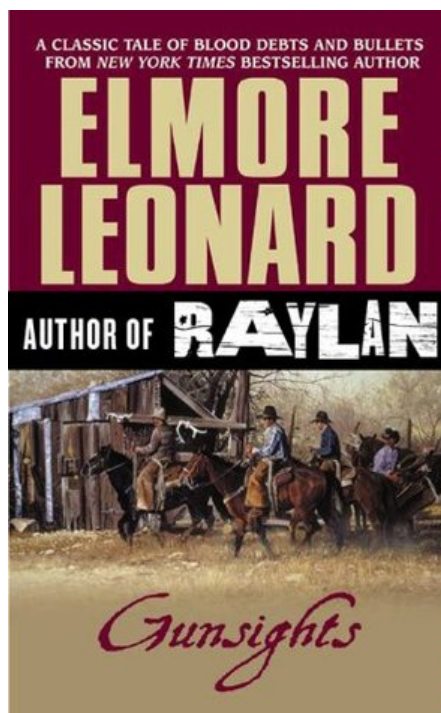




Gunsights

Elmore Leonard

Download now

Read Online ➔

Gunsights

Elmore Leonard

Gunsights Elmore Leonard

Brendan Early and Dana Moon have tracked renegade Apaches together and gunned down scalp hunters to become Arizona legends. But now they face each other from opposite sides of what newspapers are calling The Rincon Mountain War. Brendan and a gang of mining company gun thugs are dead set on running Dana and "the People of the Mountain" from their land. The characters are unforgettable, the plot packed with action and gunfights from beginning to end.

Gunsights Details

Date : Published (first published January 1st 1979)

ISBN :

Author : Elmore Leonard

Format : Kindle Edition 290 pages

Genre : Westerns, Fiction

 [Download Gunsights ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Gunsights ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Gunsights Elmore Leonard

From Reader Review Gunsights for online ebook

Kemper says

Treasure of the Rubbermaids 3: You Tell Them I'm Coming! - And Hell's Coming With Me!

The on-going discoveries of priceless books and comics found in a stack of Rubbermaid containers previously stored and forgotten at my parent's house and untouched for almost 20 years. Thanks to my father dumping them back on me, I now spend my spare time unearthing lost treasures from their plastic depths.

It was good time to find this one while digging through the Rubbermaid stack. I'd been in the mood to read some westerns after seeing the new version of *True Grit* and rereading the novel, but I'd gotten a shock when checking out the Josey Wales books when I learned that the author was a former Ku Klux Klan member and all around lying asshat. Finding this in the Rubbermaid pile seemed like it could get me back on track, as long as it doesn't turn out that Elmore Leonard was actually in the Hitler Youth.

This features a great opening line: *The gentleman from Harper's Weekly, who didn't know mesquite beans from goat shit, looked up from his reference collection of back issues, and said, "I got it!"*

Bren Early was a calvary officer and Dana Moon was a scout in Arizona in the late 1880s. They once crossed into Mexico hunting a renegade Indian who had kidnapped Kate McKean. They find the girl and capture the Indian, but a bounty hunter named Sundeen tried to force them to give up their prisoner. Early and Moon stand up to Sundeen and fight off him and his men, killing several of them.

The two men get reputations as gunfighters because of this incident, but their fame does them little good and brings a lot of grief. Years later, the two find themselves on opposite sides of a land war when a mining company that Bren works for tries to drive off the Indians and Mexicans living in the mountains of Arizona where Moon is working as an Indian agent and married to Kate.

Newspaper reporters from all over the country swarm the area hoping to witness an epic showdown between Bren and Moon, but the two men don't seem in any hurry to fight each other. Plus, Sundeen shows up as an enforcer for the mining company and has revenge on his mind.

This may be a western instead of a crime novel, but it's still Elmore Leonard so you get a large cast of offbeat characters and a plot that zigzags in unexpected directions. I also got a laugh that one of Bren and Moon's friends is an ex-slave cavalry soldier named Bo Catlett because Leonard used the name Bo Catlett again in *Get Shorty*. Maybe he's supposed to be a descendent.

Leonard pulls his usual tricks of having the story come out in a series of encounters between characters and incorporates some flashbacks that tell us the story of how Bren and Moon got into their current positions.

A fun western with good characters, plenty of action and a lot of humor, this is Elmore Leonard proving yet again that he can tell a story like nobody else.

Jeff Dickison says

Excellent western with (at least for me) a nice surprise ending. Leonard does not glamorize the west,

showing that even the good guys sometimes have ulterior motives. He also shows what persistence and bravery will do for you. Enjoy this one.

Norm says

A suspenseful western novel by Elmore Leonard. Spent a couple late nights where I could not stop reading. Highly recommend this book.

Ted says

Starts off really strong but got to be a drag as it went on. Solid western action fare though.

Jeff says

Gunsights (1979) Elmore Leonard's last (depending on how you define the genre) western is, like Forty Lashes Less One (1972), very much a child of the 70's in terms of its attention to race and social issues. I mean, Leonard was paying attention to that stuff right along, but these later westerns somehow more tacitly acknowledge that there might be a reading demographic that will follow. It follows a 15 year trajectory in the lives of Dana Moon and Brendan Early. I expect that Captain Brendan Early is the same guy in the short story "Hurrah for Captain Early." One of the villains, Phil Sundeen, is returning 25 years later after filling a similar role in The Law at Randado (1954). I'm pretty sure black cavalry veteran Bo Catlett has also appeared elsewhere. Sundeen is hiring gun thugs for mining interests. Dana Moon and Bo are organizing minority opposition—blacks, Apaches, Mexicans. Early is fulfilling the "good badman" role. This story also contextualizes the role of the media and such pop-cultural genres as wild west shows. Most Leonard novels have really memorable moments of characters fighting back while cracking wise, and this one has some great scenes. Highly recommended.

