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From Krause Publications : 1911 The First 100 Years by Sweeney, Patrick (2010) Hardcover before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 1911 The First 100 Years by Sweeney, Patrick (2010) Hardcover:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. A fantastic book on a wonderful pistol and piece of history. By J. W. Mullins I will admit right off that I am a huge fan of the M1911 pistol and of its creator John M Browning and that my opinion of the subject matter is obviously biased. That said this book isn't geared towards a 'casual fan' of the design, but those who love the pistol, the history in it, or both. I've spent all of my life shooting guns of all types and sizes, first for fun and food and later for work as a member of the US military for the last twelve years. Having fired hundreds of thousands of rounds over the years in training and war I still prefer the M1911 pistol to all others and for many reasons. This is a book about the 1911 pistol but is more than just that, it is a book about the history and happenings that required such a pistol. As well as the uses it has seen over the century that followed. There is no other pistol, or any military weapon, that was designed 100 years ago and is still in active service with military forces. Yet the 1911 soldiers on gracefully serving our nation and allies with realistically minor updates. I find that to be amazing and inspiring from a historical small arms perspective as well as from a proud American's view point. Patrick Sweeney is a well known author when it comes to firearms and has written a number of books on the 1911 specifically. That said he takes a slightly different approach with this book looking at the design, history, reasoning, use, upgrades and future of this weapon platform. The writing is quite good but I find the photography even better. There are pictures of 1911s that are so rare most people will never see them in person. Indeed many people may not even have known some existed. As a reference for the collector and fan the pictures alone are worth the price of the book. As the centennial of

the M1911 pistol arrives I think there will be a number of books looking to take advantage of that. Some may be very good, if any are as good or better than this book then it will be a great year for the fan of the platform. 26 of 27 people found the following review helpful. 1911 the first 100 years By ric This book is unique and valuable because it's a tool for historians, shooters, 1911 lovers or anyone who's interested in seeing American history unfold from early 1900's to today. It's a well written, extremely interesting story depicting many views of the new self-defense, "gun of the century", the 1911. Besides being the world's greatest semi-automatic pistol this book shows THE why's and how's in detail. Testing and research went on for years, culminating in a proven and trust-worthy friend to all who shot the weapon. All the pro's and cons of a truly unique sidearm that became a "savior" for combat veterans in WWI, WWII, and the Korean conflict; to shooters of the 1911 today. This book of the 1911 shadows other weapons world-wide as it explains just what made the 1911 a revolutionary man stopper. The 1911 .45 didn't come into the military picture without accompanying problems. Strange as it may seem, the US Army actually showed contemporary intelligence in their testing and re-testing of all the handguns vying for new pistol position. Who could have guessed..... This book is a captivating look at how America came to regard an autoloader weapon as it stepped into a century of "trench warfare" and beyond. A valuable read, well done by the author who steps into history to provide a fascinating dedication of the 1911. A gem..... 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great stuff. By Cherryriver As not only a lifelong aficionado of the gun, having bought a Colt .45 on the very day I became legal to do so, but also as an action pistol competitor, range official, and match director, this book hit just about every button right for me. History is another interest and Sweeney pitches bits of 1911 history into so many places one wants to read ahead just to get to the next unknown nugget. Sweeney knows whereof he speaks when it comes to the gun, the history of it (having been near to a lot of the modern era), and the nuts and bolts. All perspectives are just what I want to see in a book about the 1911, and there's plenty of all here.