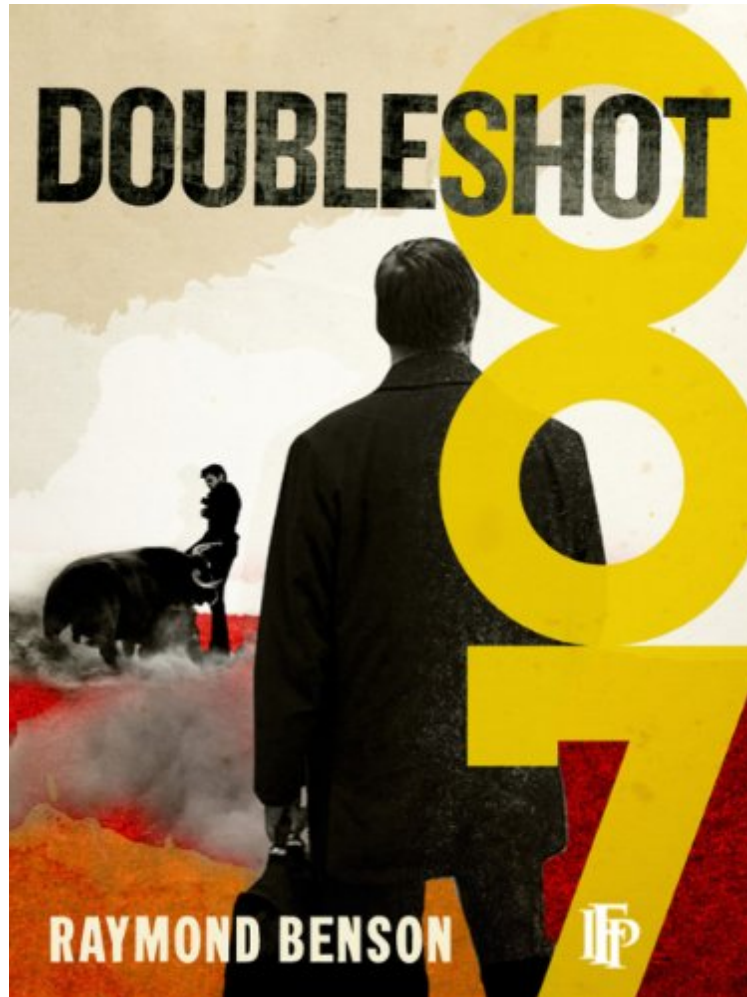


(Ebook free) Doubleshot

## Doubleshot

*Von Raymond Benson*

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**Von Raymond Benson : Doubleshot** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Doubleshot:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. I don't get the criticism...Von BrinkelI have read a lot of knocks on this title and I don't get it. It did take a bit to get me going at the start, but after that, I blitzed thru this book very fast. Obviously we have another Union-based title coming, 'cause as we left Le Gerant, he was a bit irritated. Get that next one out soon!0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Benson adds another great story to the 007 canon.Von Humble reviewerDoubleshot is another excellent addition to the Bond canon as possibly one of Benson's strongest entries. For one thing, as with the last entry High Time to Kill, Doubleshot initially makes a departure from the traditional Bond formula. The book begins with our favorite agent operating at less than his full capacity. Benson's depiction of Bond is an absolute contrast with the

