

case histories by kate atkinson

Case Histories by Kate Atkinson: A Deep Dive into the Intricacies of Crime and Memory

case histories by kate atkinson stands as a remarkable entry point into the world of contemporary crime fiction. This novel, first published in 2004, marked the beginning of what would become a beloved series centered around the complex character Jackson Brodie. For readers and critics alike, Case Histories offers a blend of mystery, emotional depth, and literary finesse that makes it much more than a typical detective story.

Understanding the Essence of Case Histories by Kate Atkinson

At its core, Case Histories is a crime novel that transcends genre conventions. Kate Atkinson crafts a narrative that intertwines multiple storylines, each revolving around unresolved disappearances and murders from the past. The novel's structure is compelling—through the eyes of private investigator Jackson Brodie, we explore the lingering effects of trauma on individuals and families.

This novel is not just about solving crimes; it's about uncovering the emotional histories behind them. Atkinson's writing emphasizes the human side of crime, focusing on how grief, regret, and memory shape the lives of her characters. This approach sets Case Histories apart in the crowded field of detective fiction.

The Character of Jackson Brodie: More Than a Detective

Jackson Brodie, the protagonist, is a multifaceted character whose depth is key to the novel's success. Unlike the stereotypical hard-boiled detective, Brodie is nuanced, vulnerable, and often reflective. His own troubled past colors his investigations, making his character arc as engaging as the mysteries he unravels.

Complexities and Contradictions

Brodie's character is marked by contradictions—he is tough yet empathetic, detached yet deeply involved in the lives of those he helps. This complexity resonates with readers, providing a more realistic depiction of a private investigator. Through Brodie, Atkinson explores themes of redemption and the search for personal peace amid chaos.

Plot and Structure: Weaving Multiple Case Histories

One of the novel's standout features is its intricate plot design. *Case Histories* weaves together three distinct cases that initially seem unrelated. This narrative technique keeps readers engaged, as each story unravels simultaneously and eventually converges in unexpected ways.

Multiple Timelines and Perspectives

Atkinson's use of shifting timelines and multiple perspectives adds layers to the storytelling. Readers gain insights into the characters' pasts, illuminating motives and emotional wounds that explain present actions. This non-linear narrative style enriches the reading experience, inviting readers to piece together the puzzle alongside Brodie.

Thematic Depth: Exploring Memory, Trauma, and Family

Beyond the mystery, *Case Histories* delves into profound themes that give the book emotional weight. Memory and trauma are central motifs, explored through characters who grapple with painful histories and lost loved ones.

The Impact of Unresolved Grief

Atkinson portrays how unresolved grief can distort reality and affect decision-making. The disappeared individuals in the novel leave behind families stuck in limbo, unable to move on. This portrayal offers a poignant commentary on the human cost of violence and disappearance.

Family Dynamics and Secrets

The novel also examines complex family relationships, revealing how secrets and misunderstandings can fracture bonds. These interpersonal dynamics add richness to the narrative, making the crime elements feel more grounded and relatable.

Writing Style and Literary Qualities

Kate Atkinson's prose in *Case Histories* is notable for its clarity, wit, and emotional resonance. She balances suspenseful plotting with moments of humor and introspection, which prevents the novel from becoming overly dark or grim.

The Role of Humor and Humanity

The subtle humor sprinkled throughout the book humanizes the characters and lightens tense moments. This tonal balance is a hallmark of Atkinson's style, contributing to the novel's appeal among readers who appreciate character-driven mysteries.

Why Case Histories Stands Out in Contemporary Crime Fiction

In a genre often dominated by formulaic stories, *Case Histories* shines because of its literary ambition and emotional depth. It offers more than just a puzzle to solve; it invites readers to engage with the psychological aftermath of crime.

Appeal to a Broad Audience

The novel appeals not only to mystery enthusiasts but also to readers of literary fiction, thanks to its rich character development and thematic complexity. This crossover appeal has helped establish Kate Atkinson as a significant voice in modern British literature.

Expanding the Case Histories Universe

Following the success of *Case Histories*, Kate Atkinson continued to explore Jackson Brodie's world in subsequent novels such as *One Good Turn*, *When Will There Be Good News?*, and *Started Early, Took My Dog*. These books build upon the foundations laid in *Case Histories*, deepening Brodie's character and introducing new, equally compelling mysteries.

