



Lone Wolf

Linwood Barclay

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Newspaper writer, family man, and reluctant hero Zack Walker has stumbled onto some dicey stories before, but nothing like what he's about to uncover when a mutilated corpse is found at his father's lakeside fishing camp. As always, Zack fears the worst. And this time, his paranoid worldview is dead-on.

While the locals attribute the death to a bear attack, Zack suspects something far more ominous—a predator whose weapons include arson, assault, and enough wacko beliefs to fuel a dozen hate groups. Then another body is discovered and a large supply of fertilizer goes missing, evoking memories of the Oklahoma City bombing. But it's when he learns that his neighbor is a classic Lone Wolf—FBI parlance for a solo fanatic hell-bent on using high body counts to make political statements—that Zack realizes the idyllic town of his childhood is under siege. The fuse is lit to a catastrophe of unimaginable terror. And with time running out, Zack must face off with a madman.

Lone Wolf Details

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Author : Linwood Barclay

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Gary says

The 3rd book in the Zack Walker series by one of my favourite authors Linwood Barclay. Another adventure in Zack's trouble filled life, full of action, thrills and a good dose of humour. Not Linwood Barclay's best work but they are certainly entertaining a well worth a read. The book finishes by setting up the the 4th and final episode of the Zack Walker series.

Elaine Griffith says

I like this author's series, but this one was not one of the best. The lead character kinda steps into goofy situations, but maybe that's what he's intended to be. This series is entertaining but not challenging. His topic in this book was quite current even though it was written in 2006.

Lauren Roberts says

I always enjoy Linwood Barclay books and really pleased I came across the Zack Walker series. I love Zack and how he bumbles into misadventures with disastrous results!

The third book in the series is called Bad Luck and follows Zack as he gets a call suggesting his father has been eaten by a bear near the cabins he lives in. Zack goes to the cabins to identify his dad and the story unfolds from there....don't worry his dad's not dead!

A story full of dark humour, fish guts, a bear and a crazy family!

Siobhan says

By this point in my reading of the Zack Walker mysteries, anyone following my reviews will release I'm somewhat addicted. In fact, reading this series is reminding me just how much I love crime thrillers. I used to read them all the time, but as of late my reading of such books has been rather sporadic. However, this series is making me want to go back to the way I once was. I think, in part, I had a bad run with thriller books and that is why I moved away for a while – but I assure you, that is about to change.

With Bad Luck (or Lone Wolf, as it was published in some countries), Linwood Barclay brings us more of what we have come to enjoy so much with this series. Like the two prior books, Bad Move and Bad Guys, Bad Luck sucked me in from the very start, and refused to let up until I was finished with the book. The moment I was finished, I had one thought in my mind – to grab Bad News (or Stone Rain, as it was published in some countries), the final book, and see how everything came together.

Each time I finish a Zack Walker book, I want to dive into the next. Yet my desire was even stronger this

time, as we get quite a bit of promise throughout this one of what is to come in the final book. We get to see that it will involve a side character I have rather enjoyed, one I want to see more of, and I cannot wait to see how her story unfolds. Whilst I have enjoyed all the Zack Walker mysteries, I have the highest hopes for the final book – it really is a whole new level of excitement.

Back to Bad Luck, though.

Bad Luck was another addictive read, leaving me turning the pages as I worked to see how everything came together. You're sucked in deep, and before you know it coming up for air is no longer important. We get more of the great characters we have been enjoying throughout the prior books, along with being introduced to some new individuals, and we finally get to meet characters who have been mentioned in the past. We have a wonderful storyline, one with many elements that link together wonderfully – and even the predictable elements made for great enjoyment. We have more of the humour that keeps you chuckling away – some being quite childish, but all bringing a smile to your face.

Keeping me gripped throughout, and providing a serious kick, Bad Luck was another great Zack Walker mystery.

Huda Sarkowi says

I didn't realize that this book is a part of a series, and upon that, I thought, the whole half siblings plot was unneeded at that time. But I guess, that was just a start for whatever story for the next book.

However, for me, this is not Linwood Barclay best work.

Jenn says

Another superb read in the Zack Walker mystery series. Once an asshole, always an asshole! However, he now meets up with his father's neighbors who reign supreme over being assholes. Although I do find Zack to be much more subdued in this one.

Kevin says

Reluctant hero, Zack Walker, is called to go to his Father's cabin because his Father is missing and a body which has been mutilated by a bear has been discovered close by. As usual Zack's paranoia is dead on. A brilliant plot line... funny and suspenseful. A great book in a fantastic series.

Dale says

Enjoyed Book 3 very much. They should be read in order to get familiar with characters. Many people,

including me got frustrated with Zack in Book 1 and stopped reading. He is a jerk but one you grow to love. Enjoyed greatly.

Paul Chiswick says

A very early Linwood Barclay, written before his name became known. The characters are a little quirky, the twist telegraphed, but the man has the knack of telling a captivating story.

Now he is among the best, if not the best, of contemporary thriller writers.

There are 3 companion 'Bad' books. If they are as good as this one, I would certainly recommend them.

Marty says

4.75. It was a little slow at first, but about half way through I couldn't put it down, especially the last 100 pages. And then you keep wondering what story he wrote at the end for the newspaper and whether they caught the fish. And then out of the blue Trixie says something at the end that made me go back to the first chapter and I still couldn't figure it out, so just saying Barclays is an amazing writer!

Bev says

I found myself laughing out loud several times while reading this book. I really liked being able to read suspense and laugh so much. It was good that the suspense was not really scary. Then I could easily sleep after reading. My husband read it too and I cannot remember him reading a book so quickly. He liked it very much.

Hilary Stokes says

This didn't make 5 stars for me because of a really bad plot blunder near the end, which completely signposts what's going to happen in an upcoming scene.

But aside from this, I loved the book. Feisty, combative characters, lots of snarky humour, and multiple mysteries to follow. The family conflict and gradual revelations were engrossing and very well written.

This was my first Linwood Barclay book, but having mistakenly read book 3 here, I'll definitely be reading read 1 and 2, as well as investigating his other novels.

Wilton314 says

'The sh*t you get into. I do declare.' So says Lawrence Jones to his friend Zack Walker near the end of Lone Wolf, the third in Linwood Barclay's series featuring anti-hero Zack Walker, sci-fi novelist and self professed paranoid geek turned newspaper reporter. And it's true. He's like Jessica Fletcher in Murder She

Wrote - trouble just seems to follow him wherever he goes. This time around Zack visits his father after a false alarm call saying his father may have been gruesomely killed by a bear. This story is more of an action thriller with some mystery twists thrown in for good measure. Most other Barclay books that I've read are the opposite - mystery thrillers with some action added to ratchet up the suspense. I found myself comparing it to Lee Child's Jack Reacher novels, only Zack Walker doesn't have the self assured swagger of Reacher. I quite liked this story, Lone Wolf, and found it, like all Barclay's others, very hard to put down. Another one to recommend to lovers of good, fun stories.

Rebecca Haslam says

I've probably read a good two thirds of Barclay's books and this, for me, fits somewhere in the middle. The story itself is good (not great) and runs along at a steady enough pace, but it lacks the punch that made No Time For Goodbye so gripping - it'll take something pretty epic from him to top that, in my opinion.

Hella Comat says

I always like Linwood Barclay's books, and since I've read the most recent ones, I'm reading some I must have missed. This mystery's set in northern Ontario, well know to Barclay who grew up there. Fast action, unpredictable, and a smart ass main character - what more could you want?
