

Robert Lautner

Robert Lautner was born in Middlesex in 1970. Before becoming a writer he owned his own comic-book store, worked as a wine merchant, photographic consultant and recruitment consultant. He now lives on the Pembrokeshire coast in a wooden cabin with his wife and children.



Latest publication **QUINT - The Borough Press - February 2024**

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Publications

Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
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**THE ROAD TO
RECKONING**

2014

HARPER

FICTION /

TOUCHSTONE

With the most compelling of plots and driven by unforgettable characters, ROAD TO RECKONING merits comparison to recent publishing and cinema hits – think of it as COLD MOUNTAIN meets TRUE GRIT as if remade by the Coen Brothers, or OH BROTHER WHERE ART THOU meets THE SISTERS BROTHERS.

With a spare and compact elegance, ROAD TO RECKONING is the account of Thomas Walker of New York City looking back on his first journey away from home across the roads and trails of 1830s Pennsylvania at the age of twelve, events which were to change his life forever. His recently-widowed father, a travelling spectacle salesman who has decided to earn extra money by selling the “Improved Revolving Gun” recently invented by Samuel Colt, takes young Thomas with him on the road west. But even the possession of the world’s first true revolver cannot save them from danger; and what starts as an adventure and a precious chance for Thomas to spend time alone with his father soon turns into a nightmare. For Thomas to have any hope of returning home, he must rely on his own wits, courage, and determination, as well as a wooden replica of a gun and the grudging help of the surly ex-marshal, Henry Stands.

At the heart of this novel is the relationship between two unwilling companions, and the seemingly effortless ease with which it plays out in Lautner’s hands. It’s about the world’s first true revolver, and it’s about a moment of transition in a nation and in a boy’s life. Yet on a more universal level, ROAD TO RECKONING is about fatherhood and son-ship and the need we have for it. It’s immersive, and thrilling – but it’s also deeply moving and genuinely affecting.