Tips for Readers New to Kate Atkinson

- Start with *Case Histories* to familiarize yourself with Jackson Brodie's character.
- Pay close attention to the interconnected stories; note how seemingly minor details gain significance later.
- Appreciate the blend of crime and emotional storytelling—don't rush through the narrative.
- Explore Atkinson's other works for a fuller understanding of her style and thematic concerns.

Impact and Legacy of Case Histories by Kate Atkinson

Since its publication, *Case Histories* has been praised for revitalizing the crime genre with its literary sophistication. It has been adapted for television, further cementing its cultural impact. The novel's success demonstrated that crime fiction could be both intellectually stimulating and

emotionally affecting.

Readers often remark on how *Case Histories* lingers in their minds long after the last page, a testament to Atkinson's skill in crafting stories that resonate on multiple levels.

For anyone interested in crime novels that defy expectations, *Case Histories* by Kate Atkinson offers a compelling journey into the shadows of memory and the complexities of human nature. It remains a must-read for those who enjoy mysteries that challenge the mind and touch the heart.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the book 'Case Histories' by Kate Atkinson about?

'Case Histories' by Kate Atkinson is a crime fiction novel featuring private investigator Jackson Brodie, who investigates three seemingly unrelated cold cases involving missing persons and murder, uncovering dark family secrets along the way.

Who is the main character in 'Case Histories'?

The main character in 'Case Histories' is Jackson Brodie, a former police detective turned private investigator, known for his sharp intellect and complex personal history.

Is 'Case Histories' part of a series by Kate Atkinson?

Yes, 'Case Histories' is the first book in the Jackson Brodie series by Kate Atkinson, which includes several sequels continuing the detective's story.

What themes are explored in 'Case Histories'?

'Case Histories' explores themes such as family secrets, trauma, loss, and the impact of the past on the present, all woven into a compelling mystery narrative.

Has 'Case Histories' by Kate Atkinson received any notable awards or recognition?

'Case Histories' was critically acclaimed and helped establish Kate Atkinson as a leading author in contemporary crime fiction, though specific major awards for this novel are limited.

Are there any adaptations of 'Case Histories'?

Yes, 'Case Histories' was adapted into a British television series called 'Case Histories,' starring Jason Isaacs as Jackson Brodie, which aired from 2011 to 2013.

Additional Resources

Case Histories by Kate Atkinson: A Literary Exploration of Memory and Mystery

case histories by kate atkinson stands as a compelling entry point into the oeuvre of one of contemporary literature's most intriguing voices. Published in 2004, this novel marked a significant moment in Atkinson's career, blending elements of crime fiction with literary depth and psychological insight. As a work that defies easy categorization, *Case Histories* by Kate Atkinson offers readers a textured narrative that intertwines past and present, trauma and healing, mystery and human complexity.

In-depth Analysis of Case Histories by Kate Atkinson

At its core, *Case Histories* is a detective novel, but it is far from a conventional one. The narrative revolves around Jackson Brodie, a private investigator whose personal history is as fragmented as the cases he takes on. The novel opens with three seemingly unrelated cold cases—each representing a missing or murdered family member—and gradually reveals how these stories connect through Brodie's tenacity and empathy.

Kate Atkinson's approach to storytelling in *Case Histories* is notable for its layered structure and rich character development. Unlike typical crime novels that prioritize plot over character, Atkinson invests deeply in exploring the psychological motivations and emotional scars of her characters. This emphasis on character psychology aligns with the broader themes of memory and loss that permeate the novel.

Plot Structure and Narrative Style

Case Histories employs a nonlinear narrative that shifts between different timelines and perspectives. This technique mirrors the fragmented nature of memory and history, reinforcing the thematic concern with how the past continually shapes the present. The novel's structure demands active engagement from readers, who must piece together clues not only about the crimes but also about the characters' personal histories.

Atkinson's prose is characterized by a subtle wit and a sharp observational eye, qualities that lend a distinctive tone to the book. The balance between dark subject matter and moments of humor or tenderness prevents the narrative from becoming overly bleak, creating a nuanced reading experience.

Characterization of Jackson Brodie

Jackson Brodie is a quintessential Atkinson protagonist—complex, flawed, and deeply human. Unlike the archetypal hard-boiled detective, Brodie's approach is marked by empathy rather than cynicism. His own life is marred by loss and dislocation, which informs his sensitivity to the suffering of others. This personal connection to the cases he investigates adds emotional weight to the narrative.

