

robert b parker jesse stones

Robert B Parker Jesse Stones: Exploring the Iconic Detective Series

robert b parker jesse stones is a phrase that resonates deeply with fans of crime fiction and detective novels. The Jesse Stone series, created by the late Robert B. Parker, has captivated readers and television audiences alike with its compelling storytelling, richly developed characters, and atmospheric settings. For those unfamiliar, this series offers a blend of classic detective work and nuanced human drama that sets it apart from other crime fiction. Let's dive into what makes the Robert B Parker Jesse Stones series a standout in the genre and why it continues to enjoy a loyal following.

The Creation of Jesse Stone: Robert B. Parker's Vision

Robert B. Parker, a celebrated author known primarily for his Spenser detective series, introduced Jesse Stone as a new kind of protagonist—a small-town police chief grappling with personal demons while maintaining a sharp investigative mind. Unlike the fast-talking, urban private eye Spenser, Jesse Stone operates in the fictional town of Paradise, Massachusetts, a place filled with its own unique challenges and characters.

Parker's creation of Jesse Stone was a deliberate departure from the traditional detective archetype. Jesse is more introspective, often struggling with alcoholism, complicated relationships, and a sense of isolation. Yet, his dedication to justice and his intuitive approach to solving crimes make him an unforgettable figure in contemporary mystery fiction.

Character Depth and Development

One of the hallmarks of the Robert B Parker Jesse Stones series is the depth of Jesse's character. Readers aren't just following a detective solving cases; they are invited into the emotional and psychological world of a man who is as flawed as he is heroic. Parker's writing gives Jesse a relatable humanity, making his triumphs and setbacks resonate on a personal level.

This complexity is a major reason why the series has such enduring appeal. Jesse's struggles with addiction and his attempts to reconcile his past mistakes add layers to the narrative, making each story more than just a whodunit.

The Jesse Stone Novels: A Blend of Mystery and

Character-Driven Drama

The Jesse Stone series includes several novels, each weaving intricate mysteries with character-driven storytelling. From the first book, "Night Passage," readers are drawn into a world where the line between right and wrong is often blurred, and where Jesse's choices carry real emotional weight.

Noteworthy Titles in the Series

- **Night Passage** – The introduction to Jesse Stone, where he takes on the role of police chief in Paradise while confronting his past.
- **Death in Paradise** – Jesse investigates a complex case that tests his investigative skills and moral compass.
- **Stone Cold** – A darker tale that delves deeper into Jesse's personal demons and the underbelly of Paradise.
- **Sea Change** – Explores themes of renewal and the search for peace amid chaos.

Each novel showcases Parker's skillful balance of suspenseful plotting with intimate character moments, creating a narrative rhythm that keeps readers engaged from start to finish.

The Television Adaptations: Bringing Jesse Stone to the Screen

The popularity of Robert B Parker Jesse Stones extended beyond the written page, inspiring a series of television movies starring Tom Selleck as Jesse Stone. These adaptations captured the essence of Parker's character, bringing Jesse's brooding charm and sharp intellect to a wider audience.

Tom Selleck's Portrayal of Jesse Stone

Tom Selleck's performance has been widely praised for its authenticity and subtlety. He embodies the weary yet determined nature of Jesse Stone, conveying the character's internal struggles with a quiet intensity. The TV movies, starting with "Jesse Stone: Stone Cold," have been successful in maintaining the tone and spirit of Parker's novels, offering fans a visual and emotional connection to the stories.

Impact on the Series' Popularity

The television adaptations helped introduce Robert B Parker Jesse Stones to viewers who might not have been familiar with the novels. This cross-media success has solidified Jesse Stone's place in the pantheon of beloved fictional detectives and has kept the series relevant in popular culture.

Why Robert B Parker Jesse Stones Remains Relevant Today

In an era saturated with crime dramas and detective stories, the Jesse Stone series stands out for its blend of classic mystery elements and deeply human storytelling. Robert B Parker's writing style—characterized by sharp dialogue, thoughtful pacing, and well-crafted plots—ensures that Jesse Stone's stories feel fresh and engaging even years after their initial publication.

Thematic Depth and Realism

The ongoing appeal of Robert B Parker Jesse Stones lies not just in the puzzles Jesse solves but in the real-life issues the series addresses. Themes of addiction, redemption, loneliness, and moral ambiguity are woven seamlessly into the narrative. This realism adds emotional weight and invites readers and viewers to reflect on the complexities of human nature.

