

The Sentry (Joe Pike)

By Robert Crais

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Private investigators Joe Pike and Elvis Cole get double-crossed in this twisty, gripping *New York Times* bestseller that will have readers on the edge of their seats.

When gangbangers shake down the modest owner of a Los Angeles eatery, Joe Pike intervenes. For all intents and purposes, Pike saved Wilson Smith's life. But for reasons of their own, Smith and his lovely niece, Dru, are curiously resentful. It's only when Pike's feelings for the woman deepen that he and his partner, Elvis Cole, discover that Dru and her uncle are not at all who they seem, and everything Pike has learned about them is a lie. But it's much more than a deception. It's a trap. And with every new twist it's proving to be a killer.

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The Sentry (Joe Pike) By Robert Crais Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

T. Jefferson Parker and Robert Crais: Author One-on-One

In this Amazon exclusive, we brought together blockbuster authors T. Jefferson Parker and Robert Crais and asked them to interview each other.

T. Jefferson Parker is one of only three writers to be awarded the Edgar Award for Best Novel more than once and the bestselling author of numerous novels, including *Iron River*. Parker lives with his family in Southern California.

Read on to see T. Jefferson Parker's questions for Robert Crais, or turn the tables to see what Crais asked Parker.

Parker: You've got a new novel coming out in January of 2011. I haven't read it yet, so can you tell me a bit about it?

Crais: It's a Joe Pike novel. Wasn't supposed to be, so I was taken by surprise, but that's the way Pike is. I planned to follow my last book, *The First Rule*, with an Elvis Cole novel, but I saw Pike meet a woman in Venice, California, a few moments after Pike saved her uncle from a robbery. Ideas for books come to me that way--I'll see an image. The way Pike looked at her, I knew right away I had to follow their story. So it's a love story, but not your usual love story--it's a Joe Pike love story. As the Kirkus review said, "Prepare the body bags."

Parker: Did you have any surprises as you wrote the book?

Crais: A character named Daniel. Daniel is a hit man who is after the woman Pike is falling for. He is not your typical hit man. Daniel is very strange dude, and the creepiest character I've ever created. When I wrote his first scene, I sat back, and said, whoa, where did this guy come from?

Parker: You write terrific heroes and terrific villains. How do you get inside their heads, learn their methods and tricks?

Crais: The answer would scare you. Really.

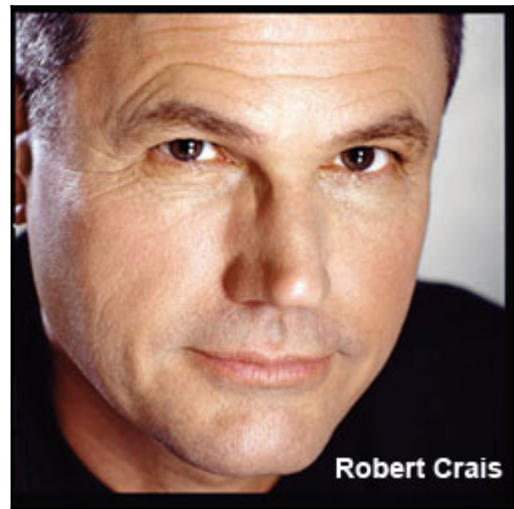


Parker: Can you describe a typical work day?

Crais: It's pretty boring. I get up, go for a hike or work out because I like to get the exercise out of the way, then I sit down to work. The work requires discipline because there are so many distractions. Though, honestly, I can't think of a better way to spend my time than hanging out with Joe Pike and Elvis Cole and even strange and dangerous characters like Daniel.

Parker: Okay, when all the work is done (is it ever?) what do you do for plain-old, flat-out fun?

Crais: Anything outside. Hiking, scuba diving, flying. As a writer, I spend most of my time inside, staring at my computer. When the work is finished, I want OUT. It's like being paroled.



(Photo of T. Jefferson Parker © Rebecca Lawson)

(Photo of Robert Crais © exleyfotoinc)

From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

There's no doubt that Elvis Cole is a winning character. But critics agreed that Joe Pike, who first abandoned his role as second fiddle to Cole in *The Watchman*, is a worthy main protagonist in his own right. Stoic, cool, self-possessed, and relentless, Pike not only complements his partner but gives the series greater depth and flavor. Most reviewers felt that *The Sentry*, like previous novels in the series, has a confident plot, fast-paced action, an insider's view of a multifaceted Los Angeles, and enough suspense to keep turning the pages. Only a couple faulted the plot and some contrived villains. Though it's best to start at the beginning of the series, *The Sentry* is a good place to get to know Pike better, as well as an excellent entry in the series.

From [Booklist](#)

It's a routine Southern California day when former cop and sometime mercenary Joe Pike intervenes to break up the gang shakedown of a sandwich shop. The shop is run by Dru Rayne and her uncle, Wilson, two refugees from Katrina starting a new life. The chemistry between Pike and Dru is immediate, prompting him to keep an eye on the store; the gang leader, Venice Trece, will surely return to deliver revenge. But as Pike and his sidekick, private detective Elvis Cole, soon learn, nothing about Dru and Wilson adds up. Even as he's negotiating a truce with the duplicitous leader of the gang, Pike learns that Dru is likely not the innocent she seems. The latest Pike novel is a testosterone-fueled caper with tough guys doing hard things to bad people, but it doesn't pack the emotional wallop of Crais' best work. High-Demand Backstory: Crais' last Joe Pike novel reached number two on the New York Times best-seller list; longtime fans may find this one not quite up to the author's high standards, but the demand will still be there. --Wes Lukowsky

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Anthony Russell:

Have you spare time to get a day? What do you do when you have considerably more or little spare time? Yeah, you can choose the suitable activity to get spend your time. Any person spent their spare time to take a walk, shopping, or went to the actual Mall. How about open or even read a book entitled The Sentry (Joe Pike)? Maybe it is to get best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time using your

favorite's book, you can better than before. Do you agree with it is opinion or you have other opinion?

Antonio Haynie:

The particular book *The Sentry* (Joe Pike) has a lot of information on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of benefit. The book was written by the very famous author. McDougal makes some research ahead of write this book. This particular book very easy to read you can find the point easily after reading this book.

Donald Murphy:

Why? Because this *The Sentry* (Joe Pike) is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap this but latter it will surprise you with the secret that inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such amazing way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book have got such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking means. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

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