Moreover, Brodie's character arc extends beyond the resolution of the mysteries; it involves a subtle exploration of identity, fatherhood, and redemption. This multidimensional portrayal contributes to why *Case Histories* resonates with readers who seek more than a mere procedural thriller.

Contextualizing Case Histories within Kate Atkinson's Body of Work

Case Histories is the first installment in the Jackson Brodie series, which has since expanded to include multiple novels. This debut novel sets the tone for the series, establishing themes and stylistic choices that Atkinson continues to develop in subsequent works.

Comparison with Other Jackson Brodie Novels

When compared to later entries such as *One Good Turn* and *When Will There Be Good News?*, *Case Histories* is often praised for its intricate plotting and emotional depth. While the subsequent novels delve even deeper into Brodie's personal life and employ more complex narrative devices, *Case Histories* remains a standout for its raw and intimate portrayal of grief and recovery.

Additionally, Atkinson's trademark blending of literary fiction and crime narrative becomes more pronounced in her later works, but the seeds of this hybrid style are clearly evident in *Case Histories*. This novel acts as a bridge between genres, appealing to readers who appreciate both the suspense of detective fiction and the introspection of literary storytelling.

Thematic Elements: Memory, Trauma, and Family

A key theme in *Case Histories* by Kate Atkinson is the exploration of memory and its reliability. The novel probes how individuals reconstruct their pasts and how these reconstructions shape their identities. This thematic focus is particularly relevant in the context of cold cases, where uncovering truth involves navigating obscured or forgotten histories.

Family dynamics also play a central role. The three case histories that Brodie investigates all involve fractured families, highlighting the complex interplay between personal trauma and broader social forces. Atkinson's nuanced treatment of family relationships adds emotional resonance and depth to the narrative.

Reception and Literary Significance

Upon release, *Case Histories* was met with critical acclaim for its innovative approach to the crime genre and its literary merit. Critics praised Atkinson's ability to infuse traditional detective story elements with profound psychological insight and stylistic sophistication.

Critical Acclaim and Awards

While *Case Histories* did not win major literary awards immediately after publication, it significantly elevated Kate Atkinson's profile as a writer. The novel's success led to several sequels and contributed to the broader recognition of Atkinson as a leading figure in contemporary British literature.

Impact on Crime Fiction Genre

Case Histories has been cited as an example of the so-called "literary crime novel," a subgenre that blends the conventions of detective fiction with literary techniques and thematic complexity. Atkinson's work helped pave the way for other authors seeking to transcend genre boundaries, influencing both writers and readers interested in more sophisticated crime narratives.

Pros and Cons of *Case Histories* by Kate Atkinson

- **Pros:** Deep character development, intricate plotting, thematic richness, engaging prose style, blend of literary and genre fiction.
- **Cons:** Nonlinear narrative can be challenging for readers expecting a straightforward detective story; pacing may feel slow in parts due to focus on character introspection.

These aspects make *Case Histories* a rewarding read for those interested in complex storytelling but may test patience for readers seeking fast-paced action.

Who Should Read *Case Histories*?

Readers who appreciate psychological depth in crime fiction and are intrigued by themes of memory and family will find much to admire in *Case Histories*. It is particularly suitable for those who enjoy authors like Tana French or Ian McEwan, who similarly blend literary ambition with genre elements.

The novel's sophisticated narrative style and emotional nuance also make it a valuable text for academic discussion, especially in courses examining contemporary British literature or crime fiction.

Case Histories by Kate Atkinson continues to be a compelling study in the ways personal and historical pasts shape narrative and identity. Through the lens of private investigation, Atkinson crafts a novel that is as much about uncovering human truths as it is about solving mysteries. Its enduring appeal lies in the author's skillful weaving of plot and character, making it a significant work worth revisiting for readers and scholars alike.