Tips for New Readers and Viewers

If you're new to the Jesse Stone series, here are a few tips to get the most from the experience:

1. **Start with the novels:** Begin with "Night Passage" to understand Jesse's background and the foundation of the series.
2. **Explore the TV movies:** Tom Selleck's portrayal adds a new dimension to the character and is a great complement to the books.
3. **Pay attention to character development:** Jesse's personal journey is as important as the mysteries he solves, so take time to appreciate the emotional layers.
4. **Enjoy the setting:** The small-town atmosphere of Paradise is almost a character in itself, offering a unique backdrop to the stories.

The Legacy of Robert B Parker and the Jesse Stone Series

Robert B Parker's contribution to crime fiction through the Jesse Stone series is profound. Even after his passing, the series continues to inspire new works, including novels written by other authors who have taken up the mantle to keep Jesse's story alive. This ongoing legacy speaks to the strength of Parker's original vision and the universal appeal of his characters.

For those seeking a detective series that combines suspense, emotional depth, and a touch of melancholy, Robert B Parker Jesse Stones offers a rich and rewarding journey. Whether through the novels or the screen adaptations, Jesse Stone remains a compelling figure whose stories continue to resonate with audiences around the world.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Robert B. Parker in relation to the Jesse Stone series?

Robert B. Parker is the original author who created the Jesse Stone series, featuring the fictional small-town police chief Jesse Stone.

What is the main premise of the Jesse Stone series by Robert B. Parker?

The Jesse Stone series follows a former Boston detective who becomes the police chief of the small town of Paradise, Massachusetts, as he deals with crime and personal struggles.

How many Jesse Stone novels did Robert B. Parker write?

Robert B. Parker wrote nine Jesse Stone novels before his passing in 2010.

Are there any Jesse Stone books written after Robert B. Parker's death?

Yes, after Robert B. Parker's death, his estate authorized author Michael Brandman to continue the Jesse Stone series with new novels.

Has the Jesse Stone series been adapted into films or TV shows?

Yes, the Jesse Stone novels were adapted into a series of TV movies starring Tom Selleck as Jesse Stone.

What makes Jesse Stone a unique character in Robert B. Parker's works?

Jesse Stone is portrayed as a complex character struggling with alcoholism and personal demons, which adds depth to his role as a law enforcement officer.

Where is the fictional town of Paradise located in the Jesse Stone series?

The town of Paradise is a fictional small town in Massachusetts, serving as the primary setting for the Jesse Stone series.

What themes are commonly explored in Robert B. Parker's Jesse Stone novels?

Common themes include crime and justice, personal redemption, morality, and the challenges of small-town policing.

Are the Jesse Stone books suitable for readers new to Robert B. Parker's work?

Yes, the Jesse Stone series can be enjoyed independently and serves as a good introduction to Parker's writing style and character development.

Where can I start reading the Jesse Stone series by Robert B. Parker?

It is recommended to start with the first novel, 'Stone Cold,' which introduces Jesse Stone and sets the tone for the series.

Additional Resources

Robert B Parker Jesse Stones: An In-Depth Exploration of a Beloved Detective Series

robert b parker jesse stones stand as a significant pillar in the landscape of American detective fiction. Created by the late Robert B. Parker, Jesse Stone is a fictional character whose stories have captivated readers and viewers alike, gaining critical acclaim and a devoted fan base. This article delves into the origins, characteristics, and cultural impact of the Jesse Stone series, providing a comprehensive overview that highlights its place within Parker's literary legacy and the broader genre of crime fiction.

The Genesis of Jesse Stone: Robert B. Parker's

Vision

Robert B. Parker, renowned for his Spenser novels, introduced Jesse Stone as a departure from his Boston-based detective to explore a different facet of law enforcement. Jesse Stone first appeared in the novel **Stone Cold** (2003), marking a shift to the small-town setting of Paradise, Massachusetts. Parker's creation of Jesse Stone allowed him to explore themes of personal struggle, redemption, and the complexities of morality within a quieter backdrop, contrasting the bustling urban environments typical of many detective stories.

Jesse Stone is a former LAPD detective who takes up the position of police chief in Paradise, a fictional New England town. This transition from a large metropolitan police force to a small-town department provides fertile ground for Parker to examine the nuances of leadership, isolation, and the human condition through Stone's eyes. The character's internal battles, including his struggle with alcoholism and a troubled past, add depth and realism to the narrative, setting the Jesse Stone series apart from conventional crime thrillers.