agile, strong figure that he first described in the opening chapter of *Zero Minus Ten*. Throughout the narrative, the author sprinkles his tale with echoing recalls from Ian Fleming's literary Bond and some elements of the Bond films. However, for the purists, this is the literary Bond and not his celluloid counterpart. Benson has received some criticism for making his novels "too much like a screenplay," however, I think that by carefully adding a few cinematic surroundings, he makes an easy introduction to the literary Bond for casual fans and those that are not fully acquainted with Fleming's work. As this is his fourth original novel, Benson has firmly set his own style. He is more comfortable with his story telling ability and his characterizations are more daring. This book contains very violent actions conducted by some of Benson's most ruthless creations. Domingo Espada and Margareta Piel are two of the most twisted and sadistic villains Bond has ever encountered. As with the Skin 17 plot element in *High Time to Kill*, the Bond doppelganger also works well in the story in spite of the fact that this plot device seems more like a Bond rip-off than genuine 007. I initially had my doubts about a double 007, however Benson makes it work and allows the reader to enjoy his story for the fantasy and escapism that Bond novels are. Although some readers may not bother with such details, Benson pays attention to the technical aspects of his books while remaining faithful to the basic elements of Ian Fleming's world. One case in point is Bond's armament. Benson realistically balances Bond's use of the trusty Walther PPK with a more serious combat handgun, the Walther P99. By recognizing that Bond is a professional operator, he equips Bond with a professional's gear, all the way down to real world custom-made holsters for Bond's .40 caliber P99. I hope other readers find the same enjoyment I found in this book. It is a fast paced and engaging story. With excellent characters, including Benson's best Bond girl(s) and an interesting plot, Raymond Benson assures us that, even in the 21st century, there's still plenty of "Sex, Sadism, and Snobbery" to go around. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An excellent Bond adventure in the Ian Fleming tradition! Von William Kanas "Doubleshot" is an excellent entry into the world of 007 by Raymond Benson. Mr. Benson proves yet again how he is a worthy successor to both John Gardner and, indeed, to even Ian Fleming. In his fourth original Bond novel, Mr. Benson takes a few risks with the character of James Bond which one who may only be familiar with 007 from the films may be surprised at, but there is no need to fear, as it is all resolved by the end. Mr. Benson does another superb job in expanding on James Bond himself, all the while staying within the parameters established by Ian Fleming and brought to life in the various interpretations by Messrs. Connery, Lazenby, Moore, Dalton and Brosnan. The reader will be a little shocked at some of the events, but need not be concerned, as Mr. Benson is a master in tying it all together. He is able to flesh out Bond to give the reader a true feeling for Bond as a human being, and thus allow the reader to more readily identify with 007. This is one of Mr. Benson's greatest strengths, as he demonstrates a great understanding of Bond as envisioned by Ian Fleming: the tough but occasionally vulnerable secret agent. Indeed, Bond is at his most human since Ian Fleming's penultimate full length Bond novel, "You Only Live Twice". Mr. Benson also does a superb job in developing the other characters, as he introduces the reader to some very sexy Bond girls, and without spoiling it, the girls this time are his most successful, easily the best since John Gardner's Beatrice in "Win, Lose or Die" and "Cold Fall" and Ian Fleming's Tracy from "On Her Majesty's Secret Service". As Mr. Gardner had Beatrice return, which is generally unheard of in a Bond book, the same should be allowed for Bond's love interest here. The rest of the characters are top notch, from the villain Espada and the seductive villainess Margarita, to Mr. Benson's excellent handling of the supporting cast of M, Miss Money Penny and Bill Tanner. There is plenty of action in the book, with several chases and fights leading to a thrilling climax. The book also features the globe hopping which people are used to, from London to Tangier to Gibraltar, and Mr. Benson describes each of the locations to the point where the reader feels as if he is actually there. "Doubleshot" is a thrilling, first rate Bond adventure. Long time fans will not be disappointed, and new readers, who may not be as familiar with the literary James Bond, should still feel welcome to dive in. There is no need for them to feel that they will not understand what is going on. Bond, particularly in Mr. Benson's expert hands, is a character immediately accessible to anyone who enjoys high adventure, beautiful women, and political intrigue, with a hero involved in the perpetual struggle of good versus evil.

**Kurzbeschreibung** The criminal conspiracy called the Union has vowed its revenge on the man who thwarted its last coup - James Bond. As the Union's mysterious leader sets out to destroy Bond's reputation and sanity, 007 edges closer to the truth about their elaborate plan to destroy both SIS and its best agent. deBond novels should have a greater freedom to explore 007's deeper psyche, free as they are from the rapacious demands of Hollywood. In *Doubleshot*, Raymond Benson delivers a vivid, tense view of a vengeance-obsessed Bond, injury-stricken and forced to confront his existence as a "blunt instrument of death". This is at the cost of the more traditional Bond set pieces; there are no Q-brand gizmo's or dizzying action sequences. Set mere weeks after *High Time To Kill*, Bond is forcibly off-duty, recuperating after facing The Union, yet hell-bent on avenging the death of his long time lover, exposed as a Union agent. Before you can say "personal vendetta", Bond straps on the Walther PPK and sets off to destroy his enemies. However, they are equally anxious to meet him, thanks to his involvement in an audacious plot to retake Gibraltar from Britain. Bond isn't the death-proof super-spy of old, instead he is afflicted with all-too-human injuries and

plagued with doubts--both welcome and ignored. Benson ensures that such "weaknesses" are constantly pitted against Bond's superhuman tenacity and formidable murderous abilities: "He felt no remorse, but he felt no satisfaction either. He felt absolutely nothing ... and performed the task coldly and objectively." Even so, the anticipated action and ingenious gadgetry are conspicuous by their absence. Peeking into an intriguing and dark mindset, Benson accomplishes his mission with verve and efficiency. --Danny GraydonKurzbeschreibungThe criminal conspiracy called the Union has vowed its revenge on the man who thwarted its last coup - James Bond. As the Union's mysterious leader sets out to destroy Bond's reputation and sanity, 007 edges closer to the truth about their elaborate plan to destroy both SIS and its best agent.