[Case Histories By Kate Atkinson](#)

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case histories by kate atkinson: Case Histories Kate Atkinson, 2014-05-10 This new novel from award-winner Atkinson is a breathtaking story of families divided, love lost and found, and the mysteries of fate. As Private Detective Jackson Brodie investigates three cases, startling connections and discoveries emerge.

case histories by kate atkinson: Case Histories by Kate Atkinson John O'Carroll, 2006

case histories by kate atkinson: *Understanding Kate Atkinson* Brian Diemert, 2020-12-14 Best known for her Jackson Brodie series of detective novels, which were adapted into the BBC television series Case Histories, Kate Atkinson is the author of eleven novels, two plays, and a collection of short stories. Her literary awards include the 1995 Whitbread Award for a first novel and book of the year for *Behind the Scenes at the Museum* and the Costa Book Awards for best novel in 2013 and 2015 for *Life after Life* and *A God in Ruins*. In this first book-length study of Atkinson's literary career, Brian Diemert examines the evolution of her novels: the playful and self-conscious work of the 1990s, the detective series novels, the books that examine Britain's history and its legacy of conflict and trauma related to World War II, and the most recent return to mystery. Diemert identifies her pattern of weaving multiple narrative strands into intricate plots that create the mystery at the heart of all her tales. He traces her development of narrative technique and thematic preoccupations of women's vulnerability within patriarchy and the complications of absent or disengaged parents. While her fiction is marked by allusiveness and humor, it remains profound and often touching as it explores the myths of British history and, particularly, women's lives.

case histories by kate atkinson: *One Good Turn* Kate Atkinson, 2010-01-26 The second Jackson Brodie novel (after Case Histories): literary crime from the prizewinning, number-one bestselling author of *Big Sky* and *Transcription*. 'An absolute joy to read...the pleasure of *One Good Turn* lies in the ride, in Atkinson's wry, unvanquished characters, her swooping, savvy, sarcastic prose and authorial joie de vivre' Guardian It is summer, it is the Edinburgh Festival. People queuing for a lunchtime show witness a road-rage incident - a near-homicidal attack which changes the lives of everyone involved. Jackson Brodie, ex-army, ex-police, ex-private detective, is also an innocent bystander - until he becomes a murder suspect. As the body count mounts, each member of the teeming Dickensian cast's story contains a kernel of the next, like a set of nesting Russian dolls. They are all looking for love or money or redemption or escape: but what each actually discovers is their own true self.

case histories by kate atkinson: *The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry* Gabrielle Zevin, 2014-04-01 A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER BY THE AUTHOR OF TOMORROW, AND TOMORROW, AND TOMORROW NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE STARRING LUCY HALE & KUNAL NAYYAR "A fun, page-turning delight." —Minneapolis Star-Tribune "Funny, tender, and moving, *The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry* reminds us all exactly why we read and why we love." —Library Journal (starred review) A. J. Fikry's life is not at all what he expected it to be. He lives alone, his bookstore is experiencing the worst sales in its history, and now his prized possession, a rare collection of Poe poems, has been stolen. But when a mysterious package appears at the bookstore, its unexpected arrival gives Fikry the chance to make his life over—and see everything anew. "This novel has humor, romance, a touch of suspense, but most of all love—love of books and bookish people and, really, all of humanity in its imperfect glory." —Eowyn Ivey, author of *The Snow Child* "Marvelously optimistic about the future

of books and bookstores and the people who love both.”—The Washington Post “You won’t want it to end.” —Family Circle “A natural for book groups.” —Richmond Times-Dispatch “A reader’s paradise of the first order.” —The Buffalo News “Captures the joy of connecting people and books . . . Irresistible.” —Booklist “A wonderful, moving, endearing story of redemption and transformation that will sing in your heart for a very, very long time.” —Garth Stein, author of *The Art of Racing in the Rain* “Readers who delighted in *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, and *Letters from Skye* will be equally captivated by this novel.” —Library Journal, starred review

case histories by kate atkinson: *The Collected Works of A.J. Fikry* Gabrielle Zevin, 2014-03-13 A.J. Fikry owns a failing bookshop. His wife has just died, in tragic circumstances. His rare and valuable first edition has been stolen. His life is a wreck. Amelia is a book rep, with a big heart, and a lonely life. Maya is the baby left on A.J.'s bookshop floor with a note. What happens in the bookshop that changes the lives of these seemingly normal but extraordinary characters? This is the story of how unexpected love can rescue you and bring you back to real life, in a world that you won't want to leave, with characters that you will come to love.