Character Analysis: Jesse Stone as a Complex Protagonist

Understanding the appeal of the Robert B Parker Jesse Stones series requires a close look at its central character. Jesse Stone is not a flawless hero; rather, he is deeply flawed, which resonates with readers seeking authenticity.

Personality and Traits

Jesse Stone embodies a stoic, often brooding demeanor, yet he is marked by a strong moral compass. His introspective nature and tendency toward melancholy reflect his ongoing battle with his inner demons. Unlike many archetypal detectives defined by their sharp wit and extroverted charm, Stone's quiet resilience and vulnerability create a compelling contrast.

Professional Competence and Challenges

Despite personal setbacks, Jesse Stone is an effective and intuitive police chief. His investigative skills and ability to read people enable him to solve complex cases. However, his methods are not always orthodox, and his sometimes strained relationships with colleagues and the local community add tension and realism to the stories.

The Literary Style and Themes in Robert B Parker Jesse Stones

Parker's writing style in the Jesse Stone series maintains his signature succinct prose and sharp dialogue, but with a more reflective and somber tone compared to his Spenser novels. The series often explores themes such as:

- **Redemption and Recovery:** Jesse's journey is as much about personal healing as it is about crime-solving.
- **Small-Town Dynamics:** The interplay between community members and law enforcement highlights social undercurrents and conflicts.
- **Isolation and Connection:** Stone's loneliness juxtaposed with his need for human connection is a recurring motif.

These thematic elements enrich the narrative, providing readers with more than just procedural crime stories.

From Page to Screen: Jesse Stone Adaptations

The popularity of the Robert B Parker Jesse Stones series extended into the realm of television movies, with actor Tom Selleck famously portraying Jesse Stone. The adaptations have been praised for capturing the essence of the character and the mood of the novels.

Television Films Overview

Between 2005 and 2015, a series of TV movies based on Parker's Jesse Stone novels aired, produced by CBS. Tom Selleck's portrayal brought a nuanced physicality to the role, embodying Stone's rugged exterior and internal struggles. The films preserved the small-town atmosphere and complex character interactions that define the books.

Impact of Adaptations on the Series' Popularity

The television movies introduced Jesse Stone to a wider audience, boosting book sales and renewing interest in Parker's work. The visual medium also allowed for a deeper exploration of Paradise's setting and community, enhancing the narrative's immersive quality.

Comparative Analysis: Jesse Stone vs. Other Detective Series

In the crowded field of detective fiction, the Robert B Parker Jesse Stones series stands out for several reasons:

- **Character Depth:** Jesse Stone's personal flaws and growth offer a richer character arc compared to more procedural or action-focused detectives.
- **Setting:** The small-town environment contrasts favorably with urban-centered series, providing unique storytelling opportunities.
- **Thematic Complexity:** The series blends crime-solving with explorations of human psychology and relationships.

When compared to Parker's own Spenser series or other contemporary crime fiction, Jesse Stone offers a more introspective and emotionally charged experience.

The Legacy and Continuation of Jesse Stone After Parker

Following Robert B. Parker's death in 2010, the Jesse Stone series was continued by writer Michael Brandman initially, and later by others, maintaining the character's presence in modern crime literature. This continuation speaks to the enduring appeal and commercial viability of the character.

The post-Parker novels aim to preserve the tone and depth of the original works, though opinions vary among fans regarding their faithfulness to Parker's vision. Nonetheless, the Jesse Stone brand remains a significant component of American detective fiction, with ongoing interest in both literary and screen formats.

Why Robert B Parker Jesse Stones Remain Relevant

Several factors contribute to the lasting relevance of the Jesse Stone series:

1. **Relatable Protagonist:** Jesse's human flaws make him accessible to readers who appreciate character-driven stories.
2. **Balanced Storytelling:** Combining mystery with psychological insight appeals to a

broad audience.

3. **Adaptability:** The successful transition to screen adaptations shows the flexibility of the narrative.

The series' ability to evolve while retaining its core identity ensures its place in contemporary crime fiction.

Robert B Parker's creation of Jesse Stone offers a compelling study of a man navigating the murky waters of morality, duty, and personal redemption. Through subtle characterization, evocative settings, and engaging plots, the Jesse Stone series remains a vital contribution to the detective genre, continuing to attract new generations of readers and viewers.

