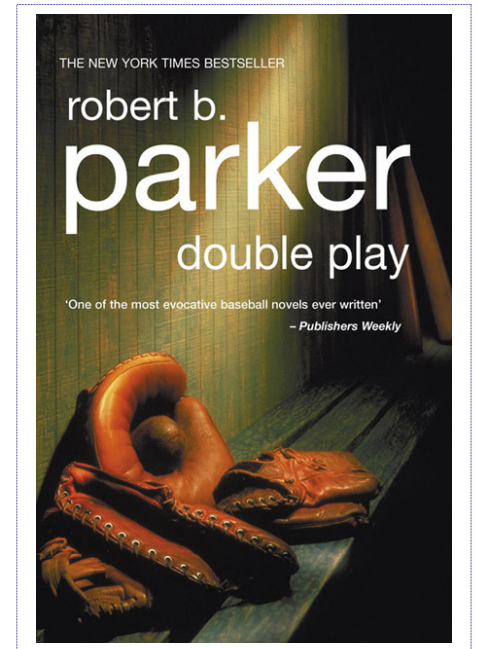


# DOUBLE PLAY

**Robert B. Parker**

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- **Every new Parker sells 150,000 hb's in the US and is a NY Times Top 10 bestseller**
- **Crossover novel will appeal to crime fiction, sports and historical fiction fans**

It is 1947, the year Jackie Robinson breaks major-league baseball's colour barrier by playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers - and changes the world. This is the story of that season, as told through the eyes of a difficult, brooding, and wounded man named Joseph Burke. Burke, a veteran of World War II and a survivor of Guadalcanal, is hired by Brooklyn Dodgers manager Branch Rickey to guard Robinson. While Burke shadows Robinson, a man of tremendous strength and character suddenly thrust into the media spotlight, the bodyguard must also face some hard truths of his own, in a world where the wrong associations can prove fatal.

Parker fans will recognize many of the author's lifelong themes (honour and the redemptive power of love), and in Burke there are very real echoes of Parker's strongest character, Spenser. Coupled with the historical background of Jackie Robinson Parker has produced not only a great and gripping crime novel but also one of the most evocative baseball novels ever written.

**Robert B Parker** is the best-selling author of 40 books, including *Small Vices*, *Sudden Mischief*, *Hush Money*, *Hugger Mugger*, *Potshot*, *Widows Walk*, *Night Passage*, *Trouble in Paradise*, *Death in Paradise*, *Family Honor*, *Perish Twice*, *Shrink Rap* & *Back Story* (all published by **No Exit**). He lives in Boston.

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