

# Book Club Information

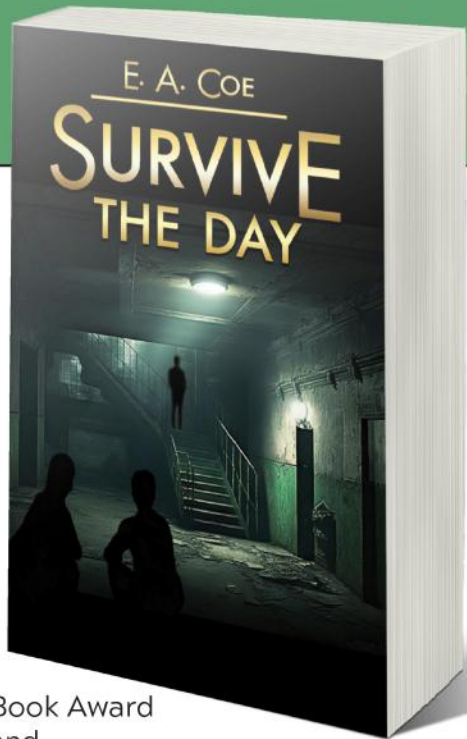
## Book Details:

Author: E. A. Coe  
(F. Coe  
Sherrard)

Publisher: Evolved  
Publishing  
(April 2024)

Genres: Contemporary  
Literature,  
Crime Fiction,  
Crime Thriller

Literary Awards: Literary Titan Gold Book Award  
Best Crime Fiction and  
Best Thriller–Firebird Book Awards,  
Readers Favorite Five-Star Award



## Synopsis

**Two forces collide, an FBI top-secret task force and an international criminal organization, but only one will Survive the Day.**

FBI Special Agents Marina Butnari and Douglas Hill, assigned to the task force charged with stemming human trafficking, engage in a desperate battle with the organization dominating the illegal trade. As the agents wind their way through the deceptions created by the mysterious genius who directs the well-organized syndicate, they're hampered by compartmentalized intelligence within their enforcement group.

Not all is as it seems—on their side of the law... or the other. Random events and unrelated clues connect, leading to an inevitable showdown. Part crime thriller and part psychological thriller, the novel examines the intricate personal relationships among the characters that often propel the story.

# What the Pros say...



“Lovers of fast-paced crime thrillers blended with adventure, action, and so much more will love E. A. Coe’s *Survive the Day*. Featuring a fascinating and dynamic cast, Coe weaves an intriguing plot.”

~~~Keith Mbuya, Editorial Staff Reviewer for Readers’ Favorite

“...cleverly written and complex, the plot moves quickly and will thoroughly entertain readers.”

~~~Katie Specht, Feathered Quill

“*Survive the Day* by E.A. Coe is a page-turner that hooked me from the first one until the last. With all the twists and turns, I never knew what would happen next, and I was kept guessing until the end.”

~~~Alma Boucher, Readers Favorite

“... a must-read for fans of action-packed thrillers, offering a heart-pounding journey through the dark underbelly of crime and corruption.”

~~~K. C. Finn for Readers Favorite

“... realistic portrayal of human trafficking significantly contributes to the genre, and its compelling characters ensure an engaging experience. This book is particularly suited for readers who appreciate a blend of action, emotional depth, and a glimpse into the workings of the FBI.

~~~Literary Titan

“... an action-packed, thrilling crime story, complete with unexpected twists and turns, that will keep readers engrossed from the beginning until the last page has been read.”

~~~The Feathered Quill Book Review





## *What Your Friends Say . . .*

“Bravo! ... well-paced, entertaining, and informative story that causes readers to care about the characters.”

~Lukman Clark, Author of the Alexandria Scrolls

“An exciting and fast-paced book “for such a time as this ”

~Cortney Donelson, Author of The Billionaire’s List

“A book with “action movie” written all over it with an amazing and deliciously complex finale.”

~Elizabeth Cottrell - Author of Heartspoken

“E. A. Coe stepped up the action in this novel without resorting to gore. His best yet!”

~Vicki McClinton

“Kept me engaged for the length of the novel! “

~ Candi LoPresti

“This author sets the bar high and delivers above and beyond every time consistently! A must read and excellent gift for avid readers alike! Highly recommend this one!

~Elizabeth Newberry

“This is more than a crime fighting story. I enjoyed the way the characters related to each other and built friendships and trust.”

~Margaret Nelson

# *Whups! The Book Changed!*

# CHANGE the **SCRIPT**

(What happened?)

The original working title for this manuscript was Dangerous Deception. The title seemed appropriate since the novel revolved around a series of “deceptions,” including the mysterious identity of the main villain, the secret personal background of Marina, the existence of twins who presented themselves as a single person, and the tangled web of obscured information and clues that made the job of the protagonists so difficult. We found that the publishing world possessed multiple similar titles for novels, so we switched to the alternative, Survive the Day.

In the first version of the book, the action started with the rescue of the Hispanic hostages, and no epilogue existed. The author added the prologue and epilogue to better mirror how “stories” in life work. Our individual stories begin at an intersection of somebody else’s ... and that other person’s story continues. Sometimes they intersect again.