Robert B Parker Jesse Stones

robert b parker jesse stones: Robert B Parker: The Jesse Stone Novels 1-5 Robert B. Parker, 2012-12-04 The new series by the creator of the hugely successful Spenser books has a great deal going for it: an empathetic, painfully flawed protagonist; an atmospheric small-town setting rife with corruption; and a whole new set of fascinating secondary characters (Booklist). Don't miss the first five novels featuring Jesse Stone, police chief of Paradise, Massachusetts, by New York Times bestselling author Robert B. Parker. Includes: Night Passage Trouble in Paradise Death in Paradise Stone Cold Sea Change

robert b parker jesse stones: Robert B. Parker's Fool Me Twice Michael Brandman, 2013-10 Includes excerpt from the author's Damned if you do.

robert b parker jesse stones: Robert B. Parker: The Jesse Stone Novels 6-9 Robert B. Parker, 2012-12-04 From the reigning champion of the American tough-guy detective novel (Entertainment Weekly), four novels featuring Jesse Stone, ex-LAPD, now the police chief in Paradise, Massachusetts. Don't miss these mysteries from the New York Times bestselling author of the Spenser series. Includes: High Profile Stranger in Paradise Night and Day Split Image

robert b parker jesse stones: Jesse Stone Series Collection by Robert B. Parker 10 Book Set Michael Brandman, 2012-10-02

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robert b parker jesse stones: Robert B. Parker's Fallout Mike Lupica, 2022-09-06 When two seemingly unconnected mysterious deaths occur on his watch, police chief Jesse Stone must pull out all the stops to unravel the truth and stop a killer from striking again. The small town of Paradise is devastated when a star high-school baseball player is found dead at the bottom of a bluff just a day after winning the team's biggest game. For Jesse, the loss is doubly difficult—the teen was the nephew of his colleague, Suitcase Simpson, and Jesse had been coaching the young shortstop. As he searches for answers about how the boy died and why, he is stonewalled at every turn, and it seems that someone is determined to keep him from digging further. Jesse suddenly must divide his attention between two cases after the shocking murder of former Paradise police chief, Charlie Farrell. Before his death, Farrell had been looking into a series of scam calls that preyed upon the elderly. But how do these "ghost calls" connect to his murder? When threats—and gunshots—appear

on Jesse's own doorstep, the race to find answers is on. Both old and new enemies come into play, and in the end, Jesse and his team must discover the common factor between the two deaths in order to prevent a third.

robert b parker jesse stones: Robert B. Parker's Damned If You Do Michael Brandman, 2014-09-02 Police Chief Jesse Stone returns in another outstanding entry in the New York Times-bestselling series. The woman on the bed was barely out of her teens. She wasn't exactly beautiful, but she'd tried to make the most of her looks. And now, alone in a seedy beachfront motel, she was dead. Paradise Police Chief Jesse Stone doesn't know her name. Whoever she is, she didn't deserve to die. Jesse starts digging, only to find himself caught in the crosshairs of a bitter turf war between two ruthless pimps. And more blood will spill before it's over.

robert b parker jesse stones: Robert B. Parker's Killing the Blues Michael Brandman, 2012-10-02 Massachusetts police chief Jesse Stone's investigation of a violent series of car thefts is complicated by political pressures, the summer tourist season, and the questionable goals of an ambitious PR executive. Available in a tall Premium Edition.

robert b parker jesse stones: Stone Cold Robert B. Parker, 2004-09-28 Tony and Brianna Lincoln just moved into Paradise, but friendly they aren't. In fact, these urbane thrill killers are knocking off the neighbors one by one, and Jesse Stone is next.

robert b parker jesse stones: Robert B. Parker's the Devil Wins Reed Farrel Coleman, Robert B. Parker, 2015 Investigating the discovery of three bodies in an abandoned factory after a huge storm, Jesse Stone learns that two of the victims were teen friends, who went missing twenty-five years earlier.

robert b parker jesse stones: Robert B. Parker's Stone's Throw Mike Lupica, 2022-08-23 Paradise is rocked by the mayor's untimely death in the latest novel starring legendary police chief Jesse Stone. The town of Paradise receives a tragic shock when the mayor is discovered dead, his body lying in a shallow grave on a property on the lake. It's ostensibly suicide, but Jesse Stone has his doubts...especially because the piece of land where the man was found is the subject of a contentious and dodgy land deal. Two powerful moguls are fighting over the right to buy and develop the prime piece of real estate, and one of them has brought in a hired gun, an old adversary of Jesse's: Wilson Cromartie, aka Crow. Meanwhile, the town council is debating if they want to sacrifice Paradise's stately character for the economic boost of a glitzy new development. Tempers are running hot, and as the deaths begin to mount, it's increasingly clear that the mayor may have been standing in the wrong person's way.

