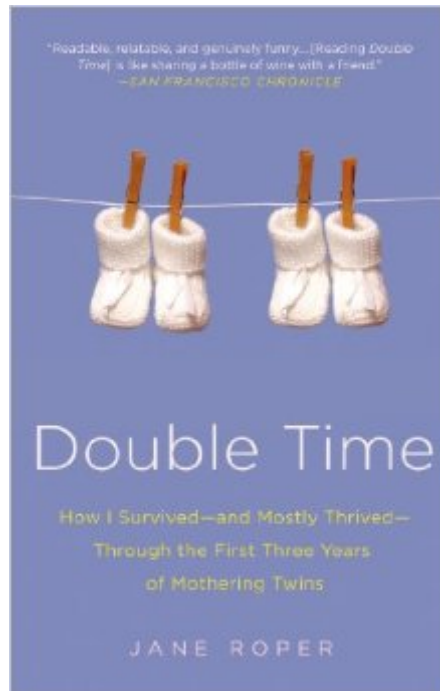


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# Double Time: How I Survived---and Mostly Thrived---Through The First Three Years Of Mothering Twins



## Synopsis

Becoming a mother is rarely what you expect. Jane Roper never expected she'd have twins or that they'd be such a spirited twosome. She didn't expect that finding the right balance of work and home would be so tricky. And she certainly didn't expect she'd grapple with a diagnosis of bipolar disorder during her daughters' toddler years. But she also didn't anticipate just how much joy, laughter and self-discovery motherhood would bring. Full of warmth, honesty, occasional advice, and a generous helping of humor, *Double Time* is a smart and engaging account of the first three years with multiples and a refreshingly candid and vulnerable look at clinical depression. It's a memoir that will resonate countless women—especially those parenting in double time.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a well written book, unfortunately it is more about depression than twins. I was hoping for more of a "how to survive twins" type of book and the title led me to believe this was it.

I've been a Jane Roper fan since my own twins were about 1. Her blog, Baby Squared, has reminded me that it's all going to be okay and that I can do this. I loved her fiction debut last summer, *Eden Lake*, and was eager for this one. I found myself nodding in agreement from the first page. She does a great job of describing infertility and the eventual news that she was pregnant with twins. What I really liked was the way she did not make it seem like the best or worst experience ever. There were tough times and fantastic times, but it was real. I laughed too which is

nice when you're recalling the first years as a twin parent. She actually made me wistful for my tiny babies and the fear I felt when tasked with taking care of two tiny humans. It's also a great celebration of the modern woman as well. Even if you don't have twins, you will benefit from reading about Jane's journey through motherhood and career. She faces the decisions and fears most modern mothers face.

Highly recommended for any parent of multiples, both mother and father. The writer brings up so many issues, incidents and challenges of finding out and becoming a parent of twins. She covers not only the logistical challenges of juggling multiples but also discusses the thoughts that run through all our heads. Her writing is honest, uncensored, humorous and moving. If you have been looking for a book that talks about all the wonderful things of being a parent of multiples and how your twins are two little angels.. this book is not for you. If you want one that is realistic.. get it! We are part of a multiples support group and everyone ended up picking up and reading this book. It reminds us we are not alone and we all share the same funny and tragic challenges as well as the same thoughts, no matter how absurd and crazy they are. :-)

I've been a follower of Jane Roper's blog on Babble since my twins were born. Since her girls are about two years older, I think of her as a pioneer and trailblazer filling me in on what is coming my way. I loved *Double Time* because her twin experience was so similar to ours in so many ways. We found wubbanubs to be our life savers, we kept crazy charts about everything going in and out of our girls and we had many of the same highs and lows as Jane and Alastair. I am planning to give this book to anyone I know who is going to have twins because it tells it how it really is and answers so many of the questions that I had when my twins were on the way (how do you go somewhere by yourself with two babies, how do you feed them both at once, etc.). Reading about her journey helped me remember how great this experience has been and get excited (and slightly terrified) about what is coming next!

I truly enjoyed reading *Double Time*. I have been reading Jane's blog for years and have also read her novel, *Eden Lake* (Excellent, by the way), and had been looking forward to the book coming out for a while. I found myself laughing out loud at parts and tearing up at others, so many of her stories are relatable. In addition, as a parent who has dealt with depression, so much resonated with me and it was a comfort to read that someone had also gone through so much of what I have, regardless of raising twins or just 1 like I have. I would highly recommend this to any

parent...whether or not you've dealt with depression and whether or not you have 1, 2 or 6 kids; twins or triplets... I think any parent would find this read educational, heartwarming and thoroughly enjoyable.

I bought this for a friend who is expecting twins, but I read it in order to better understand the implications of having two babies at once. It is a good read, I enjoyed it. I hope my friend reads it before the births. The text regarding depression is quite enlightening.

A poignant look at the first few years of raising twins, Jane Roper celebrates (and laments) this wild and wacky time. As a mother of one year-old girls, I found myself nodding in agreement and solidarity page after page, almost shouting out - PREACH ON, Jane! *Double Time* acknowledges the inherent challenges that come with twins without complaining. Rather, I felt in solidarity with her descriptions of utter exhaustion, maddening baby battles - and moments of sheer twin joy. Parents of twins will laugh at her "twin and twang" theory - every time you think you've got your kids nailed, they flip flop (so true!). The book is also filled with honest accounts of the author's ongoing fight with depression. While these descriptions take up a heavy portion of the book, I'm sure they will be helpful to those who may suffer from similar situations. Overall, *Double Time* is a great addition to a surprisingly small number of good multiples parenting books.

I've been a reader of Jane Roper's blog, *Baby Squared*, for some time. I visit her blog for amusing anecdotes about her children and thoughtful pieces on modern parenting, that don't pander to the "mommy wars" mentality. What I got from reading *Double Time* was this and more. My twins are a two or three months younger than Jane's, and throughout this book I found myself nodding, laughing, and crying in agreement. She gets so many of the details about twin parenting spot on. Jane's voice is warm and engaging, honest, and never judgmental. She is able to convey what it's really like to be a mother of twins: the joys, frustrations, and the compromises you make as you parent "in double time." Jane also writes frankly about her need to work as well as be a mother (in her case, being a writer), and that piece also resonates strongly with me. Where Jane's experience differs from mine is that, in addition to being a writer and a mother, Jane deals with clinical depression. And while the severity of her symptoms is certainly greater than any experience I have had, I feel that any mother of twins (and probably any parent at all) will recognize some of those peaks and troughs that Jane describes. I think Jane's book is a unique and welcome addition to the genre of books about parenting twins, because of her ability to describe the experience so well. I

think it's a book that will also resonate with any new parent, whether or not expecting twins. And I will certainly be giving it to any of my friends who join the twin club.

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