



# Can Motherhood and Genetically Engineered Babies Click?

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NEW ROCHELLE, NY, USA, July 10, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- A soul-searching dystopian novel involving genetic engineering is revealed in [Hilary Smith's "Under the Spreading Chestnut Tree"](#).

The book welcomes year 2102, a new world where people's bodies and minds are tightly regulated; hormones are manipulated starting from childhood and most media is banned or has been abolished.

Babies are conceived from eggs and sperm that are prescreened for all known genetic disorders, furthermore, infectious disease is virtually eradicated. Scientists and engineers can re-create every body part and organ except the elusive womb, at least, not yet. Women are still required for procreation but motherhood is also tightly regulated, a privilege and not a right.

Meet mother and daughter Laura and Hannah, two opposite poles who harbor different perceptions of motherhood and love. Both women crave a child, but both have a realization of the things that they have to sacrifice as mothers.

Hannah is willing to go through the humiliating tests and painful procedures and to pay unexpected costs. Hannah unwittingly involving herself in gruesome experiments and secret government programs where she becomes a victim as well as an accomplice.

The book is a wittingly crafted thriller that examines the effects of technology and medical advances on individuals and communities. Interesting back stories connect people across generations and show different points of view. The reader easily sympathizes with the characters and their struggles. Like the people in the book, the reader is forced to contemplate complex questions surrounding ethics, society and humanity.

## About the Author:

Hilary Smith grew up as an only child in White Plains, NY and then studied science and Spanish at SUNY Albany. She went on to NYU medical school and completed her pediatric residency training at Bellevue / NYU. Currently, She's working at a small pediatric practice in downtown New Rochelle. Hilary and her husband have two wonderful, loving, active boys. In her spare moments she like to work out, play piano and clarinet, listen to opera, and of course, write.

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Hilary Smith

Hilary Smith

888 504 0951

email us here

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