



When Will There Be Good News?: A Novel

By Kate Atkinson

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On a hot summer day, Joanna Mason's family slowly wanders home along a country lane. A moment later, Joanna's life is changed forever...

On a dark night thirty years later, ex-detective Jackson Brodie finds himself on a train that is both crowded and late. Lost in his thoughts, he suddenly hears a shocking sound...

At the end of a long day, 16-year-old Reggie is looking forward to watching a little TV. Then a terrifying noise shatters her peaceful evening. Luckily, Reggie makes it a point to be prepared for an emergency...

These three lives come together in unexpected and deeply thrilling ways in the latest novel from Kate Atkinson, the critically acclaimed author who Harlan Coben calls "an absolute must-read."

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When Will There Be Good News?: A Novel By Kate Atkinson Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. In Atkinson's stellar third novel to feature ex-cop turned PI Jackson Brodie (after *One Good Turn*), unrelated characters and plot lines collide with momentous results. On a country road, six-year-old Joanna Mason is the only survivor of a knife attack that leaves her mother and two siblings dead. Thirty years later, after boarding the wrong train in Yorkshire, Brodie is almost killed when the train crashes. He's saved by 16-year-old Regina Reggie Chase, the nanny of Dr. Joanna Hunter, née Mason. In the chaos following the crash, Brodie ends up with the wallet of Andrew Decker, the recently released man convicted of murdering the Mason family. Enter DCI Louise Monroe, Brodie's former love interest, who's tracking Decker because of a recent case involving a similar family and crime. When Dr. Hunter disappears, Reggie is convinced she's been kidnapped and enlists the reluctant Brodie to track her down. A lesser author would buckle under so many story lines, but Atkinson juggles them brilliantly, simultaneously tying up loose ends from *Turn* and opening new doors for further Brodie misadventures. (Sept.)

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Critics greeted the return of Jackson Brodie enthusiastically, and many stated that *When Will There Be Good News?* is the best installment of the three-book series. Atkinson's mysteries develop naturally from her charmingly flawed characters and display her keen insight into human nature. Her control of the plot is absolute: it ratchets up the tension while the narrative accelerates to breakneck speeds. Atkinson's razor-sharp humor and literary games add to the fun without distracting from the story. A few critics lamented the heavy use of coincidences and mistaken identities, but the *Guardian* perceived an added layer of meaning to such plot contrivances. Readers are forewarned: they may not be able to put down this riveting, entertaining, and clever novel until they've turned the final page.

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From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review In the third novel in her Jackson Brodie series and what may be the best entry yet, Atkinson offers another fascinating glimpse into her dark worldview. The novel opens with a horrific scene as six-year-old Joanna Mason watches a maniac slice up her mother, sister, and baby brother. Thirty years later, the killer is released on parole, and Joanna, now an Edinburgh GP with a baby of her own, has gone missing, but only Joanna's nanny, Reggie Chase, an old soul despite her young years, is convinced that Joanna is in danger. Then Jackson Brodie, reluctant PI and protector of women, crashes the scene, literally, when the train he is riding derails. Reggie saves his life and then asks Jackson to save Joanna and her baby. In Atkinson's world, the most vulnerable are easy prey ("In some Utopian nowhere, women walked without fear"), but the mayhem is offset by the expansiveness of her singular narrative voice. Hard-charging detective Louise Monroe (returning from *One Good Turn*, 2006), one of four revolving narrators, moves from bitingly funny rants on the burdens of domesticity to teasing sexual banter to a grim tip of the hat to the many women murdered while trying to protect their children ("Give medals to all the women"). It is that tonal range that gives this novel its incredible richness. --Joanne Wilkinson

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Casey Larsen:

Have you spare time for just a day? What do you do when you have more or little spare time? Sure, you can choose the suitable activity to get spend your time. Any person spent their own spare time to take a stroll, shopping, or went to the actual Mall. How about open or read a book titled When Will There Be Good News?: A Novel? Maybe it is to get best activity for you. You understand beside you can spend your time using your favorite's book, you can wiser than before. Do you agree with the opinion or you have various other opinion?

John Newton:

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Jared Carter:

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