case histories by kate atkinson: *The Lost Girls* Heather Young, 2021-05-20 A stunning novel that examines the price of loyalty, the burden of regret, the meaning of salvation, and the sacrifices we make for those we love, told in the voices of two unforgettable women linked by a decades-old family mystery at a picturesque lake house. In 1935, six-year-old Emily Evans vanishes from her family's summer house on a remote Minnesota lake. Her disappearance destroys the family - her father takes his own life, and her mother and two older sisters spend the rest of their lives at the lake house, keeping a decades-long vigil for the lost child. Sixty years later, Lucy, the quiet and watchful middle sister, lives in the lake house alone. Before her death, she writes the story of that devastating summer in a notebook that she leaves, along with the house, to the only person who might care: her grandniece, Justine. For Justine, the lake house offers freedom and stability - a way to escape her manipulative boyfriend and give her daughters the home she never had. But the long Minnesota winter is just beginning. The house is cold and dilapidated. The dark, silent lake is isolated and eerie. Her only neighbor is a strange old man who seems to know more about the summer of 1935 than he's telling. Soon Justine's troubled oldest daughter becomes obsessed with Emily's disappearance, her absent mother reappears, and the man she left launches a dangerous plan to get her back. In a house haunted by the sorrows of the women who came before her, Justine must overcome their tragic legacy if she hopes to save herself and her children. 'The delicacy of [Young's] writing elevates the drama and gives her two central characters depth and backbone... For all the beauty of Young's writing, her novel is a dark one... and the murder mystery that drives it is as shocking as anything you're likely to read for a good long while' - New York Times Book Review 'An addictive, magnificently drawn tale of secrets, lies and tangled relationships, *The Lost Girls* is one of the most emotionally addictive books I've read in a long time, from the first page to its shocking finale. I read it in one greedy sitting' - Lisa Hall, bestselling author of *The Party* 'A story that is both eerie and incredibly sad... *The Lost Girls* is a poignant and engrossing thriller [and] a hugely impressive debut' - Carolyn Kirby, author of Times Historical Novel of the Year *When We Fall* 'The *Lost Girls* is a powerful and bruising drama that astutely explores the reverberations of a shocking event through the inextricable layers of family. The story unwinds with a slow but insidious unease, building relentlessly to its shattering and heart-breaking conclusion' - Philippa East, author of CWA Dagger-shortlisted *Little White Lies* 'A novel of quiet intensity that builds to a terrifying climax. *The Lost Girls* contains echoes of Kate Atkinson's *Case Histories* and is just as haunting' - Minneapolis Star Tribune 'Suspenseful and finely wrought, Young's tale is not easily forgotten' - Booklist 'This book has it all — intrigue, complicated relationships, and a thrilling plotline — and it will appeal to fans of longspanning '90s stories like *Fried Green Tomatoes* and *Steel Magnolias*' - Bustle

case histories by kate atkinson: *The Skeleton Crew* Deborah Halber, 2014-07-01 Solving cold cases from the comfort of your living room... *The Skeleton Crew* provides an entree into the gritty

and tumultuous world of Sherlock Holmes-wannabes who race to beat out law enforcement—and one another—at matching missing persons with unidentified remains. In America today, upwards of forty thousand people are dead and unaccounted for. These murder, suicide, and accident victims, separated from their names, are being adopted by the bizarre online world of amateur sleuths. It's DIY CSI. The web sleuths pore over facial reconstructions (a sort of Facebook for the dead) and other online clues as they vie to solve cold cases and tally up personal scorecards of dead bodies. The Skeleton Crew delves into the macabre underside of the Internet, the fleeting nature of identity, and how even the most ordinary citizen with a laptop and a knack for puzzles can reinvent herself as a web sleuth.

case histories by kate atkinson: The Believer , 2005

case histories by kate atkinson: By the Book Pamela Paul, 2014-10-28 Sixty-five of the world's leading writers open up about the books and authors that have meant the most to them. Every Sunday, readers of The New York Times Book Review turn with anticipation to see which novelist, historian, short story writer, or artist will be the subject of the popular By the Book feature. These wide-ranging interviews are conducted by Pamela Paul, the editor of the Book Review, and here she brings together sixty-five of the most intriguing and fascinating exchanges, featuring personalities as varied as David Sedaris, Hilary Mantel, Michael Chabon, Khaled Hosseini, Anne Lamott, and James Patterson. The questions and answers admit us into the private worlds of these authors, as they reflect on their work habits, reading preferences, inspirations, pet peeves, and recommendations. By the Book contains the full uncut interviews, offering a range of experiences and observations that deepens readers' understanding of the literary sensibility and the writing process. It also features dozens of sidebars that reveal the commonalities and conflicts among the participants, underscoring those influences that are truly universal and those that remain matters of individual taste. For the devoted reader, By the Book is a way to invite sixty-five of the most interesting guests into your world. It's a book party not to be missed.

