

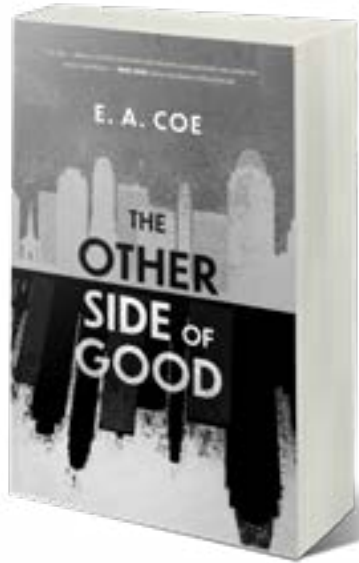
# Book Club Information

## Book Details:

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

Publisher: Koehler Publishing  
January 2022

Genres: Contemporary  
Literature,  
Crime Fiction,  
Noir Fiction



## Awards:



## Synopsis:

Reputed criminal, Theo Jackson, proposes a donation to the city for a new youth center, and the mayor sends police officer, Denton Jones to negotiate the terms. Theo and Denton were once friends before taking different career paths. Denton's efforts make him a target for a corrupt city official, but a dishonest bureaucrat is the least of the city's problems.

The author propels readers to the uncomfortable gray areas of life where the wrong thing sometimes seems a better choice than the right one, a little bad turns into almost good, and dark white and light black become the same color.

## *What some of the Pros say...*

“The Other Side of Good by E.A. Coe raises a profound and existential question we’ve all pondered at some point: is it possible to be both ‘good’ and ‘bad,’ or is it one or the other? This captivating police thriller explores the idea that the kind of person one is may not be so black and white and takes readers on an exciting and thought-provoking journey of the gray area in between right and wrong.

The Other Side of Good is a gripping and intensive police crime mystery novel. The action and suspense will keep readers on edge till the last page.”

***Literary Titan Reviews***

“The Other Side Of Good is a wild rollercoaster of a ride that keeps you on the edge of your seat from start to finish.”

***Pikasho Deka, Readers’ Favorite***

“Coe wrote a book with depth, insight, and purpose. I loved this story because it was realistic and relatable. The writing style, flawless editing, and excellent character development also added to the appeal of this fast-paced novel. I thoroughly enjoyed this book. Great job!”

***Jennifer Ibiam, Readers’ Favorite***



## *What Some of Your Friends Say...*

“As a former prosecutor who is familiar with human trafficking, I must commend the author on his thorough research. The characters were well developed and the uneasy partnership between Denton and Theo made for compelling reading. I particularly enjoyed the unexpected plot twists and turns, as well as the overarching moral dilemmas presented. Recommended!”

**Debbie Russell**

“This is an amazing book for its meticulous attention to detail even as the author also makes the people come to life. They grip our attention. The research undertaken by the author is impressive indeed. I lived in the story every minute I was reading. The end was satisfying and has left me continued thinking about the central dilemma—were the central characters mostly “good” or mostly “bad” or neither of these judgments? I am still pondering the dilemma in our own real world.”

**Paula Brownlee**

“Thumbs up for E. A. Coe, a novelist who takes us out of the chute with a jolt and gives us a spectacular ride around the arena of noir fiction.”

**Mark Muse**

“... an excellent read and kept my attention for hours...highly recommended for the the plot, the characters and the writing style. I found myself caring about the characters and wanting them to succeed. Good read! “

**Jeanne Russell**

The Other Side of Good beats a Netflix binge. The characters are neighbors you recognizes. Before you turn out the light, you have to know what happens.

**Heidi Leader**



## *Things to Discuss...*

1. Theo makes frequent arguments to Denton that they are very much alike. Denton maintains the opposite—that they are vastly different. Who is more correct?
2. Theo rationalizes his career choices, often characterizing himself as nothing more than an entrepreneurial salesman. He maintains that not all laws are good, and that law-abiding people often do bad things. He cites “Slavery” which until just 160 years ago in our country was legal. Does he have a point?
3. One of the more interesting relationships in the book is the one between Catholic Priest, Tim O’Dowd, and criminal, Theo Jackson. In the friendly conflict of ideologies between the two, is there a winner?
4. While the book’s action is driven by the male personalities of Jackson and Jones, and their conflicts with the main villains, Charles Roberson and Sun Yi, several strong women play important supporting roles in the novel. Discuss the similarities between Jessica Jones, Teresa Adams, Lin Song, Mayor Guzman, and the mysterious enforcement agent identified only as “Mary”.
5. Several times during the course of the book fictional characters seem to speak directly to readers. The most obvious occurs when Denton, coming out of a medically induced drug fog, reminds his wife of a clue left on page 217. Some critics object to this, proposing the interaction breaks the fictional shell of the story for readers unnecessarily. Other readers disagree, countering the effect makes the story more three-dimensional by hinting the fictional characters know we readers are out there. What is your opinion?
6. A secondary plotline in the book involves young men, Junior Bridges and Jaden Stokes. In many ways the early lives of these two parallel the early lives of Denton and Theo. Which one of the young men do you think is Theo’s biological son?

