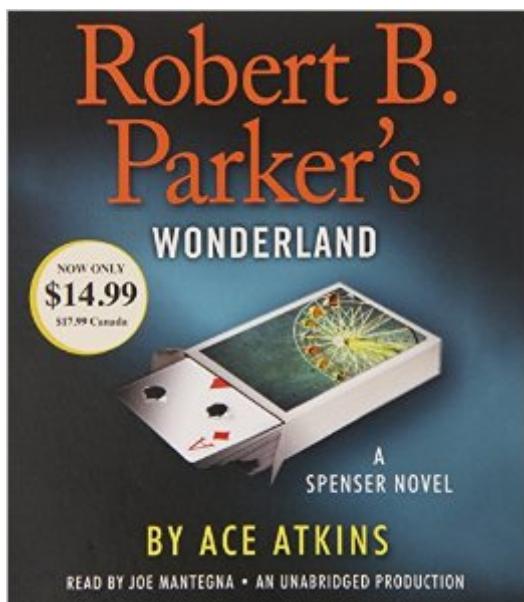


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# Robert B. Parker's Wonderland (Spenser)



## Synopsis

Henry Cimoli and Spenser have been friends for years, yet the old boxing trainer has never asked the private eye for a favor. Until now. A heavy-handed developer is trying to buy up Henry's condo on Revere Beach and sends thugs to move the process along. Soon Spenser and his apprentice, Zebulon Sixkill, find a trail leading to a mysterious and beautiful woman, a megalomaniacal Las Vegas kingpin, and plans to turn to a chunk of land north of Boston into a sprawling casino. Bitter rivals emerge, alliances turn, and the uglier pieces of the Boston political machine look to put an end to Spenser's investigation. Aspiration, greed, and twisted dreams all focus on the old Wonderland dog track where the famous amusement park once fronted the ocean. For Spenser and Z, this simple favor to Henry will become the fight of their lives.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (498 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #208,683 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Â Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > ( P ) > Parker, Robert B. #273 in Â Books > Books on CD > Mystery & Thrillers #335 in Â Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Unabridged

## Customer Reviews

In Lullaby, Ace Atkins' first attempt to continue the Spenser series after Robert B. Parker's death, he seemed to be on a learning curve for the first third of the book, unsure as to how to maintain the Boston private investigator in Parker's style. Then he gained his footing and the book turned out well. In Wonderland, it is more clear that Atkins is revising the character, but only slightly. He is keeping the essence of Spenser, but renewing him as well to fit his own perceptions of him in a current time. No writer can exactly copy another, and Atkins should be given credit for the way he is going about the task. He is putting new edges on the detective, and is better at plot than Parker, who spent most of his effort on character, and was only occasionally superior in twisting and turning

the plot into the forefront of the story. Devotees of the Spenser novels might find themselves thinking, "Parker would not write that line" or "Spenser would not say that." That would be a unfair. If the standard view of aging a detective is the commonly accepted one fictional year for every four real years, Spenser is close to 50, a bit world-weary around the edges. Keeping a trend that existed in the last few Spenser novels written by Parker, he drinks more, not to excess in any one sitting necessarily. But there are a lot of sittings. True the language is more crude, but we live in a more crude and callous society than when Parker wrote the debut novel, The Godwulf Manuscript 40 years ago. If George Carlin arose from the grave to perform his famous routine about the seven words you can't say on television, the audience would just yawn. Wonderland sees the emergence of Henry Cimoli as a full character.

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