case histories by kate atkinson: The King's English Pb Betsy Burton, 2006-08-09 Betsy Burton, one of the owners of The King's English Bookshop in Salt Lake City, Utah, shares anecdotes from throughout the history of the store, discussing employees, author visits, and the joys and challenges of running an independent bookstore, and including reading lists in a range of subject areas.

case histories by kate atkinson: Origin Diana Abu-Jaber, 2025-04-25 Finally, a novel of literary suspense that gets almost everything right—forensically and psychologically. —Sarah Weinman, Baltimore Sun Secretly, in her heart of hearts, Lena Dawson hides the strangest of beliefs about her childhood. Hiding behind a cool competence as a superb fingerprint analyst in a crime lab in snowy Syracuse, New York, she feels totally out of place in the ordinary world of human interaction. Especially since the controlling husband who guided and protected her, then cheated and left her (though now he wants her back). Her uncanny ability to read a crime scene draws her into investigating a mysterious series of crib deaths—but ultimately the most difficult puzzle she must solve is the one of her own origins. Diana Abu-Jaber, a gifted and graceful writer (Chicago Tribune), masterfully transcends formula (Kirkus Reviews) as the tension of Origin escalates, shaped as much by beautifully nuanced prose as menacing events (New York Daily News).

case histories by kate atkinson: A Literary Cavalcade-I Robert A. Parker, 2013-11-03 For six decades, writer and editor Robert A. Parker has followed up each book he reads, mainly novels, with an evaluation. His comments are informed by an independent critical view that balances a moral and literary sensibility. In this first of six volumes, the authors covered range from Kobo Abe to Michael Cunningham. They include Richard Adams, Russell Banks, Anthony Burgess, A.S. Byatt, James Carroll, Willa Cather, J. M. Coetzee, and Joseph Conrad. The commentaries are listed alphabetically by author, and the books by the date of publication for each author. Some authors are represented by one book, some by five or more. Future volumes will cover additional authors alphabetically. The writers here represent a broad range of writing styles, cultural influences, and moral philosophies. And all are rated on their literary achievement, the effectiveness of plot,

character, and setting, plus their recognition of the moral, ethical, and spiritual values of mankind.

case histories by kate atkinson: The Sequel Jean Hanff Korelitz, 2024-10-01 "Sequels are notoriously tricky. Even the characters in *The Sequel* acknowledge it. "They're never as good as the first book, are they?"... Well, this one is. By shifting the focus to Anna, Korelitz gives the novel what many sequels lack: a sense of newness. While the story grows more intricate, she remains in control. Her plot — ha! — is propulsive, her prose precise." —The New York Times After the "insanely readable" (Stephen King) and "perfectly told" (Malcolm Gladwell) New York Times bestseller *The Plot* comes Jean Hanff Korelitz's equally captivating new novel: *The Sequel*. Anna Williams-Bonner has taken care of business. That is to say, she's taken care of her husband, bestselling novelist Jacob Finch Bonner, and laid to rest those anonymous accusations of plagiarism that so tormented him. Now she is living the contented life of a literary widow, enjoying her husband's royalty checks in perpetuity, but for the second time in her life, a work of fiction intercedes, and this time it's her own debut novel, *The Afterword*. After all, how hard can it really be to write a universally lauded bestseller? But when Anna publishes her book and indulges in her own literary acclaim, she begins to receive excerpts of a novel she never expected to see again, a novel that should no longer exist. That it does means something has gone very wrong, and someone out there knows far too much: about her late brother, her late husband, and just possibly... Anna, herself. What does this person want and what are they prepared to do? She has come too far, and worked too hard, to lose what she values most: the sole and uncontested right to her own story. And she is, by any standard, a master storyteller. With her signature wit and sardonic humor, Jean Hanff Korelitz gives readers an antihero to root for while illuminating and satirizing the world of publishing in this deliciously fun and suspenseful read.

