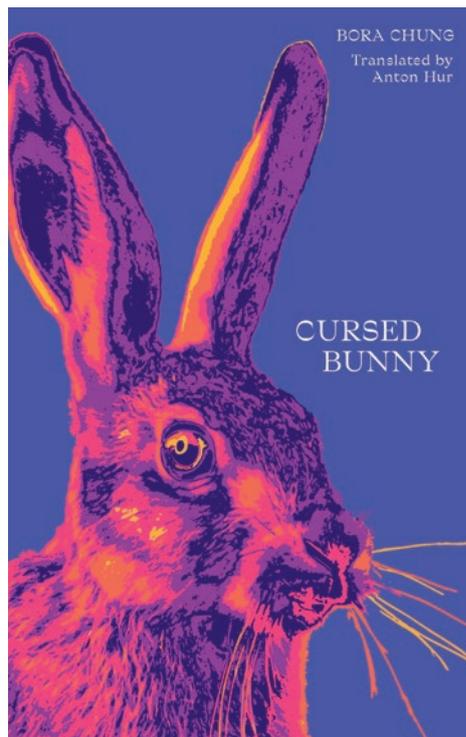


The  
2022  
International  
Booker  
Prize

# Reading Guide



## Cursed Bunny

**Bora Chung**

Translated by Anton Hur

Honford Star

[thebookerprizes.com](https://thebookerprizes.com)

## What the judges said

'While the stories in *Cursed Bunny* by Bora Chung blend elements of horror, fantasy and the surreal, each is viscerally rooted in the real fears and pressures of everyday life. Chung's genre-defying collection is translated with verve and evident relish by Anton Hur, who shifts effortlessly from playful to harrowing.'

## About the book

*Cursed Bunny* is a genre-defying collection of short stories by the Korean author Bora Chung. Blurring the lines between magical realism, horror and science fiction, Chung uses elements of the fantastic and surreal to address the very real horrors and cruelties of patriarchy and capitalism in modern society. Anton Hur's translation skilfully captures the way Chung's prose glides from being terrifying to wryly humorous. Winner of a PEN/Haim Grant.

## About the author

Bora Chung was born in Seoul in 1976. She has written three novels and three collections of short stories. She has an MA in Russian and East European area studies from Yale University and a PhD in Slavic literature from Indiana University. She currently teaches Russian language and literature and science fiction studies at Yonsei University and translates modern literary works from Russian and Polish into Korean.

## About the translator

Anton Hur was born in Stockholm, Sweden in 1981. He has translated Man Asia Literary Prize-winner Kyung-Sook Shin's *The Court Dancer* and *Violets*, International Booker Prize-longlisted Hwang Sok-yong's *The Prisoner*, and others. He won a PEN/Heim grant for his translation of Bora Chung's *Cursed Bunny*. He lives in Seoul.



## The author says...

I grew up in a dental clinic. My parents were both dentists (now retired) and our home was the back room of my mother's clinic. We lived there until I was about nine or ten. We had a model human skull in the living room (for my mom's research and stuff). I thought everybody had one of those at home. My earliest reading memory was an image of the human mouth hanging on the wall, I remember the five basic tastes that the human tongue can discern, written around the picture of the tongue. I was maybe five or six.



## The translator says...

'Bora's language is definitely what I enjoyed the most about *Cursed Bunny*. I loved handling it and seeing it come out in English. She is just so remarkably funny and sensitive and aware and empathetic. She gives equal weight to perfections and flaws. Every one thing has shades of the other.'

## Further reading

Octavia Butler *Kindred*

Octavia Butler *Bloodchild and Other Stories*

Han Kang *The Vegetarian*

Park Wan-Suh *Mother's Stake 1*

Andrei Platonov *The Foundation Pit*

Bruno Schultz *Street of Crocodiles*