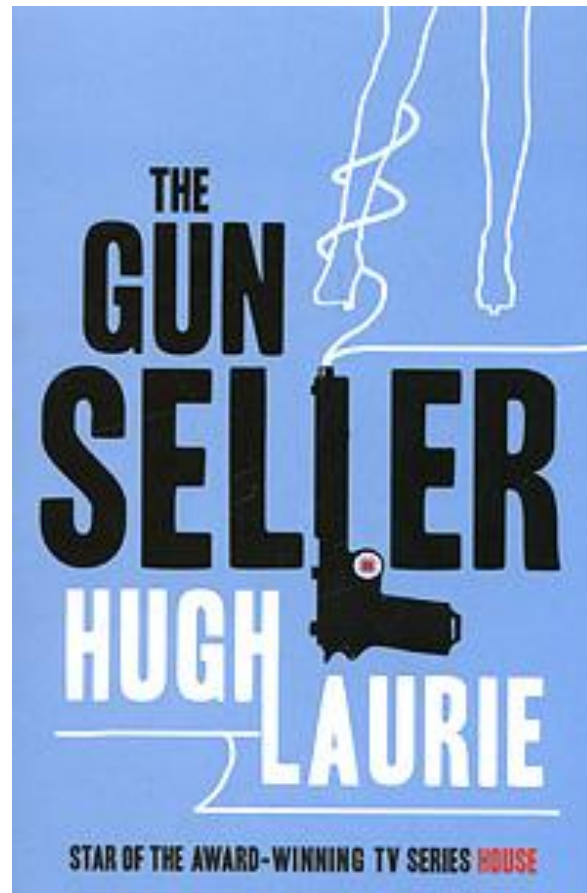


The Gun Seller

By Hugh Laurie



Hugh Laurie

Hugh Laurie was born in 1959. At Cambridge University he took part in a number of undergraduate revues, the last of which won the Perrier Award at the Edinburgh Fringe in 1981. He also rowed for Cambridge in the 1980 Boat Race.

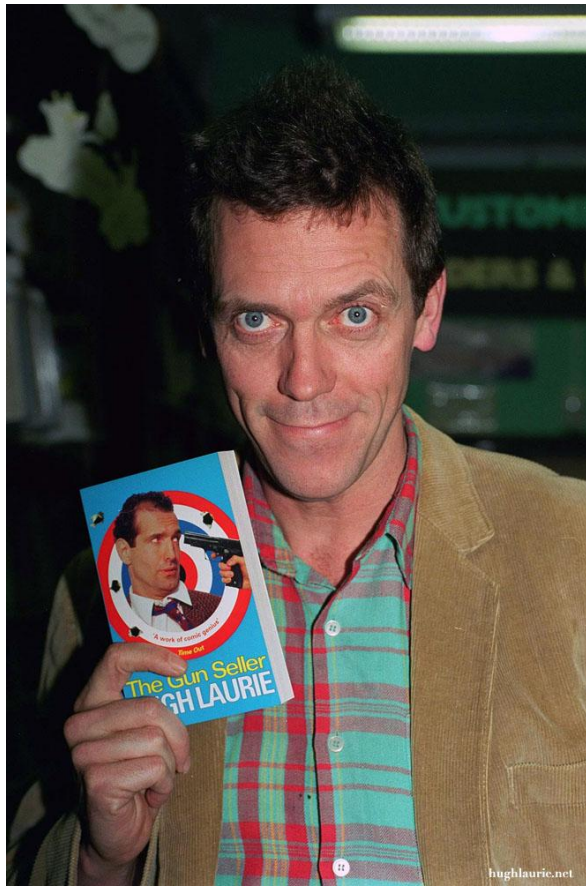
Since university he has made his living as a writer, actor, director and musician, appearing in, amongst others, series of Blackadder, A Bit of Fry & Laurie, Jeeves and Wooster and House.

He lives in London with his wife and three children, and is utterly devoted to motorcycling.

