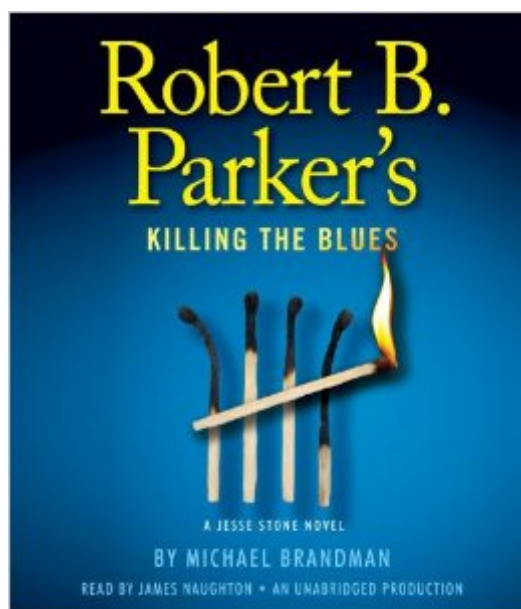


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Robert B. Parker's Killing The Blues: A Jesse Stone Novel



Synopsis

The Jesse Stone stories continue even after Robert B. Parker's passing with *Killing the Blues*. In this novel, Jesse Stone is faced with what begins as a rash of stolen cars and escalates into arson and murder as Stone uncovers how deep this crime wave really goes. All the while, Paradise, Massachusetts is preparing for summer tourism with the help of event planner Alexis Richardson, and she and Stone become involved in a steamy affair.

Book Information

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Authors, A-Z > (P) > Parker, Robert B. #1451 in Books > Books on CD > Mystery & Thrillers

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Customer Reviews

Your reaction to the simple existence of a Jesse Stone novel written by someone who's not Robert B. Parker will likely define your approach to reading it. If, like me, you are a long-time reader of the late, lamented Grand Master Parker, you will be rightly skeptical. The stylistic differences, coupled with clearly different skill-sets, will be off-putting. The choices Michael Brandman makes early in the book will drive you crazy. You might want to fling the book out a window, even. If, however, you come to *Killing The Blues* as an admirer of the Jesse Stone TV-Movies, on which Brandman and Parker were frequent collaborators, you'll likely be spared such self-righteous angst. Brandman seems to be blurring the lines between book and movie continuity now, to the point that *Killing The Blues* is much like those "tv tie-in" books that support CSI and other long-running series. The settings and characters now resemble the movies more than previous books. By itself, *Killing The Blues* is a very effective story of obsession, redemption and all the themes Parker made resonate so well. It weaves a few compelling plot-lines together pretty seamlessly. It's very entertaining crime-fiction commerce. As summer approaches Paradise, Jesse is greeted with a new wave of car

thefts, all Hondas. Clearly an organized-crime expansion into His Town to feed their chop-shop appetites. Jesse wants to stop the crimes, but the Paradise Board of Selectmen want to stop the threat to The Season, which creates some cross-purposes, and opportunities for Jesse to display his ironic aversion to authority. Jesse hears from his old boss in L.A.

I will admit I was, and am an avid fan of the PARKER written Jesse Stone books. In fact as his series' got into their later incarnations I enjoyed the Stone stories (except for one) better than the later Spenser tales. Having said that there was a part of me that was excited that the books would go on, but a larger part of me dreaded the idea. When I heard that this new author (of "Killing the Blues") worked on the Jesse Stone tv movies I was REALLY dreading this novel, and what at first looked like my prediction coming true, ended up being a nice surprise. At first glimpse over the opening pages (or the Kindle sample) I began to fear the worst....as in quick order the "book" Jesse/Paradise, was slightly skewed so that it resembled more the "tv" Jesse/Paradise. The slight changes (no big spoilers here as this is in the first few pages) include Jesse moving from his apartment to a rental house on an inlet across from a bridge, his romance with Parker's other character, Sunny Randall, is on ice as she is now working long term on a case in England. A slight change that is difficult to miss, is that the writing style is vastly different, and this is both bad and good. The negative is that it does not have the same "feel" of the shorter chapters that end with some sort of one liner. The positive is that the author pays more attention to the story...let me rephrase that, stories - as there are multiple plot lines that kept me engaged. Once I got past the differences and recognized that there were not to be any more and any vast changes I began to enjoy the book, and again there was much in the plot to enjoy. A released criminal from L.A. is out for revenge and causing havoc in Paradise.

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