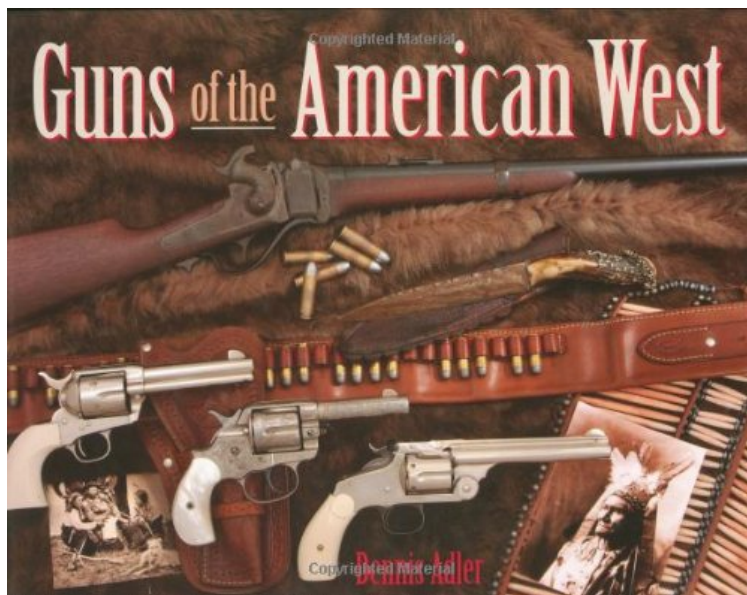




*Dennis Adler*

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(Mobile library) Guns of the American West

## **Guns of the American West**

**Dennis Adler : Guns of the American West** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Guns of the American West:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Perfect Gift for Any Gun Collector! By Sandylee1 This is an outstanding book if you are a gun lover and/or collector. It's the perfect coffee table book. People will want to pick it up and look through it because it is just so interesting. The packaging from Nash Books was just perfect. Since it was purchased as a gift for a very dear friend, I appreciated the effort made to get this to us in perfect condition. Recommend very highly! 16 of 16 people found the following review helpful. The best gun (picture) book ever...and only eighteen bucks By Glenn Abraham Over the decades, I've read a lot of books on firearms...and a few of those are really outstanding...but it's only rarely that I am as positively impressed...excited, actually... as I have been by this glorious book. The book is primarily a collection of photographs, and those photographs are gorgeous. If you're interested in a book on this subject, you already probably see a lot of beauty in these old guns; but, Dennis Adler seems to have a special talent for magnifying and enhancing that beauty. Sharply-focused, well-illuminated, often highly-detailed pictures of wonderful old guns, many photographed against sumptuous backgrounds which not only avoid detracting and distracting from the guns pictured, but actually add historical meaning and context to them...this author has a talent for photography of guns (and cars too, or so I've been told) that I've not often seen before. And, the price: I'm accustomed to paying very high prices for good gun books, something I accept because I assume that the market for such books is too small for the publishers to recover their costs through high volume. Well, this book is for that same market, and it only costs \$18 from (and, I think, \$30 list), and it's as good as some of the best firearms books ever published. I've just received Vanderlinden's truly excellent book on FN pistols: invaluable text and great photos, but it cost \$65 and it's all black white (and Adler's "Guns of the American West" is in color, completely in color...you should see the case colors on some of the SAAs.). I've just received Brunner's "The Colt Pocket Hammerless Automatic Pistols II": great photos, but this one costs \$80(!), and wastes 78 of its 240 pages on a mindless, mind-

numbing list of guns issued to generals. Adler's book has ~330 pages, and not a single one is wasted. Speaking of text: Adler's text in "Guns of the American West" is very good, and does a good job of discussing the guns, the historical backdrop, and the place of those guns in that history. This book does not have nearly the kind of detail and depth of a classic like "A study of the Colt Single Action Army Revolver" of Graham, Kopec and Moore, and it can't: Adler's photographs shove out the text, and that is as it should be. This is primarily a pictorial history. And the price...perhaps I shouldn't keep returning to this, because the book is excellent, at any price. But in a field in which we've gotten accustomed to regularly paying \$60 to \$90 for good books (and hundreds of dollars, when those books, however mediocre, go out of print), I sincerely appreciate a publisher and an author who provide us with a great book at a fair price. In every way, Dennis Adler and Chartwell Books have provided a great service to those of us who can find fascination in a worn Smith topbreak, and they've treated us as though they respect us. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful book By Larry T If you, like I was a few days ago, are still sitting on the fence about buying this book, because of the negative comments about it, still your fears and ante up your money. I don't think you'll regret it. This is an absolutely beautiful book, with stunning photographs of both original arms and accoutrements, and modern reproductions, which the author clearly states in his second page of acknowledgements. I'm not an expert on this subject, just an average person with an interest in the period, and I haven't been able to put the book down since it was delivered, days ago, devouring both text and photographs. My only regret is that I didn't buy it sooner. If you're reading this, and still sitting on that fence, it's a regret you'll share with me, I'm certain.

Dennis Adler, award-winning author and photographer, and contributing editor to Guns of the Old West magazine, has woven together enthralling tales of the guns and gunmen who made the Wild West wild. Beginning with the early western expansion and the California Gold Rush, Guns of the American West takes you through the development of America's most legendary handguns, rifles, and shotguns and the roles they played in our nation's history. As the Civil War erupts, the author follows the politics of a country divided and how North and South chose to arm their soldiers. In the aftermath of this great conflagration, Adler takes you step-by-step through the evolution of loose powder cap-and-ball revolvers, rifles, and shotguns to the conversion to self-contained metallic cartridges and the sweeping changes that resulted in firearms design. With a nation intent on its belief in Manifest Destiny, the author follows legendary lawmen, soldiers, and outlaws as America moves west in the 1870s and 1880s.

About the Author Award winning author, photographer, and historian Dennis Adler is recognized as one of America's most published historians. An avid collector of Winchesters, American West, and Civil War firearms, he is also involved in the design and manufacturing of custom cowboy guns for collectors and shooters, and has worked with such distinguished American firms as Sturm, Ruger Co., and America Remembers.