



Jacky Ha-Ha

By James Patterson, Chris Grabenstein

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In his new middle grade novel that debuted at #1 on the *New York Times* bestseller list, James Patterson introduces his hilarious new heroine, Jacky Ha-Ha, a class clown who makes people laugh *with* her so they can't laugh *at* her.

With her irresistible urge to tell a joke in every situation--even when she really, really shouldn't--twelve-year-old Jacky Ha-Ha loves to make people laugh. And cracking wise helps distract her from thinking about not-so-funny things in her life, like her mom serving in a dangerous, faraway war, and a dad who's hardly ever home.

But no matter how much fun Jacky has, she can't seem to escape her worries. So one starlit night, she makes a promise to keep her family together...even if she has to give up the one thing that makes her happy. But can she stop being Jacky Ha-Ha, if that's who she really is?

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Jacky Ha-Ha By James Patterson, Chris Grabenstein Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 4-6-The jokes fall flat in this mediocre tale of family, middle school mishaps, and personal acceptance. Jacky recounts her life during the 1990s, when George H.W. Bush was president and Nintendo was popular. Jacky Hart, the fourth of six sisters, uses her quick wit to disguise her speech impediment. Although she makes herself a promise to behave differently in middle school, she unfortunately ends up, once again, being the class clown. This stems from her home life. There, she needs to be a personal cheerleader to her sisters, as their father is mysteriously missing during family dinners and their mother is off serving in Operation Desert Shield. When Jacky finds herself in big trouble for being a jokester, Mrs. O'Mara, a new English teacher, helps her realize that she has talent far beyond collecting detentions. Readers will find Jacky entertaining, but her character is ultimately unoriginal. Cartoon illustrations are interspersed throughout the novel, similar to those in Patterson's *I Funny* (Little, Brown, 2013) and Rachel Renee Russell's "Dork Diaries" series (S. & S.). While the art is playful and fun to look at, it never feels essential to the text. Readers may find Jacky's grown-up narration confusing, as she recounts her life as a middle schooler. The ending is unrealistic. VERDICT Despite its many shortcomings, this title is sure to have high circulation among fans of Patterson's previous works.-Jessica Bratt, Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids, MI ©(c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Review

A #1 New York Times Bestseller!

A Parents' Choice Award Winner!

A National Parenting Products Award Winner!

"...Jacky is the best yet. Fun, smart, emotionally engaging, Jacky is a character that young readers will love spending time with."?Kirkus Reviews

"Readers will find Jacky entertaining.... the art is playful and fun. This title is sure to have high circulation among fans of Patterson's previous works."

?School Library Journal

"The story is stuffed with page-turning pranks, and the swoopy b&w cartoons from Kerascoët only add to Jacky's untamed energy.... The novel is sure to amuse and encourage readers who don't have it all figured out just yet."

?Publisher's Weekly

"Smart, funny, and immensely likable, Jacky is a colorful narrator and an increasingly interesting character, and her struggles will strike a chord with many readers.... The many black-and-white cartoon-style drawings increase the book's appeal."?Booklist

"James Patterson has figured out the formula for writing entertaining books for tween readers. Jacky is a wildly engaging character. [The story is] great fun."

?Parents' Choice

"Jacky is a genuinely likable and funny protagonist...Kerascoët's black and white illustrations are full of verve and energy, as cartoonish Jacky careens her way through life."?BCCB

About the Author

James Patterson received the Literarian Award for Outstanding Service to the American Literary Community at the 2015 National Book Awards. He holds the Guinness World Record for the most #1 *New York Times* bestsellers, and his books have sold more than 350 million copies worldwide. A tireless champion of the power of books and reading, Patterson created a children's book imprint, JIMMY Patterson, whose mission is simple: "We want every kid who finishes a JIMMY Book to say, 'PLEASE GIVE ME ANOTHER BOOK.'" He has donated more than one million books to students and soldiers and funds over four hundred Teacher Education Scholarships at twenty-four colleges and universities. He has also donated millions to independent bookstores and school libraries. Patterson invests proceeds from the sales of JIMMY Patterson Books in pro-reading initiatives.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Georgianna Menendez:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important take action, like looking for your favorite guide and reading a publication. Beside you can solve your problem; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled Jacky Ha-Ha. Try to make book Jacky Ha-Ha as your good friend. It means that it can to become your friend when you experience alone and beside regarding course make you smarter than ever before. Yeah, it is very fortuned in your case. The book makes you far more confidence because you can know everything by the book. So , we should make new experience along with knowledge with this book.

Robert Thompson:

Do you one among people who can't read satisfying if the sentence chained in the straightway, hold on guys this aren't like that. This Jacky Ha-Ha book is readable by simply you who hate those perfect word style. You will find the information here are arrange for enjoyable looking at experience without leaving even decrease the knowledge that want to supply to you. The writer associated with Jacky Ha-Ha content conveys objective easily to understand by a lot of people. The printed and e-book are not different in the information but it just different available as it. So , do you still thinking Jacky Ha-Ha is not loveable to be your top checklist reading book?

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William Bell:

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