robert b parker jesse stones: Robert B. Parker's Debt to Pay Reed Farrel Coleman, 2017-09-05 In this brilliant novel in Robert B. Parker's New York Times bestselling series, police chief Jesse Stone faces a ruthless hit man. All is quiet in Paradise, except for a spate of innocuous vandalism. Good thing, too, because Jesse Stone is preoccupied with the women in his life, both past and present. As his ex-wife Jenn is about to marry a Dallas real-estate tycoon, Jesse isn't too sure his relationship with former FBI agent Diana Evans is built to last. But those concerns get put on the back burner when a major Boston crime boss is brutally murdered. Despite all evidence to the contrary, Jesse suspects it's the work of Mr. Peepers, a psychotic assassin who has caused trouble for Jesse in the past. Peepers has long promised revenge against the mob, Jesse, and Suit for their roles in foiling one of his hits—and against Jenn as well. And though Jesse and Jenn have long parted ways, Jesse still feels responsible for her safety. Jesse and Diana head to Dallas for the wedding and, along with the tycoon's security team, try to stop Peepers before the bill comes due. With Peepers toying with the authorities as to when and where he'll strike, Jesse is up against the wall. Still, there's a debt to pay and blood to be spilled to satisfy it. But whose blood, and just how much?

robert b parker jesse stones: Robert B. Parker's Blind Spot Reed Farrel Coleman, 2014-09-09 Coleman keeps the characters and the somber atmosphere but makes the book his own stylistically. --Booklist Police Chief Jesse Stone is back in the remarkable new installment of the New York Times-bestselling series. It's been a long time since Jesse Stone left L.A., and still longer since the tragic injury that ruined his chances for a major league baseball career. When Jesse is invited to

a reunion of his old Triple-A team at a hip New York city hotel, he is forced to grapple with his memories and regrets over what might have been. Jesse left more behind him than unresolved feelings about the play that ended his baseball career. The darkly sensuous Kayla, his former girlfriend and current wife of an old teammate is there in New York, too. As is Kayla's friend, Dee, an otherworldly beauty with secret regrets of her own. But Jesse's time at the reunion is cut short when, in Paradise, a young woman is found murdered and her boyfriend, a son of one of the town's most prominent families, is missing and presumed kidnapped. Though seemingly coincidental, there is a connection between the reunion and the crimes back in Paradise. As Jesse, Molly, and Suit hunt for the killer and for the missing son, it becomes clear that one of Jesse's old teammates is intimately involved in the crimes. That there are deadly forces working below the surface and just beyond the edge of their vision. Sometimes, that's where the danger comes from, and where real evil lurks. Not out in the light—but in your blind spot.

robert b parker jesse stones: Trouble in Paradise Robert B. Parker, 1999-10-01 Jesse Stone returns in this New York Times bestselling novel of death and deception from Robert B. Parker. Stiles Island is a wealthy and exclusive enclave separated by a bridge from the Massachusetts coast town of Paradise. James Macklin sees the Island as the ultimate investment opportunity: all he needs to do is invade it, blow the bridge, and loot the island. To realize his scheme, Macklin, along with his devoted girlfriend, Faye, assembles a crew of fellow ex-cons—all experts in their fields—including Wilson Cromartie, a fearsome Apache. James Macklin is a bad man, a very bad man. And Wilson Cromartie, known as Crow, is even worse. As Macklin plans his crime, Paradise police chief Jesse Stone has his hands full. He faces romantic entanglements in triplicate: his ex-wife, Jenn, is in the Paradise jail for assault, he's begun a new relationship with a Stiles Island realtor named Marcy Campbell, and he's still sorting out his feelings for attorney Abby Taylor. When Macklin's attack on Stiles Island is set in motion, both Marcy and Abby are put in jeopardy. As the casualties mount, it's up to Jesse to keep both women from harm.

robert b parker jesse stones: Split Image Robert B. Parker, 2011-02 After a high-ranking crime figure is found dead on Paradise Beach, Jesse Stone and Sunny Randall realize just how much they really have in common with their victims, their suspects--and each other. Available in a tall Premium Edition.

