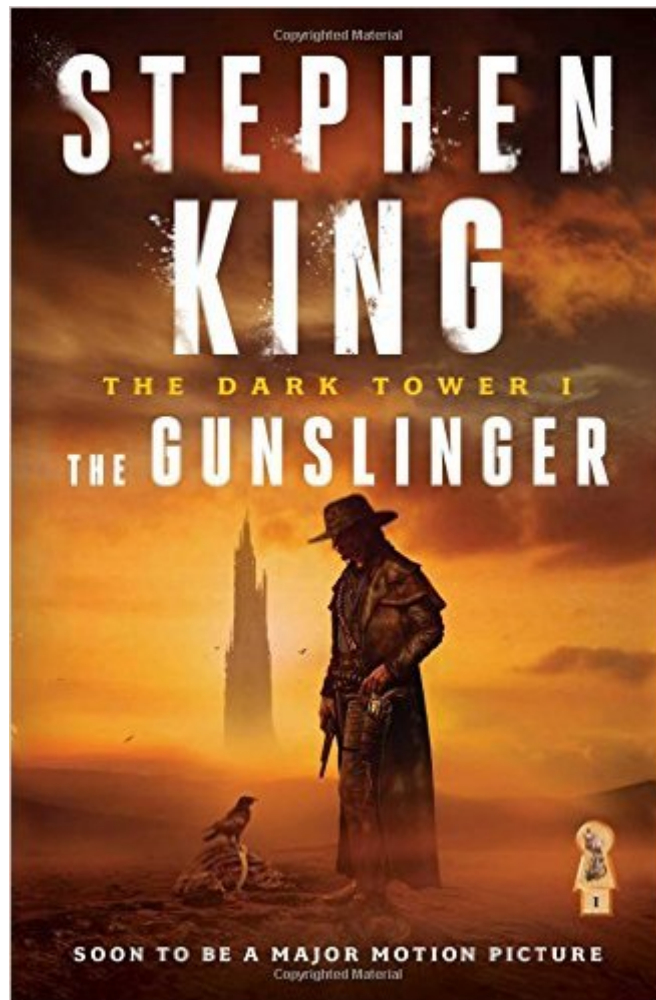


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The Dark Tower I: The Gunslinger



Synopsis

Soon to be a major motion picture starring Matthew McConaughey and Idris Elba • An impressive work of mythic magnitude that may turn out to be Stephen King's greatest literary achievement • (The Atlanta Journal-Constitution), *The Gunslinger* is the first volume in the epic Dark Tower Series. A #1 national bestseller, *The Gunslinger* introduces readers to one of Stephen King's most powerful creations, Roland of Gilead: *The Last Gunslinger*. He is a haunting figure, a loner on a spellbinding journey into good and evil. In his desolate world, which mirrors our own in frightening ways, Roland tracks The Man in Black, encounters an enticing woman named Alice, and begins a friendship with the boy from New York named Jake. Inspired in part by the Robert Browning narrative poem, "Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came," *The Gunslinger* is a compelling whirlpool of a story that draws one irremediably to its center • (Milwaukee Sentinel). It is a brilliant and fresh land will leave you panting for more • (Booklist).

Book Information

Series: The Dark Tower (Book 1)

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars • See all reviews (1,841 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,131 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Horror > Dark Fantasy #35 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Supernatural #45 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Crime > Serial Killers

Customer Reviews

At under 300 pages, "The Gunslinger" - the first book from Stephen King's "The Dark Tower" series - may seem oddly short, especially when compared to the latest volume from the epic, weighing in at around 700 pages. And still, Constant Reader, there are thousands more to go! According to the afterword from this book, it took King twelve years to complete the writings. He wrote the opening line, "The Man in Black fled across the desert, and the Gunslinger followed" while an

undergraduate, the middle portions when "Salem's Lot" was going bad, and was inspired with another concurrent writing: "The Stand." For King to have kept the Gunslinger, the Man in Black, Jake, and the other characters - and really the entire world of the Dark Tower - alive for so long in his mind is a testament to not only the power that this held over the author, but holds over us - his Constant Readers. Moreover, since the first publishing of "The Gunslinger," around twenty years have passed, a number of newer volumes in this series have come and gone - yet with this first, partially inspired by Robert Browning's poem, "Childe Roland," and partially inspired by reams of green paper (read the afterword to the book), you know that this was a very special creation indeed. I am not a fan of King's horror fiction. But when he gets down to writing about "other worlds than these," such as "The Stand," "Insomnia," "The Green Mile," and "The Talisman" (co-authored with Peter Straub) - there is no one better. His is an imagination to be jealous of. There is always a feeling that alternate universes exist, next to our own.

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