case histories by kate atkinson: The Book Lover's Quiz Book Gary Wigglesworth, 2020-11-05 'I love a quiz, so the book I'm most hoping to find in my Christmas stocking is this ingenious book of literary questions, red herrings and conundrums. Much more than a straightforward question-and-answer book, it promises the kind of variety that will enliven evenings with family and friends. (And I might know some of the answers!)' VAL McDERMID 'Outside of a dog, *The Book Lover's Quiz Book* is every bookworm's best friend -- inside of a dog . . . well, if you know the rest, you're going to love this book' PETER HANINGTON, author of *A Dying Breed*, peterhanington.co.uk 'This is the ultimate literary quiz book and Gary Wigglesworth is the quizmaster to end all quizmasters' DAVID QUANTICK davidquantick.com This is a literary quiz book with a difference. Rather than basic sets of questions, *The Book Lover's Quiz Book* mirrors the format of Gary's live quizzes, at the Betsey Trotwood in London and elsewhere. So, there are lots of multiple-choice questions, some amusing answers, clever red herrings, little-known facts about authors and some of the much-loved Say What You See picture round. Also, there are fixed and variable rounds - fixed ones include 'Blankety Books' (one word missing from the title - always with a theme), 'Literary Links and lists' (what connects/next in the list etc.) and '2 of a Kind' (name the character and the author that share the same initials). The changeable rounds keep the quizzes fresh and include 'What the Dickens?' (real or made-up Dickens names), 'RomeNo or JuliYess' (real or made-up Shakespearian insults) and 'Book Bingo!' (identify the correct number). There are also more standard rounds such as 'First Lines', 'Working Titles' and 'Banned Books'. The aim of all Gary's quizzes, and this book, is that people should have fun and be able to guess (if they don't know) as much as possible.

case histories by kate atkinson: The Savior Eugene Drucker, 2007-07-17 A magnetic debut novel from world-renowned violinist Eugene Drucker Set during the final weeks of World War II, *The Savior* is the story of Gottfried Keller, a young German violinist. Exempted from military service, Keller is burdened with the demoralizing task of playing for wounded soldiers in hospitals and makeshift infirmaries. As he leaves his apartment one morning to pick up a new assignment at headquarters, Keller finds an SS driver waiting for him and is escorted without explanation to a labor camp outside his town. There he is introduced to the camp's Kommandant, who tells Keller that he will spend the next four days performing for the inmates as part of an experiment in reviving

hope in those who have lost it completely. Overwhelmed by fear and compelled by the temptation of using his talent to affect others so powerfully, Keller finds himself playing a series of concerts for the prisoners -- and seeing with his own eyes the horrifying truths within the barbed-wire fence. As he plays the music of Ysaÿe, Hindemith and Bach, most notably the searing Chaconne, Keller's own questionable past unfolds, revealing the loss of his closest friend and the Jewish fiancée from whom he fled in fear of being caught as a Jew-lover. As he bears witness to the camp's atrocities, Keller's horror toward the perpetrators and their crime begins to fade, revealing his own culpability. Beautifully conceived and gracefully written, *The Savior* is a complex and illuminating character study of a man severed from his past expectations and an artist struggling with his identity in the face of human catastrophe.

case histories by kate atkinson: *The Complete Polysyllabic Spree* Nick Hornby, 2007-06-28
The Complete Polysyllabic Spree is Nick Hornby's wickedly funny journey through reading. This is not a book of reviews. This is not a book that sneers at other books. This is a book about reading - about enjoying books wherever and however you find them. Nick Hornby, author of the bestsellers *About a Boy* and *Fever Pitch* - takes us on a hilarious and perceptive tour through the books he bought, the books he read and his thoughts on literature. He is first and foremost a reader and he approaches books like the rest of us: hoping to pick up one he can't put down. *The Complete Polysyllabic Spree* is a diary of sorts, charting his reading life over two years. It is a celebration of why we read - its pleasures, its disappointments and its surprises. And above all, it is for you - the ever hopeful reader. For fans of Bill Bryson and Stephen Fry, and for bookworms everywhere, this witty, passionate book will make you cherish the world of letters anew. 'An engaged and engaging ramble around one reader's mind' *The Times* 'Not only does it make you want to read more but, like all great books, it's also terrific company' *Metro* 'For anyone whose idea of a good time is arguing with friends about their favourite books...amusing and contagiously enthusiastic' *Big Issue*

case histories by kate atkinson: *The Next Time You See Me* Holly Goddard Jones, 2013-02-12
The disappearance of one woman and the hard-drinking and unpredictable Ronnie Eastman reveal the ambitions, prejudices, and anxieties of a small southern town and its residents.

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