



## The Night of the Gun: A reporter investigates the darkest story of his life. His own.

By David Carr



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**The Night of the Gun: A reporter investigates the darkest story of his life. His own.** By David Carr

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From David Carr (1956–2015), the “undeniably brilliant and dogged journalist” (*Entertainment Weekly*) and author of the instant *New York Times* bestseller that the *Chicago Sun-Times* called “a compelling tale of drug abuse, despair, and, finally, hope.”

Do we remember only the stories we can live with? The ones that make us look good in the rearview mirror? In *The Night of the Gun*, David Carr redefines memoir with the revelatory story of his years as an addict and chronicles his journey from crack-house regular to regular columnist for *The New York Times*. Built on sixty videotaped interviews, legal and medical records, and three years of reporting, *The Night of the Gun* is a ferocious tale that uses the tools of journalism to fact-check the past. Carr’s investigation of his own history reveals that his odyssey through addiction, recovery, cancer, and life as a single parent was far more harrowing—and, in the end, more miraculous—than he allowed himself to remember.

Fierce, gritty, and remarkable, *The Night of the Gun* is “an odyssey you’ll find hard to forget” (*People*).



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### Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

**Amazon Best of the Month, August 2008:** In his fabulously entertaining *The Kid Stays in the Picture*, legendary Hollywood producer Robert Evans wrote: "There are three sides to every story: yours, mine, and the truth." David Carr's riveting debut memoir, *The Night of the Gun*, takes this theory to the extreme, as the *New York Times* reporter embarks on a three-year fact-finding mission to revisit his harrowing past as a drug addict and discovers that the search for answers can reveal many versions of the truth. Carr acknowledges that you can't write a my-life-as-an-addict story without the recent memoir scandals of James Frey and others weighing you down, but he regains the reader's trust by relying on his reporting skills to conduct dozens of often uncomfortable interviews with old party buddies, cops, and ex-girlfriends and follow an endless paper trail of legal and medical records, mug shots, and rejection letters. The kaleidoscopic narrative follows Carr through failed relationships and botched jobs, in and out of rehab and all manner of unsavory places in between, with cameos from the likes of Tom Arnold, Jayson Blair, and Barbara Bush. Admittedly, it's hard to love David Carr--sometimes you barely like the guy. How can you feel sympathy for a man who was smoking crack with his pregnant girlfriend when her water broke? But plenty of dark humor rushes through the book, and knowing that this troubled man will make it--will survive addiction, fight cancer, raise his twin girls--makes you want to stick around for the full 400-page journey. --Brad Thomas Parsons

From Publishers Weekly

An intriguing premise informs Carr's memoir of drug addiction—he went back to his hometown of Minneapolis and interviewed the friends, lovers and family members who witnessed his downfall. A successful, albeit hard-partying, journalist, Carr developed a taste for coke that led him to smoke and shoot the drug. At the height of his use in the late 1980s, his similarly addicted girlfriend gave birth to twin daughters. Carr, now a *New York Times* columnist, gives both the lowlights of his addiction (the fights, binges and arrests) as well as the painstaking reconstruction of his life. Soon after he quit drugs, he was thrown for another loop when he was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma. Unfortunately, the book is less a real investigation of his life than an anecdotal chronicle of wild behavior. What's more, his clinical approach (he videotaped all his interviews), meant to create context, sometimes distances readers from it. By turns self-consciously prurient and intentionally vague, Carr tends to jump back and forth in time within the narrative, leaving the book strangely incoherent. (Aug.)

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From [The New Yorker](#)

"Every hangover begins with an inventory," Carr, a columnist for the Times, writes in this bracingly honest memoir. In sharp and sometimes poetic prose, the author takes a detailed inventory of his years of drug addiction, chronicling the slide from drinking and marijuana use during his teen years in Minneapolis to shooting cocaine and smoking crack while trying to maintain his life as a reporter and the father of twin girls. Carr is meticulous in the investigation of his past, reconstructing events with the aid of police reports, magazine rejection letters, and more than sixty interviews with friends, former dealers, and fellow-addicts. His journalistic skills are on full display as he works to excavate the truth from his often hazy memories. He evinces genuine remorse for his frequently reprehensible behavior and succeeds in creating something more than merely another entry in what he terms the "growing pile of junkie memoirs."

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Reading can called mind hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book specifically book entitled The Night of the Gun: A reporter investigates the darkest story of his life. His own. your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every aspect that maybe unidentified for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a book then become one contact form conclusion and explanation in which maybe you never get before. The The Night of the Gun: A reporter investigates the darkest story of his life. His own. giving you an additional experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful facts for your better life on this era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern here is your body and mind will be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

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