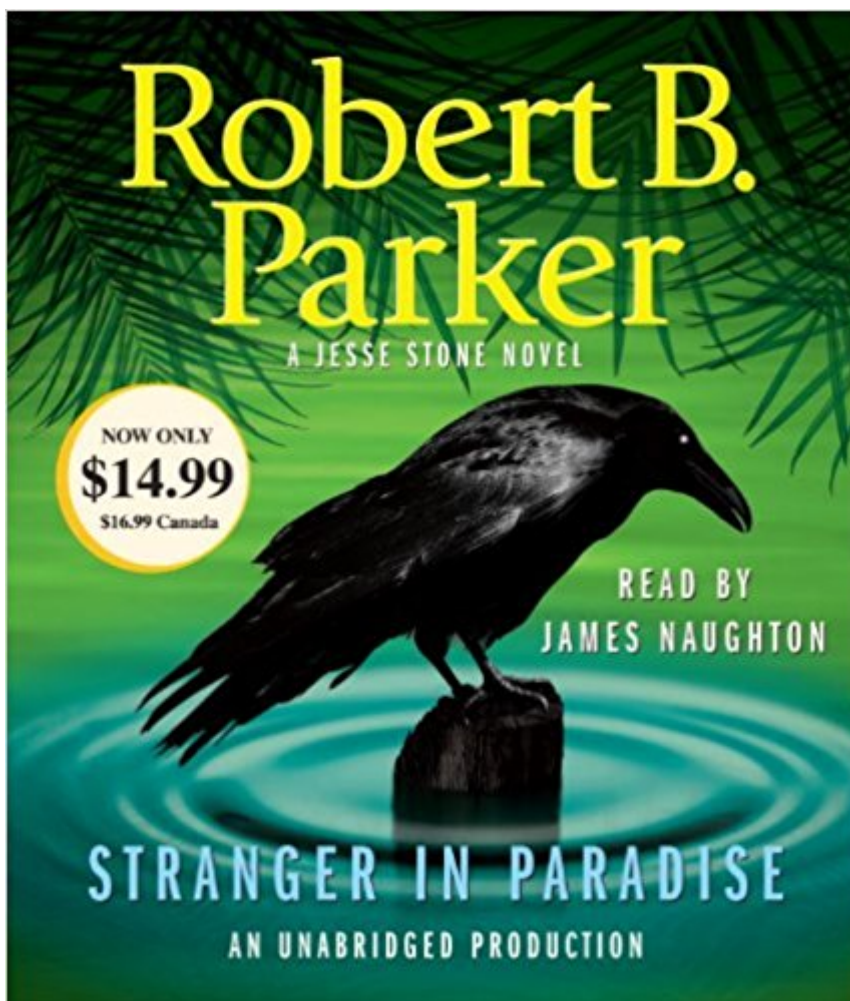




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Stranger In Paradise (Jesse Stone Novels)



Synopsis

The last time Jesse Stone, police chief of Paradise, Massachusetts, saw Wilson "Crow" Cromartie, the Apache hit man was racing away in a speedboat after executing one of the most lucrative and deadly heists in the town's history. Crow managed to escape with a boatload of cash, never to be seen again. Until now. When Crow shows up in Jesse's office some ten years after the crime, it's not to turn himself in. Crow is on another job, and this time he's asking for Jesse's help by asking him to stay out of his way. Crow's mission is simple: find young Amber Francisco and bring her back to her father, Louis, in Florida. It should be an easy payday for a pro like Crow, but there are complications. Amber, now living in squalor with her mother, Fiona, is mixed up with members of a Latino gang. And when Louis orders Crow to kill Fiona before heading back with Amber, he can't follow through. Crow may be a bad guy, but he doesn't kill women. It's up to Jesse to provide protection. Meanwhile, Jesse's on-again, off-again relationship with ex-wife Jenn picks up steam as she investigates the gang problem for her TV station. As she and Jesse dig deeper, the danger escalates. The life of a teenage girl hangs in the balance, and saving Amber could be the miracle Jesse and Jenn need for themselves, too.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Jesse Stone trades quips with his deputies, Suitcase Simpson and Molly Crane; struggles with his relationship with his ex-wife, Jenn; and grapples with a criminal's return in bestseller Parker's

sizzling seventh novel to feature the Paradise, Mass., police chief (after 2007's *High Profile*). Ex-con Wilson Crow Cromartie, who claims to be Apache and who eluded the police after a shootout 10 years earlier in *Trouble in Paradise* (1998), wants Stone not to interfere in his search for someone in Massachusetts. A Florida mob bigwig, Louis Francisco, has hired Crow to kill his ex-wife and kidnap his 14-year-old daughter, Amber, but Crow has a policy of not harming women. In the end, Stone does more than leave Crow alone; he decides to make sure Amber, who's involved with a Latino gang, gets a chance, however slim, to overcome the odds stacked against her. Stone and Crow make an appealing odd couple as they first warily size each other up then become grudging allies in the pursuit of justice. (Feb.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Fresh and different as crisp as ever. "TORONTO STAR" You've really got to hand it to Robert Parker this series picks up new energy with each entry. His books featuring Police Chief Jesse Stone are the best of the lot, and "Stranger in Paradise" shows why. "PROVIDENCE JOURNAL" Parker has not lost his touch. "LIBRARY JOURNAL" "Fresh and different...as crisp as ever." "the reigning champion of the American tough-guy detective novel" "You've really got to hand it to Robert Parker...this series picks up new energy with each entry. His books featuring Police Chief Jesse Stone are the best of the lot, and...Stranger in Paradise shows why." "Fresh and different as crisp as ever. "TORONTO STAR" You've really got to hand it to Robert Parker this series picks up new energy with each entry. His books featuring Police Chief Jesse Stone are the best of the lot, and "Stranger in Paradise" shows why. "PROVIDENCE JOURNAL" Parker has not lost his touch. "LIBRARY JOURNAL" "Fresh and different as crisp as ever. "TORONTO STAR" You've really got to hand it to Robert Parker this series picks up new energy with each entry. His books featuring Police Chief Jesse Stone are the best of the lot, and "Stranger in Paradise" shows why. "PROVIDENCE JOURNAL" Parker has not lost his touch. "LIBRARY JOURNAL" --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