robert b parker jesse stones: Night Passage Robert B. Parker, 2001-07-01 Robert B. Parker introduces readers to police chief Jesse Stone in the first novel in the beloved mystery series—a New York Times bestseller. After a busted marriage kicks his drinking problem into overdrive and the LAPD unceremoniously dumps him, thirty-five-year-old Jesse Stone's future looks bleak. So he's shocked when a small Massachusetts town called Paradise recruits him as police chief. He can't help wondering if this job is a genuine chance to start over, the kind of offer he can't refuse. Once on board, Jesse doesn't have to look for trouble in Paradise: it comes to him. For what is on the surface a quiet New England community quickly proves to be a crucible of political and moral corruption—replete with triple homicide, tight Boston mob ties, flamboyantly errant spouses, maddened militiamen and a psychopath-about-town who has fixed his violent sights on the new lawman. Against all this, Jesse stands utterly alone, with no one to trust—even he and the woman he's seeing are like ships passing in the night. He finds he must test his mettle and powers of command to emerge a local hero—or the deadliest of dupes.

robert b parker jesse stones: Robert B. Parker's Fool's Paradise Mike Lupica, 2020-09-08 When an unknown man is found murdered in Paradise, Jesse Stone will have his hands full finding out who he was--and what he was seeking. When a body is discovered at the lake in Paradise, Police Chief Jesse Stone is surprised to find he recognizes the murder victim--the man had been at the same AA meeting as Jesse the evening before. But otherwise, Jesse has no clue as to the man's identity. He isn't a local, nor does he have ID on him, nor does any neighboring state have a reported missing person matching his description. Their single lead is from a taxi company that recalls dropping off the mysterious stranger outside the gate at the mansion of one of the wealthiest families in town. . . . Meanwhile, after Jesse survives a hail of gunfire on his home, he wonders if it

could be related to the murder. When both Molly Crane and Suitcase Simpson also become targets, it's clear someone has an ax to grind against the entire Paradise PD.

robert b parker jesse stones: Robert B. Parker's The Hangman's Sonnet Reed Farrel Coleman, 2018-09-04 The stellar new novel in Robert B. Parker's New York Times bestselling series featuring Paradise police chief Jesse Stone. Jesse Stone, still reeling from the murder of his fiancée by crazed assassin Mr. Peepers, must keep his emotions in check long enough to get through the wedding day of his loyal protégé, Suitcase Simpson. The morning of the wedding, Jesse learns that a gala 75th birthday party is to be held for folk singer Terry Jester. Jester, once the equal of Bob Dylan, has spent the last forty years in seclusion after the mysterious disappearance of the master recording tape of his magnum opus, *The Hangman's Sonnet*. That same morning, an elderly Paradise woman dies while her house is being ransacked. What are the thieves looking for? And what's the connection to Terry Jester and the mysterious missing tape? Jesse's investigation is hampered by hostile politicians and a growing trail of blood and bodies, forcing him to solicit the help of mobster Vinnie Morris and a certain Boston area PI named Spenser. While the town fathers pressure him to avoid a PR nightmare, Jesse must connect the cases before the bodies pile up further.

robert b parker jesse stones: Robert B. Parker's The Devil Wins Reed Farrel Coleman, 2015 In the wake of a huge storm, three bodies are discovered in the rubble of an abandoned factory building in an industrial part of Paradise known as The Swap. One body, a man's, wrapped in a blue tarp, is only hours old. But found within feet of that body are the skeletal remains of two teenage girls who had gone missing during a Fourth of July celebration twenty-five years earlier. Not only does that crime predate Jesse Stone's arrival in Paradise, but the dead girls were close friends of Jesse's right hand, Officer Molly Crane. And things become even more complicated when one of the dead girls' mothers returns to Paradise to bury her daughter and is promptly murdered. It's up to Police Chief Jesse Stone to pull away the veil of the past to see how all the murders are connected.

robert b parker jesse stones: Death in Paradise Robert B. Parker, 2002-11-05 “[Parker's found] the pitch-perfect voice for a guy who is straining every muscle to cut down on the booze, hang on to his new job as police chief, and not get rattled by the body of a teenage girl” (The New York Times) in this bestselling mystery in the Jesse Stone series. Robert B. Parker takes readers back in Paradise, where Detective Jesse Stone is looking for two things: the killer of a teenage girl—and someone, anyone, who is willing to claim the body... The local cops haven't seen anything like this, but Jesse's L.A. past has made him all too familiar with floaters. This girl hadn't committed suicide; she hadn't been drowned: she'd been shot and dumped, discarded like trash. Before long it becomes clear that she had a taste for the wild life; and her own parents can't be bothered to report her missing, or even admit that she once was a child of theirs. All Jesse has to go on is a young man's school ring on a gold chain, and a hunch or two. Filled with magnetic characters and the muscular writing that are Parker's trademarks, *Death in Paradise* is a storytelling masterpiece.

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