

# A Healthy Appetite

Katie Huttleston

A delightfully dark and ravenous tale of morality vs mortality, that asks what you'd sacrifice for your health. Perfect for fans of Monika Kim and Sayaka Murata.

Hannah is dying for a cure.

After a decade subsumed by a cancer diagnosis, Hannah is now thirty, existing in a hinterland between life and death. Her boyfriend Scott has become more of a carer than a lover, and - with no job, no plans, and no more options - she has resigned herself to no future.

But then she's given the opportunity to join phase one of a clinical trial that might just save her. Almost immediately, she feels different; that evening, her appetite returns. And it keeps growing...

Now Hannah is hungry for life.

A committed vegetarian, Hannah suddenly finds herself craving meat – but her new hunger isn't limited to food. Now she wants everything. As new and suppressed desires surface she becomes reckless, destructive, and deceitful. It's the miracle drug she's been waiting for, but at what cost?

This unique addition to the Weird Girl Lit tradition brings readers face to face with the visceral terror of being trapped in a body that has turned against its master. In a world where women are rewarded for their restraint, A Healthy Appetite introduces us to a character whose insatiable hunger is as vital for survival as the blood that runs through her veins.

## Author Bio:

Katie Huttleston is a disabled English Literature teacher from Hertfordshire, and a Faber Academy alumna. 'A Healthy Appetite' was longlisted for both the Lucy Cavendish Prize for Fiction 2024 and the Blue Pencil Agency Pitch Prize 2023. It is drawn, in part, from Katie's first-hand experiences of chronic illness and disability. She has blogged and spoken widely in publications about her own experiences of late-stage illness, shining an important light on people whose lives become a series of hospital appointments and waiting rooms as they live between the next set of scan results.

- *Nightbitch* meets *The Eyes are the Best Part*
- **FOR FANS OF:** *The Lamb* by Lucy Rose, *Hunchback* by Saou Ichikawa, *Bunny* by Mona Awad, *Black Mirror* (Common People episode), books about female characters breaking society's expectations of them in weird and wonderful ways.
- **WEIRD GIRL LIT TREND MEETS CHRONIC ILLNESS:** Combines the rising trend of creepy, disturbing fiction involving complex female characters and the horror of being trapped in a body that turns against you.
- **FEMINIST INFLUENCES:** A visceral look into womanhood that defies societal norms, where a woman cannot help but satisfy her instincts and urges despite the consequences to those around her. Perfect for the 'Good For Her' subgenre.
- **FMC IS A CANCER PATIENT:** A relatable character to anyone suffering from cancer, other chronic and debilitating illnesses and people who know that sometimes the scariest things happen inside your own body.
- **SMART & SHARP WRITING:** That tackles difficult topics and the debate between morality and mortality in a skilled and entertaining way.
- **MISCHIEVOUS TWIST ON AUTHOR'S PERSONAL EXPERIENCE:** Author takes her own experience with late-stage illness and playfully imagines what she'd exchange for a miracle cure.



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