTHOR

'A superlative novel – delicate, fragile and deeply reflective, with prose that can shatter and fine edges that cut deep.' *Catherine Noske*

'Evocative, unsettling, and warmly told, a breathtaking portrayal of the intimacies of an ordinary family from a thrilling storyteller.' *Brooke Davis*



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