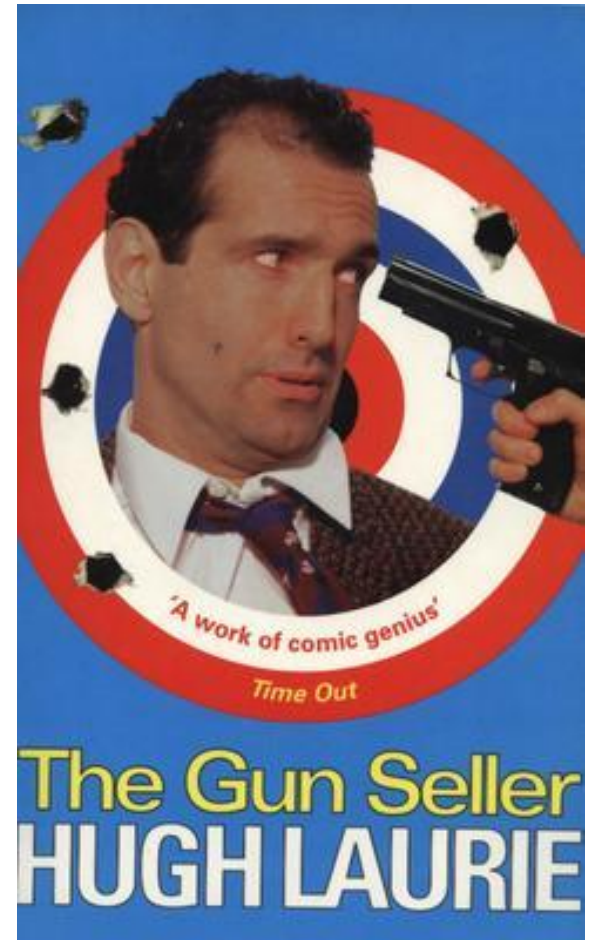
From 2004 to 2012, he played Dr Gregory House, the protagonist of House, for which he received two Golden Globe awards, two Screen Actors Guild awards, and six Emmy nominations. As of August 2010, Laurie is the highest paid actor in a drama series on US television. He has been listed in the 2011 Guinness Book of World Records as the highest paid actor ever in a TV Drama—earning US\$ 700,000 per episode in House—and for being the most watched leading man on television. The Gun Seller (1996) is the first novel by Hugh Laurie.



Contents Of The Book



When Thomas Lang, a hired gun with a soft heart, is contracted to assassinate an American industrialist, he opts instead to warn the intended victim - a good deed that doesn't go unpunished. Within hours Lang is butting heads with a Buddha statue, matching wits with evil billionaires, and putting his life (among other things) in the hands of a bevy of femmes fatales, whilst trying to save a beautiful lady ... and prevent an international bloodbath to boot.



Characters

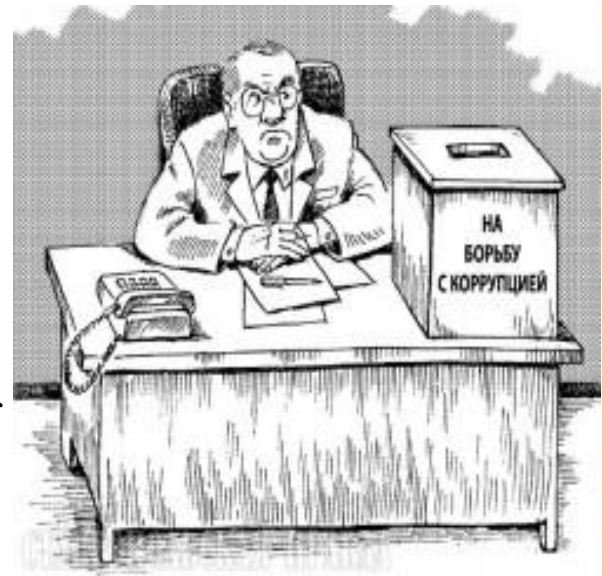
- The Gun Seller tells the story of retired Army officer **Thomas Lang**, who lives a somewhat hand-to-mouth existence in London, his attention focused mainly on drinking whisky and driving his motorcycle. His income stems from a variety of bodyguard, strong-arm and mercenary jobs he undertakes, utilizing the skills he learned and contacts he made during his time in the Army.



- **David Solomon**, British, he's simple and professional. He's the closest thing Lang has to a friend. They have some sort of past (that's not clarified), but they don't have the same sort of friendship army buddies have.



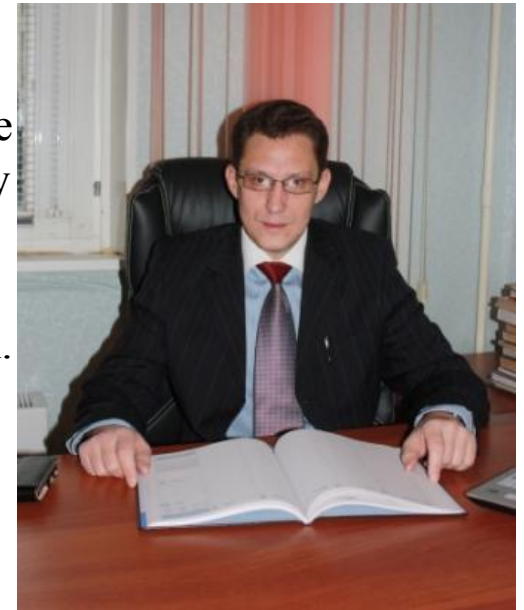
- **Mr. O'Neal**, British, Solomon's boss, works at British Ministry of Defense. Strict and selfish. He has a large office in the Ministry of Defence building and a big desk to sit at.