Chad Olson says

Early and Moon finish a job they started years prior

Grant Johnson says

This quickly became one of my favorite westerns and one of my favorite El Leonard novels. Dana Moon and Bren Early, individuals and sometimes partners find their paths interweaving. Sometimes it's on purpose, sometimes it's not. But usually it means they're (one, the other, or both) in trouble. It has all the hallmarks of Leonard; great characters, great dialogue, great action, and all come together in a great story thanks to his great writing. A true master of the art.

Jordan says

If you are familiar with Elmore Leonard, you'll find the same snappy dialogue, tough good guys, and a\$\$hole bad guys that fill his other work. Still, it doesn't stand up to his crime fiction throughout the first half of the book, it goes back and forth from past to present. A couple of flashbacks are okay.. but for this story I don't think it was needed or perhaps not done as well as it could've been. Also, there was a very, very minor character that was brought in.. and then we are given the start of a subplot..and then nothing. It was as if Leonard forgot about it. It's not a big deal, really but considering how good the author is, it was frustrating.

That being said, it was still an entertaining and tough western novel.

However, I'd recommend you reading Leonard's crime fiction such as **52 Pick-Up**, **Bandits**, or **Out of Sight**.

Ron says

In this novel, two men are on opposite sides of a conflict between a mining company and a scattering of settlers on an Arizona mountainside: Apaches, Mexicans, and former 10th Cavalry regulars. The two central characters were at one time friends and partners, and the novel begins in Sonora with their retrieval of an Apache chief and a white girl.

While there, they are involved in the shooting of a gang who have been after the same chief to collect a large bounty. Now one of the two former partners is employed by the mining company attempting to drive the settlers out of their homes. The other is an Indian agent, defending them...

Read my review at my blog.

Charles van Buren says

Unusual ending

Verified Purchase(What's this?)

This review is from: Gunsights (Kindle Edition)

This is another of Elmore Leonard's gritty, realistic westerns. Great character development which makes the reader care about what happens to them. The ending is odd but believable.

Heath Lowrance says

Bren Early and Dana Moon are occasional partners and uneasy friends who have been through more than their share of harrowing adventures together over the years. But it looks like fate may land them on opposite sides of a land war-- Moon has taken the job of Indian Affairs agent, tasked with protecting the interests of the residents of Rincon Mountain, and Early is in the employ of a powerful mining company that wants the native's off the mountain.

Tensions build as newsmen from around the country flock, anticipating an epic showdown between the two gunmen friends, and things are complicated further by the arrival of Phil Sundeen, a rustler who Early and Moon left for dead some years earlier. For Sundeen, the land war is the perfect opportunity for some revenge.

By coincidence, I read THE LAW AT RANDADO right before GUNSIGHTS; RANDADO is a very early Leonard and the villain in it is Phil Sundeen. GUNSIGHTS is Leonard's last western, written about 25 years later, and marks the return of Sundeen. The events of RANDADO aren't mentioned in GUNSIGHTS, but I thought it was an interesting choice to bring the sleazy bastard back for another appearance.

Dana Moon and Bren Early are both terrific characters, and not really typical of Leonard in that they are both rather taciturn. They are a lot alike in some ways, but over the course of the novel Leonard fleshes out their particular character traits, highlights the huge differences between them-- Moon is grounded and knows what he wants out of life, Early is rudderless and a bit in love with Death and Glory. And the supporting characters, especially Sundeen's conflicted man Ruben Vega, are all terrific.

Moon and Early would have been terrific series characters. Oh well. Great book.

David says

He's Elmore Leonard, and he's a master. Great characters, lots of action. Excellent!

Joe Stack says

I found this to be a quick, engrossing read. Elmore's characters are all interesting and most are likeable, even some of the bad ones. The story had twists and turns and good dialogue that keeps the reader going.

Diogenes says

Greed, honor, friendship and betrayal in the old West, done as only Elmore Leonard can. The dialog is terse and evocative and the adventure fast paced and totally absorbing.

Dan Schwent says

When two friends (and Arizona legends) Bren Early and Dana Moon find them on opposite sides of a land dispute, will them come to bloodshed over mining rights? And what of Sundeen, the bounty hunter that they should have killed years before...

Elmore Leonard passed away this week so I dropped what I was reading and gave this a read. While it's an early Leonard and not up to the standards of his later crime novels, all the Leonard hallmarks are still there: smooth dialogue, likeable characters, and lots of twists.

Dana Moon and Brendan Early are the ancestors of a lot of Leonard's later crime leads. They're capable,

sharp-witted men, and know their way around a gunfight. When Moon finds himself on the wrong side of a mining company that Early has a stake in, things heat up.

As usual, some of the bad guys aren't all that bad and could easily be good guys under other circumstances, specifically Ruben Vega. Actually, Sundeen isn't a bad guy for a son of a bitch. If I had a hole in my cheek from a gunshot wound, I'd probably be tracking down Early and Moon myself.

Par for the course, there are lots of twists and turns. I liked that the newspaper men were fanning the flames a lot of the time. No one in the media every does that now...

The structure wasn't quite what I'm used to from Elmore Leonard but it worked well, incorporating a lot of flashbacks to establish how Early and Moon got to where they were.

To sum up, it wasn't my favorite Leonard but as with all of his books, it was still an entertaining read. If penis size was proportional to the ability to write entertaining dialogue and cool characters, Elmore Leonard could have whipped his member out and clubbed narwhals to death with it. 3.5 out of 5 stars.