In this, Book 7, the reader may find a bit of a departure. The "stranger" is someone who walks the fence regarding the law. He's somewhat a modern day vigilante with Apache Indian roots. He has no qualms introducing himself to Jesse wherein they both form bit of an uneasy bond. A bond born of respect. The stranger, Crow, is hired to carry out a hit. Contrary to his Apache heritage he doesn't believe in killing women. Thereby lies his quandary, leading to his alliance with Stone. The book is a fast read. Stone is surrounded by his usual cast of characters which are very well developed and

mostly likeable. The character I find I never liked is Jesse's ex-wife, Jenn. Whenever I get to chapters involving her or the psychiatrist he uses named Dix, I find I merely skim the chapters. If you don't skip over, the books bog down. Jenn's issues are the same now as they were back then. Each book, her character merely presents more of the same. Here we are in Book 7 and we have the same melodrama involving Jenn. Here, the ever-stable Molly, even throws us an unexpected curve. The ending comes upon the reader quickly. But, is none the less good. Mr. Parker's Jesse Stone series has always been entertaining. Honestly, I don't think I would have liked them as much had I not seen the movies with Tom Selleck in the lead as Stone. He was perfect for the part and can easily be imagined in book form.

Really did not care for the book. It is a fast read mostly because there are not subplots and the main plot is just laid out for you. I read it in less than 3 hours. The thing that bothered me the most was the lack of any moral code on the part of the main character. I have read previous Jesse Stone books and despite his flaws you would expect him to do the right things. In this book, he teams up with a psychopath who in a previous book was involved in a crime spree which resulted in two of his officers being murdered - I don't think many police officers would overlook that. He totally ignores a 14 year-old girl's direct involvement in the cold-blooded murder of her mother. This does not reflect someone who does the right thing. And the ongoing relationship with his ex-wife is beyond tiresome, both need to get on with their lives.

Yet another great, quick read from R.B. Parker. One can't help but love Jesse Stone despite his flaws. The dialogue is easy, like Jesse, and tells the story without interruption. The crimes are adequately complex and draw you to the bad guys as well as the good guys. I recommend these books be read in order even after you have seen the made-for-TV movies. Highly recommend.

Since Jesse Stone, has taken the job of police chief in Paradise, Massachusetts. His life has become interesting to the reader especially when Crow, an Apache hitman, turns up looking for a young girl and her mother. Crow likes women and Molly also likes Crow. After talking with Jesse, Crow heads his way and Jesse on his but with the advice he would be watching closely. Jesse also has on his plate the fact that he and Jen are sort of trying to make a go of it. The story behind each scenario keeps the reading not wanting to put the book down. In my case, I have seen the short TV series of Robert B Parker's books with Tom Sellick as Jesse and he does a wonderful interpretation thus making it easy to visualise him as I read. Great stories and I just love reading them all.

I really enjoy this style of writing. It is direct without a lot of garbage. I enjoyed the story to a point. I have to admit to comparing it to the shows that Mr. Selleck does....and between both the stories work out great.

This book is very good! I have become a Robert B Parker fan. I saw the made for TV movie version before I read the books. I was very surprised to see how much liberty the producer of the movie production took such liberties of changing most of the book to fit what they thought it should have been. Well guess what the book was better than the Tom Selleck version. Jesse Stone has his demons with an ex-wife and booze. However, beyond those issues he is a good cop and 98% of the time gets his bad guy. The reader knows up front he most likely will come out the winner; it's trying to figure out how he will do it. I have yet been able to out smart the author. That what makes it a good read!

The story flows naturally, but as in most books converted to digital format, your editors are rather negligent. Spellings such as r followed by an n usually end as an m. Disturbing but not catastrophic! Are you sure you don't need some editing help? Sometimes the flow of a paragraph could be much enhanced by arranging the flow in a little different manner. AND I really don't like to see the phrases which is, that is, etcetera even in fiction when it's attributed to a character supposedly fluent in the English language.

As a reader of all the past Jesse Stone novels, this latest one is a huge disappointment. It's as if Parker has lost his feel for who Jesse Stone is, and the character's usual repartee is no longer witty. The plot is terrible, and the re-emergence of "Crow" doesn't do justice to the original character. I find it amazing that a publisher has the cojones to put so much white space into a book. It's a real contest between the publishers of Robert B. Parker and James Patterson to see who can put the most white space in a book -- and still have us poor schmucks buy the stupid things. (James Patterson is still the champion of the non-book.)

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