- **Alexander Woolf** an American that Lang is asked to assassinate. He knows about the plans of the “bad guys” and tries to find a man who would help him. He finds Lang.

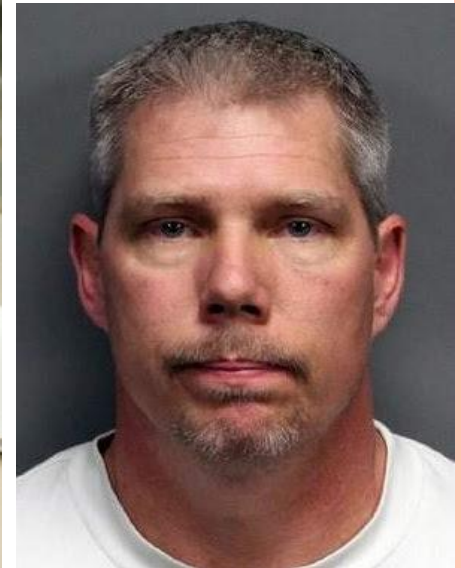
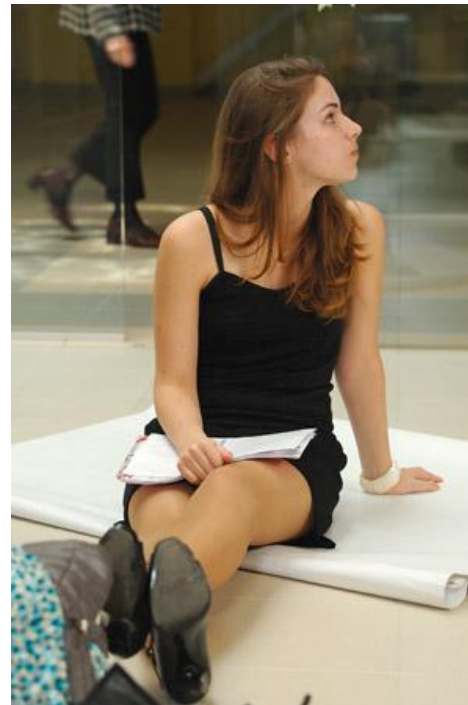


Russell P. Barnes, American, from the American Embassy or Consulate, a major American diplomat in Britain. Insolent, arrogant, snobbish, hard to deal with.



- **Murdah**, country of origin unknown, an arms dealer in Britain.

- **Sarah Woolf**, American, daughter of Alexander Woolf. She’s clever, beautiful and strong. She’s willing to help his father. She’s on the “light side” of the upcoming conflict. She falls in love with Lang and gets into big trouble.



- **The Sword of Justice**, a terrorist group that is “...drawn from six nations, three continents, four religions and two genders. We are a happy band of brothers, with two sisters, that are also happy and get their own bathroom”: Francisco, Hugo, Cyrus, Latifa, Ricky and Benjamin.



Opinions

The book is definitely worth reading. The author has an amazing sense of humour. His way of writing is soft and light. You don't bother yourself thinking a lot while reading it. The book doesn't load extra information and the jokes are perfectly fit in between and in the dialogs.

There's undercover work, terrorists, shady deals, and a woman who needs to be saved, if it were a movie the climax would have some special effects. The plot is thrilling even though it is quite simple: "good guys" vs. "bad guys" + love story.

The characters are individuals and they know their place in life.

The love story of Thomas and Sarah is lively, with a lot of risks and losses but the more and more wonderful because of that.

All in all I don't regret reading it. Author's English is very London and also very understandable even though there are a lot of synonyms and metaphors, off phrases and etc. The language is great, and despite the twisting plot, Laurie writes with control, he knows exactly what he's doing with every word. It's a little over the top, but not unbelievable, and just plain fun. I've totally liked author's manner of writing.

I've taken this book because I was curious of what Hugh Laurie is like as a writer and because my mother recommended it to me after reading it in Russian. Also the author was a Londoner and the book was published not long ago. It was a perfect fit.

Ilya Smirdin

'A terrific debut'
Daily Telegraph

'A ripping spoof of the spy genre'
Vanity Fair

'A very funny book... makes many another comic novel look slow-witted in comparison.'

Sunday Telegraph

'Clever and hilarious, with a story that is intricate and tense... An unstintingly joyous read.'

Time Out

