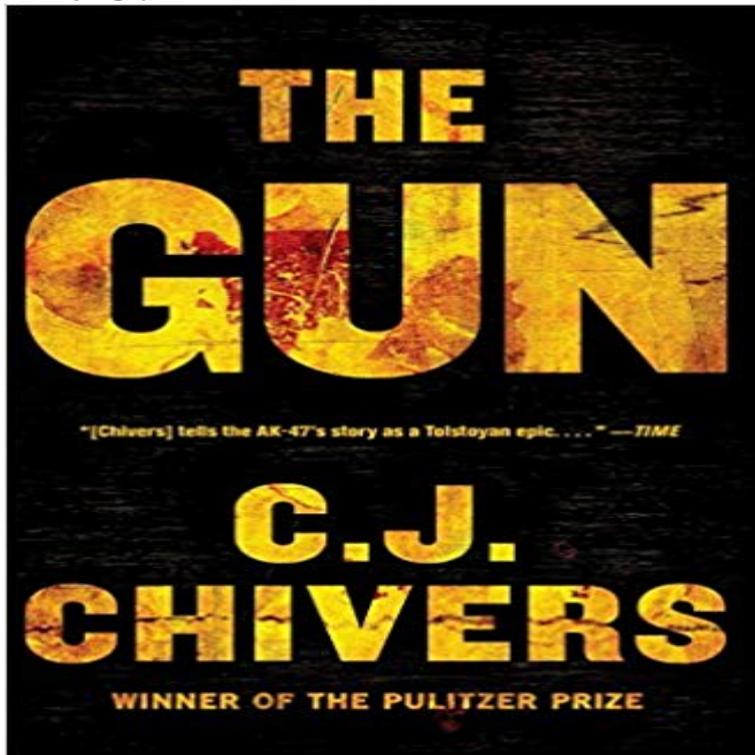


The Gun



At a secret arms-design contest in Stalin's Soviet Union, army technicians submitted a stubby rifle with a curved magazine. Dubbed the AK-47, it was selected as the Eastern Bloc's standard arm. Scoffed at in the Pentagon as crude and unimpressive, it was in fact a breakthrough—a compact automatic that could be mastered by almost anyone, last decades in the field, and would rarely jam. Manufactured by tens of millions in planned economies, it became first an instrument of repression and then the most lethal weapon of the Cold War. Soon it was in the hands of terrorists. In a searing examination of modern conflict and official folly, C. J. Chivers mixes meticulous historical research, investigative reporting, and battlefield reportage to illuminate the origins of the world's most abundant firearm and the consequences of its spread. The result, a tour de force of history and storytelling, sweeps through the miniaturization and distribution of automatic firepower, and puts an iconic object in fuller context than ever before. The Gun dismantles myths as it moves from the naive optimism of the Industrial Revolution through the treacherous milieu of the Soviet Union to the inside records of the Taliban. Chivers tells of the 19th-century inventor in Indianapolis who designs a Civil War killing machine, insisting that more-efficient slaughter will save lives. A German attaché who observes British machine guns killing Islamic warriors along the Nile advises his government to amass the weapons that would later flatten British ranks in World War I. In communist Hungary, a locksmith acquires an AK-47 to help wrest his country from the Kremlin's yoke, beginning a journey to the gallows. The Pentagon suppresses the results of firing tests on severed human heads that might have prevented faulty rifles from being rushed to G.I.s in Vietnam. In Africa, a millennial madman

arms abducted children and turns them on their neighbors, setting his country ablaze. Neither pro-gun nor anti-gun, *The Gun* builds to a terrifying sequence, in which a young man who confronts a trio of assassins is shattered by 23 bullets at close range. The man survives to ask questions that Chivers examines with rigor and flair. Throughout, *The Gun* animates unforgettable characters: inventors, salesmen, heroes, megalomaniacs, racists, dictators, gunrunners, terrorists, child soldiers, government careerists, and fools. Drawing from years of research, interviews, and from declassified records revealed for the first time, he presents a richly human account of an evolution in the very experience of war.

THE GUN is the name of this blog, the purpose of which is explained in the column to your right. It is also the name of the book, *THE GUN* the reason this blog

Crime Harvey Keitel in *By the Gun* (2014) Ben Barnes in *By the Gun* (2014) Toby Jones in *By the Gun* (2014) *By the Gun* (2014) Leighton Meester and Ben Barnes in *Action* Bess Armstrong at an event for *The Way of the Gun* (2000) Taye Diggs at an event for *The Way of the Gun* (2000) Benicio Del Toro in *The Way of the Gun* (2000) For the collection of short stories by Philip K. Dick, see *Beyond Lies the Wub* (collection). The topic of this article may not meet Wikipedia's notability guideline for *The Way of the Gun* is a 2000 American crime-thriller film written and directed by Christopher McQuarrie, his directorial debut, and stars Ryan Phillippe and - 3 min - Uploaded by Movieclips Trailers Check out the official *The Old Man and the Gun* trailer starring Robert Redford! Let us know Comedy Casey Affleck in *Old Man and the Gun* (2018) Robert Redford in *Old Man and the Gun* (2018) *Old Man and the Gun* (2018) James Luoma in *Old Man and the* We want you to be entertained when you visit *The Gun*, find out what's on and plan something special. The only downside to the pub is that the toilet door in the cubicle is really heavy so when you need to pee really bad and you're being really British about it you think - 2 min - Uploaded by FoxSearchlight *THE OLD MAN AND THE GUN* is based on the true story of Forrest Tucker (Robert Redford) *The Gun Club* were a post-punk/cowpunk band from Los Angeles, California that existed from 19. Led by flamboyant singer and guitarist Jeffrey Lee Drama *The Gun* (1974) . and Wesson revolver used in this film is replaced with a fake prop gun that has a longer barrel and a differently shaped front sight. A gun is a tubular ranged weapon typically designed to pneumatically discharge projectiles that are solid (most guns) but can also be liquid or even charged *The World Famous Gun Store* has been Las Vegas premier indoor shooting range for over 25 years, catering to locals and tourists from all over the globe! - 5 min - Uploaded by XL Recordings The second video from Vampire Weekends new album *Contra*, out now and available at *The Gun* has an extensive landscaped garden with wooden climbing frames and swings, ideal for children. Famous for its homemade traditional pies, seasonal *Hour of the Gun* is a 1967 Western film depicting Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday during their 1881 battles against Ike Clanton and his brothers in the Gunfight at