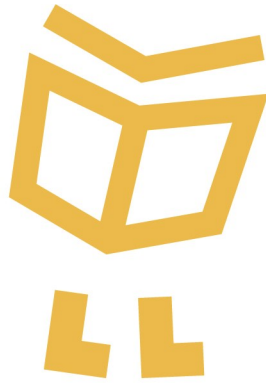


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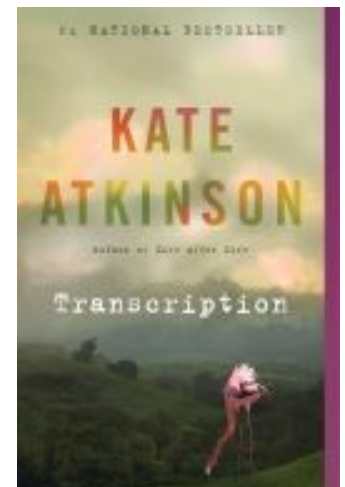


Transcription

Kate Atkinson

Discussion Questions

1. The story starts off in 1981 and jumps back to 1940 and then moves to 1950 for a good chunk before finishing back in the '80s. What did you think about this story structure and different time periods when it comes to story flow?
2. Evaluate Juliet in the time different time periods and how she grew and evolved. What surprised you the most about her?
3. Which story lines were you most engaged with and why?
4. Why do you think Juliet lied so much in her interview with Morton? Why do you think they hired her?
5. Talk about Juliet's dynamic with Perry. She obviously was in lust with him while he had other interests in mind, however, he still cared for her just not in the way she wanted. How did this showcase her naivety?
6. And on the other hand, Juliet is very capable with her transcribing skills and is asked to go undercover. Why do you think Juliet was so skilled at being undercover?
7. When Juliet is in the 1950s, she's working at the BBC. Why was this a logical transition for her?
8. As she starts to receive threatening messages, who did you think at first it was from?
9. There's a line toward the end when Mr. 'Fisher' says "nothing is as simple as it looks." What did that mean within the context of this book?
10. What surprised you the most about the ending and the reveal of Juliet as a double agent?
11. How does this novel show that history is doomed to repeat itself?
12. A key aspect of the book is about living with the choices we make. Once choice brings us down one road while the other one a different road. How does that relate to your own life?



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About the Author

Kate Atkinson won the Whitbread (now Costa) Book of the Year prize with her first novel, *Behind the Scenes* at the Museum. Her four bestselling novels featuring former detective Jackson Brodie became the BBC television series *Case Histories*, starring Jason Isaacs. Her 2013 novel *Life After Life* won the South Bank Sky Arts Literature Prize, was shortlisted for the Women's Prize, and voted Book of the Year for the independent booksellers associations on both sides of the Atlantic. It also won the Costa Novel Award, as did her subsequent novel *A God in Ruins* (2015).

Via the author's website (<https://www.kateatkinson.co.uk/>)

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