Teresa Adams only appeared once in the beginning of the first draft of Survive the Day. Her strong character couldn’t be denied, however, and she forced her way into a much larger and more important role in the final manuscript. Appearing first in *The Other Side of Good*, and now *Survive the Day*, the popular character seems assured of other roles in future novels.

The author deleted the references to toll booths on I-95 when his wife reminded him they no longer existed.



# *Tidbits and Behind the Scene Trivia...*

To the author's knowledge, no organization like the Santu exists. Many different sizes of criminal enterprises participate worldwide in the horrific crime of human trafficking.

Phil Enstice was the author's roommate at tiny Western-Maryland College (now called McDaniel), and his oldest son's name is Drew. That young man isn't the Agent-In-Charge of the FBI's field office in New York, however, and he lives in Baltimore.

Contemporary writers understand clichés aren't acceptable in good writing. The two pages devoted to them in chapter twenty was written entirely tongue-in-cheek.

Because few readers glance at the "Acknowledgments" section of books, the author and editor agreed to dispense with it in *Survive the Day*. By accident, the placeholder copy for the section was never deleted for the first printing of the books. Any who read these probably wondered why they related to the author's previous book, *Pedaling West*.

Peggy Easterly, who handles the author's social media and marketing programs, designed the cover for *Survive the Day*.

When Teresa and Pastor Burns cross the Susquehanna River on I-95, they pass within ten miles of the author's boyhood home. The first exits from the expressway after crossing the river going north are for Maryland communities with the colorful names, Port Deposit, Rising Sun, and North East.

Marina and Doug will appear in at least one more novel tentatively titled, *The Right Side of Wrong*. The book will include familiar characters from *The Other Side of Good*.

# *Have I Seen You Before?*

(Characters in *Survive the Day* who appeared in earlier books)

The protagonists, Marina Butnari and Doug Hill helped Carrie Brinkley finish her bike trip in *Pedaling West*. Marina and her life partner, Tatiana, were two of the three trafficking victims saved in the opening chapter of *The Other Side of Good*. They were unnamed in that book.

Pastor Tom Burns was: hit by a pitch in *Full Count*, a high school classmate of the two protagonists in *The Road Not Taken*, responsible for creating an unusual enforcement coalition in *The Other Side of Good*, and facilitated the partnership between Hill and Butnari in *Pedaling West*.

Lynne Tune appeared in *The Other Side of Good* as a Santu torcheress. She also had a cameo appearance as Lin Song in *Pedaling West* when she helped the FBI from her place in Witness Protection.

Teresa Banks had a supporting role in *The Other Side of Good* as the primary administrative assistant to the novel's successful drug distributor. The results of her flirtation in that story with Pastor Tom Burns are evident in *Survive the Day*.

Readers first meet Alice Harbison in *Pedaling West* where she attends an FBI retreat and meets Doug Hill.

The fictitious criminal organization, Santu, first appeared in *The Other Side of Good*. Mei Feng, one of the criminals introduced early in *Survive the Day*, served as the Santu escort for the three trafficking victims rescued in the first chapter of that book.



## *Things to Discuss...*

1. Several different characters must “Survive the Day” within the scope of the novel. How many can you name?
2. Who is the stronger female character: Marina, Alice Harbison, Teresa Banks, Dai Lu, or Henrietta?
3. A recurring theme in the novel is the importance of partnerships in life and several were portrayed: Marina & Doug, Marina & Tati, Mo Ren & Dai Lu, Alice Harbison & Marina, Bluntforce & the agents, Dai Lu & Ling. Which ones impacted the story the most?
4. In what way did this novel touch on environmental, political, and social issues that are relevant today?
5. The last line of the Prologue details how Carmen might one day repay Marina for rescuing her from traffickers. Did she deliver on this promise?
6. Even our favorite heroes in life are flawed. How did the flaws of this story’s protagonists impact the plot?
7. Several secondary characters contribute important parts to the book. Who was your favorite and why?
8. Which was the more dangerous criminal: Mo Ren or Carlos?
9. Marina Butnari, Teresa Adams, Tom Burns, and Doug Hill are characters from earlier E. A. Coe books. Which ones from *Survive the Day* would you like to see in future books?



## *About the Author...*

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*E. A. Coe is F. Coe Sherrard, a former United States Naval aviator and career business executive who is retired in Edinburg, Virginia. A graduate of Western Maryland College (now called McDaniel College), Coe flew logistical support and air borne early warning aircraft during a combined active and reserve career spanning 21 years. He was a founding partner of Spirit Cruises, based in Norfolk, Virginia and later worked for Herschend Family Entertainment, where he was the General Manager of the Dollywood Theme Park. He and his wife, opened the Woodstock Café in 2005 and operated it until 2019. The award-winning author of six novels, including Full Count, The Road Not Taken, The Other Side of Good, Pedaling West, and Survive the Day, he has been married to Jean since 1971 and has three children and seven grandchildren.*

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*Coe*