


Website of http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Man_on_Fire_(novel)

Website of http://www.zulkarnainidiran.wordpress.com


APPENDIXES:

Synopsis of *Man on Fire* Written by A.J. Quinnell in 1981

There is a series of kidnapping in Italy. Ettore and his wife Rika feel restless because they have a little daughter name Pinta whose they think in need of protection. Rika suggested a bodyguard that was capable and professionally protect their daughter, following the trend of other rich families in Italy which also hired bodyguards to protect their heirs. Ettore is reluctant at first, because he does not have much money due to his gradually falling business, but after some plea and conviction, Rika finally able to make him hire one.

Arrives Creasy, a bear of man, formidable mercenary, a has-been and borderline alcoholic who finds lodgings with his widower friend Guido. Creasy is someone who has exhausted his life because of his harsh past in the Legion, and now only want to spend his remaining time drinking and daydreaming. Guido wants to give his friend something to think of other than bottle, he offers the bodyguard job to Creasy which he grumblingly accepts.

Creasy and Pinta is not compatible at first, is cool demeanor and Pinta’s cheerfulness could not match in every word of their conversation. Looking at Pinta makes Creasy think about the children that has suffered the war in his past, and that makes him think that he is really not suitable for this kind of babysitting business.

Day after day he spends his time with Pinta and finally able to fit in to her pace of seeing the world. Pinta never scared of him, she always wants to get close
to Creasy. She even gives him a nickname, ‘Creasy bear’, as her personal name for him. She always wants to talk to him even when he is not very cooperating with that. Gradually and steadily Pinta is able to get close to him, and Creasy is also starting to notice the different change of him after spending his time protecting Pinta. Then in the end Creasy accept Pinta’s friendship and find out that his view of the world has been changed by Pinta’s innocence and purity.

However, their friendship must end early. A group of kidnappers attacks them in their way back from school. Creasy, is having a body that is not as fit as his past life in Legion, cannot prevent their assault on Pinta. He managed to shoot two of the kidnappers but takes two shoots in his body. His last visual before failing consciousness is Pinta’s scream of help and calling his name.

For some minutes he is hospitalized. He found out that Pinta is dead from his friend Guido. He felt overwhelming regret and guilt that he is too slow to prevent the kidnapping. The kidnappers were professionals, but he knows that they are not expecting some kind of veteran like Creasy. He should be able to kill them all before saving Pinta, but his failing body and his alcoholic habit slowing him down, thus making him helpless.

Creasy promised to kill them all. He told Guido he want to find a quiet place to train his body, to find his power again just like in the past. Guido told him that he really fond of the girl Pinta that he wants to get his hand on revenge against those kinemes. Creasy told Guido that he is not particularly fond, but Pinta has opened his heart. Pinta is the only person that has able to make him find his
mettle again; their friendship is treasured by him. The thought of her dead because of those kidnapers makes him sick.

The military mind in Creasy goes to work and he goes into intense planning and also makes himself fit for the job of extermination on a grand scale. He trains his body, his mind, and his soul to get fit again. He wants to get revenge, and to do that he need a good body which is able to kill those bastards who have killed his Pinta. For some months in Guido’s parent’s house he does his training. The manual labor, calculated training, good food, and fresh air make his body stronger again in no time. Even from his old age, the power of his body is enough to match his past life in Legion.

Then finally the day has come. Using weapons that has been bought by Guido with a help of friends from his past, he is tracking down people who are the mind of kidnapping series that has taken Pinta from his life. Without mercy and second though, he make them all bloody and vanished from this world.
Biodata of A.J. Quinnell

A.J. Quinnell was the pen name of the English thriller novelist Philip Nicholson. He is best known for his novel Man on Fire, which has been adapted to film twice, most recently in 2004 featuring Denzel Washington.

Nicholson traveled throughout his life and several of the minor characters in his books are based on real people that he encountered in his travels. Nicholson was married three times; his last wife, Elisabeth Egholm, is a Danish mystery novelist. The couple maintained residences on the island of Gozo and in Denmark.

When the author was preparing to publish his first book, Man on Fire, he wanted to keep his real identity as a secret. During a conversation in a bar, his agent (who is also J.K. Rowling’s agent) told him he could use a pseudonym. The author chose “Quinnell” after rugby union player Derek Quinnell and “A.J.” from the initials of the bartender’s son.

Nicholson frequented Gleneagles bar in Mgarr, Gozo, the town where Malta ferry disembarks. He could often be found drinking vodkas with soda. He wrote late at night and through until the morning, always standing up. He also sponsored a local Gozo soccer team and was admired by Gozitans.

The author’s best-known creation was the character of Marcus Creasy, an American-born former member of French Foreign Legion. The Creasy novels are cult favorites in Japan.
Man on Fire was directly adapted to film twice, in 1987 and 2004, and the 2004 film was adapted into a 2005 Bollywood film. This has resulted in a wider demand for Quinnell’s book, especially those featuring Creasy. (Taken from Wikipedia)