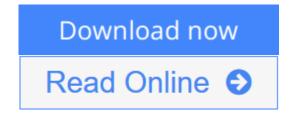
There's Cake in My Future



By Kim Gruenenfelder



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After listening to her closest friends' latest travails in love, parenting, and careers, superstitious bride-to-be Nicole (Nic) believes she has the perfect recipe for everyone's happiness: a bridal shower "cake pull" in which each ribboned silver charm planted in her cake will bring its recipient the magical assistance she needs to change her destiny. Melissa (Mel), still ringless after dating the same man for six years, deserves the engagement ring charm. The red hot chili pepper would be perfect for Seema, who is in love with her best male friend Scott, but can't seem to make their relationship more than platonic. And recently laid off journalist Nic wants the shovel, which symbolizes hard work, to help her get her career back on track. Nic does everything she can to control who gets which silver keepsake – as well as the future it represents. But when the charmed cake is mysteriously shifted from the place settings Nic arranged around it, no one gets the charm she chose for them. And when the other party guests' fortunes begin coming true, Mel, Seema, and Nic can't help but wonder.... Is the cake trying to tell them something?

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Gruenenfelder's scriptwriting background comes through loud and clear in her third chick lit romance (after 2009's Misery Loves Cabernet). Nic is about to get married; Seema is stuck in platonic misery with an Orlando Bloom look-alike; and Mel can't get her divorce lawyer live-in to commit. At the bridal shower, Nic hatches a wonderful plan for each woman to pull a wish-granting charm out of the cake. The plan goes astray, of course, leaving them to fear their unintended fates and fail to cope with real life in maximally dramatic fashion. The temptation to echo Nic's nine-year-old stepdaughter is almost irresistible: "Suck it up, grow a pair, and let's go!" In a girls-just-wanna-have-fun way, however, this is a good read, hip and amusing without ever thinking too hard. (Jan.)

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From **Booklist**

It began with a silly bridal-shower game. Each guest pulls a charm that corresponds to a fortune out of a cake. Nic, the bride-to-be, pulls the pram, much to her chagrin. She loves her fiancé's two young daughters but isn't ready to be a fulltime mom to a needy newborn. Seema draws the shovel, symbolizing hard work ahead, but she really longs for romance with her best friend, Scott. Mel gets the chili pepper, promising her a hot fling, yet she's ready to settle down with her longtime boyfriend. The three women are quick to dismiss the charmed cake, until the other guests' fortunes start to come true. The latest romantic comedy from the author of A Total Waste of Makeup (2005) is funny and clever. Despite its whimsical premise, the characters' searches for fulfillment in life and love are quite believable. --Aleksandra Walker

About the Author

KIM GRUENENFELDER lives in Los Angeles with her husband and son, and continues to avoid anything even remotely resembling a real job. She is the author of *A Total Waste of Makeup, Misery Loves Cabernet, There's Cake in My Future, Keep Calm and Carry a Big Drink*, and *Love the Wine You're With*. In addition to her novels, she is also a screenwriter and founder and curator of eciah.com, a website for people to read and share stories about life changing moments. She can be reached there or through kimgruenenfelder.com.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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Peggy Mitchum:

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Lisa Christopher:

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