

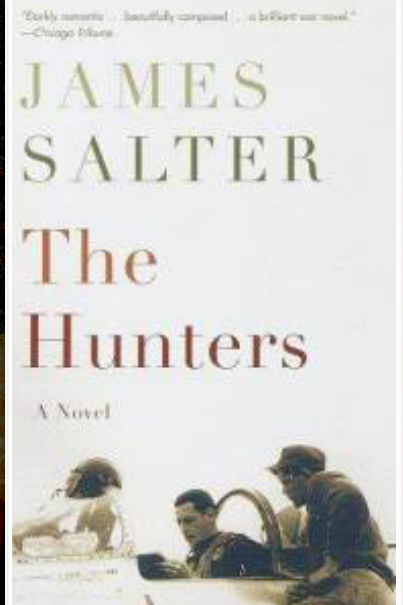


LITERATURE

OVERVIEW

Once in a great while, a talented writer survives combat to produce a work of literature. Rarest of all is a literary novel written by a blooded fighter pilot. In the English language, perhaps two works truly qualify. One is *Winged Victory* by Victor Yeates, who flew Sopwith Camels and brought down five Germans in the First World War. The other is *The Hunters* by James Salter.

Salter tells the story of Captain Cleve Connell who arrives in Korea with a single goal: to become an ace, one of that elite fraternity of jet pilots who have downed five MIGs. But as his fellow airmen rack up kill after kill—sometimes under dubious circumstances—Cleve's luck runs bad. Other pilots question his guts. Cleve comes to question himself. And then in one icy instant 40,000 feet above the Yalu River, his luck changes forever. Filled with courage and despair, eerie beauty and corrosive rivalry, James Salter's luminous first novel is a landmark masterpiece in the literature of war.



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Vintage Press

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James Salter is a novelist and short story writer, largely regarded as one of the finest living practitioners by writers and critics. Author of over 17 works, including *The Hunters*, *A Sport and a Pastime*, and *Burning the Days*, his awards include the PEN/Faulkner Award and election to The American Academy of Arts and Letters.

About the Author