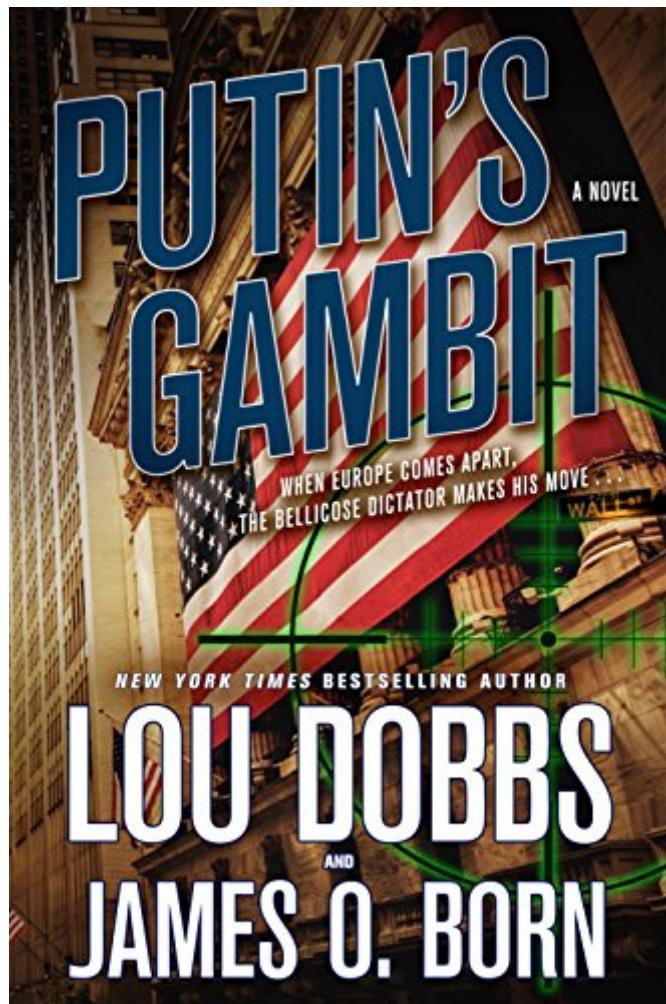


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# Putin's Gambit: A Novel



## Synopsis

From TV broadcaster Lou Dobbs and award-winning author James O. Born comes Putin's Gambit, an international financial thriller about a KGB plot to use a series of terrorist attacks as cover for a Russian military incursion into Estonia. Adjusting to civilian life has not been easy for former Marine Derek Walsh. As he navigates a brutal job on Wall Street and a challenging romance, he wonders if he could be doing more with his life. When an inexplicable \$200 million dollar money transfer is made on his computer, he is thrust into the world of international terror, and the global economy is knocked off its hinges. On the other side of the Atlantic, a dangerous alliance has formed. Radical Islamists and Russian extremists have set the wheels in motion for Russia to assert its power in Europe. The US President has proven to be weak on foreign policy, the military is stretched too thin, and Vladimir Putin judges this to be the time for Russia to regain its Soviet Empire. Troops mass on the Estonian border, waiting for the order to move. The FBI believes Walsh was involved in the money transfer, and a group of Russians are intent on killing him. As New Yorkers are outraged upon learning of the illegal money transfer, and the world economy crashes after a series of terrorist attacks, Walsh and his Marine buddies are the only ones that can keep the world from spinning off its axis. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

PUTIN'S GAMBIT is the answer to one set of my prayers. I had hoped for a second collaborative effort from Lou Dobbs and James O. Born after the publication of BORDER WAR. For decades Dobbs has been a must-watch world news commentator whose worldview is firmly set in reality as opposed to doublespeak. Born is simply one of my favorite authors, a scribe who is able to move across genres, from speculative fiction to crime novels, with a skill set honed and sharpened by decades of field experience in law enforcement at the state and federal levels. His weaponry presentation at Bouchercons through the years are always a high point of the conference. BORDER WAR was everything good that one would expect from such a collaboration. PUTIN'S GAMBIT, while a very different book in terms of subject matter, is every bit as worthy as its predecessor, consisting of equal parts keen observation, suspense and real-world believability. Dobbs and Born get several plot plates spinning from the first page and never let up. While the story is set somewhere between 2013 and 2016, those with even the shortest of memories will be able to identify the players here, if they are so inclined. There is an attack on the United States embassy in Berlin, with tragic results; violent anarchist hoodlums are terrorizing Wall Street; and the President of the United States is notoriously weak on foreign policy matters, choosing to lead from behind. Vladimir Putin, the President of Russia, is ready to seize the opportunity that has been all but handed to him to restore Russia to its former, Soviet-era glory. Part of Putin's plan hinges on the disruption of the world economy. The unknowing catalyst for this is a U.S. Marine named Derek Walsh. Having served with honor in the Afghan war, Walsh is employed, though uneasily so, in the currency transaction section of a Wall Street financial group. But his world explodes when an unauthorized transfer of \$200 million is made from his computer, which is part of an extremely secure internal network that would seemingly make such a thing impossible. This creates a domino effect in financial markets around the world, leading to economic chaos. Walsh has his life blown up. The FBI is absolutely certain that he is behind the transfer, and all of the evidence points to it. Meanwhile, a Russian team is tasked with killing him before he can prove otherwise, as if he could. Walsh, quietly capable but outclassed and outgunned, has one choice: call upon the remaining members of his Marine squad to not only help him but possibly, just possibly, return the world to some semblance of financial order. It's going to be a tall order,

though. Time isn't running out; it's already gone. PUTIN'S GAMBIT is a wild ride, a financial and military thriller that should find a wide audience among those who can't get enough of the genre and those who stay informed on current events without relying exclusively on mainstream sources. It also should be of special interest to Born's legion of fans, given that it is his first entry into the subgenres noted above. As with everything else he touches, he does so with subtlety and expertise, meshing flawlessly and seamlessly with Dobbs. Would it be too much to ask for a third collaborative effort? Or more? Perhaps, but for now, let us give thanks for PUTIN'S GAMBIT. Reviewed by Joe Hartlaub.

Tough to put Putin's Gambit down, eerily relevant to the world today. Because the chapters are rather short (8-15 pages) you want to keep reading; thinking, "I'll just read one more chapter." The authors keep throwing characters at you, and interweave their stories seamlessly. Although I found I struggled in the first 6-8 chapters remembering their characteristics, it moves so fast, which becomes helpful keeping the players straight further into the story. The novel is full of all types of human's, hero's and those who you wouldn't want to meet in a dark alley, but the conclusion to this spy intrigue leaves a few loose ends which would set the stage for their "next book"....maybe?

From boot camp and for ever plans were a must for your brothers in and out of the service and life.

Lou Dobbs is an EXCELLENT news and political anchor and I support his point of view.

the person we bought this as a birthday gift is enjoying the read

Loved the book. Great read. The authors are right on track with Putin's ultimate goals of achieving a buffer around the Russian borders.

It was a little slow getting started but once it did, the action was fast paced and a great read. I would highly recommend it!

Good story. Can easily a reality!

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