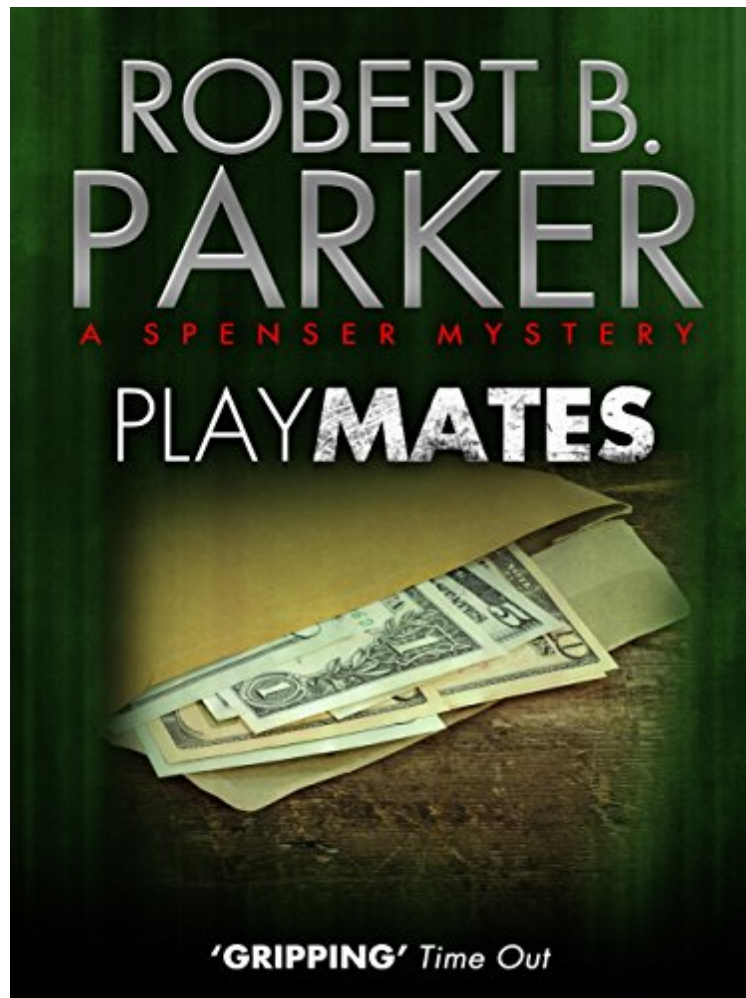


[Mobile pdf] Playmates (A Spenser Mystery) (The Spenser Series)

## Playmates (A Spenser Mystery) (The Spenser Series)

Von Robert B. Parker

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**Von Robert B. Parker : Playmates (A Spenser Mystery) (The Spenser Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Playmates (A Spenser Mystery) (The Spenser Series):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A better title: Dwayne Should Have Gone to JailVon Christopher FamaIn Playmates, Spenser investigates a point shaving scheme involving Taft University basketball players. Spenser quickly deduces that Taft star player Dwayne Woodcock is involved, and sets out to undo the illiterate young man's predicament, primarily out of respect for Dwayne's girlfriend Chantel.Much like Parker's Double Deuce, Playmates delves into African American issues of self esteem and poverty. And much like Double Deuce, Parker stumbles by relying too much on trite popular press rationales for criminal conduct - all in defense of his own unsympathetic hoods. Spenser's affection for Chantel is intended to resolve this dilemma, but her character is so underdeveloped that there's no compelling motivation for Spenser's

heroics. But it's easy to overlook a thin plot, because the joy of a Parker novel is really Spenser's sassy wit and his violent outings with the devastating and equally humorous Hawk. Particularly enjoyable is a scene in which Hawk chides Spenser about the low street value currently offered to have him "aced." One wonders how Parker can write Hawk so unapologetically while offering up sociologic platitudes for any other African American character involved in questionable circumstances.

0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. **The Playmates** Von miss.mesmerized Lucy and Biddy, two elderly sisters who once came from Germany to Scotland and have since spent their lives together. Lucy has always cared for the younger one, but now she is suffering from pneumonia and feels that the end is near. In her last hours, she tries to prepare Biddy for the time after she's deceased, but Biddy does not really seem to understand. When it finally happens, she tries to ignore the situation at first. She keeps her secret well, even manages to take care of all the financial aspects of her life. But she increasingly feels lonely, especially since she cannot confide in anybody. When young Ginger Mudd knocks on her door one day, a strange friendship develops. However, this friendship will sooner or later endanger her secret.

Eva Hanagan, who only started writing late in her life and died already in 2009, sends us to a remote place where people can lead a reclusive life. There are only few characters in her novel, apart from the sisters, we repeatedly meet a neighbour who is inquiring about Lucy's well-being, fishy Mrs Trout, young Mudd and at the end of the novel, briefly his father and mother. The plot is centred around Biddy, of whom I first thought she was a young girl, a bit naive and ignorant of the world. Only when she started narrating her past did I realise that she must be rather an elderly lady with some limited intellect. Yet, this does not hinder her from being loveable and charming in her special way. It was quite funny to read how her pragmatic cleverness helps her to keep Lucy's death secret. On the other hand, the scenes in which she longs for human contact are rather sad.

The most interesting aspect however what the friendship between Biddy and Mudd. Albeit the age difference do they well get along and quickly grow fond of each other. Their dance around Biddy's secret and their mutual feeling that this friendship is precious, too precious to endanger it by any inconsiderate, spontaneous action, was for me the most noteworthy while reading. All in all, the novel moves at a slower pace which fits well to the setting and its characters. And it is particularly the subtle play on words such as the neighbour's name that make this novel remarkable.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. **disappointing** Von Daniel J. Connelly I've read all the Spenser books up to *Playmates* and have to say this one is disappointing. The characterizations of Duane and Chantel are well done, but the story truly strains the limits of credibility. And Parker seems to be stagnating with Spenser and crew -- there is little if anything here fresh or interesting, especially since an earlier book in the series already deals with gambling's influence on sports. *Crimson Joy*, the last book in the series before this one, was much better.

**Kurzbeschreibung** When Spenser is hired to look into rumours of match fixing in university basketball, his investigations lead him deep into the gambling underworld - and into the most dangerous job of his career.

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**Synopsis** This is a further novel featuring Spenser, the hard-boiled Boston private eye with a chivalric code. This time Spenser's in for the closest shaves of his career when he discovers that college basketball can be a killer sport. He is aided by tough-guy Hawk, and Susan Silverman, sexy psychotherapist.