## *Tidbits and Behind the Scenes*



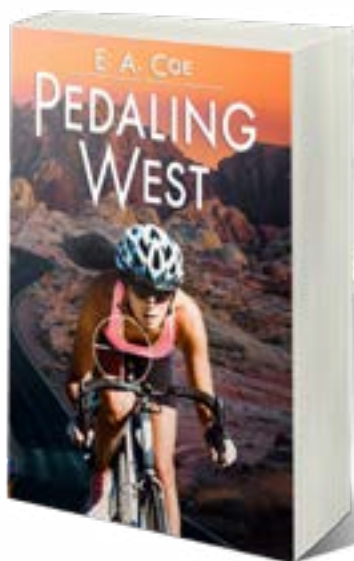
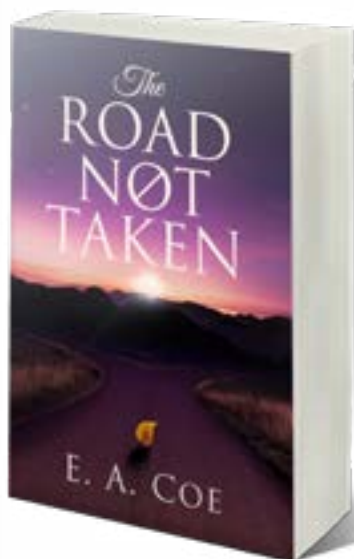
The Other Side of Good was actually the second book I started (after Full Count). Jean (my wife) didn't initially like it, but thought the premise of a different book, The Road Not Taken, was excellent. After completing TRNT, I went back to TOSOG, this time with new information from a book a friend recommended detailing the horrific history of Jeffrey Epstein. With a new crime to represent an extreme side of "good" ... human trafficking, TOSOG became a much more compelling novel ... which Jean liked.

My college fraternity brother, Randy Warren, had a life goal to enter the FBI. For reasons related to how life sometimes takes us where it chooses, not where we do, Randy didn't achieve his career objective. I decided to (fictionally) award it to him by making him the Agent-In-Charge of the Cincinnati Field District Office of the FBI in TOSOG.

Denton Jones, his wife, and Pastor Burns all made their fictional debut in my first book, Full Count. Denton, known in that book as "Ten Ton" was, perhaps, that novel's most popular supporting character ... an intimidating relief pitcher on an exceptional Division III college baseball team.

The Bernstein family operates BB Riverboats in Cincinnati, but Alan doesn't run the law school there:) Just a whimsical recognition of a good friend in that part of the country.

## COE'S OTHER BOOKS



# *A Word About Human Trafficking*

When I wrote *The Other Side Of Good*, I wanted “bad” anchored by the worst crime I could conceive. Human Trafficking filled that bill, and I read three different non-fiction books to research it. If I had included the disgusting details I learned, my novel would not have achieved my primary goal for it ... to entertain.

The specter of Human Trafficking in our world isn't fictional, however. It's real and a much larger issue than most of us are aware. Nearly twenty-five million people are trapped globally in modern-day slavery, and illegal profits from it exceed one hundred and fifty million dollars annually. This makes Human Trafficking one of the top three most lucrative criminal enterprises on the planet!

At the end of my novel, I list several fine organizations dedicated to stemming the horrific crime. I encourage you to contact any of these groups to learn more about you can help to address this appalling world problem.

Thanks!

*Coe*





## *About the Author...*

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 airborne 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 four novels, including Full Count, The Road Not Taken, The Other Side of Good, and Pedaling West, he has been married to Jean since 1971 and has three children and six grandchildren.

Thank you for your interest in my book! I hope you enjoy it and will consider posting a review to the Amazon website. You can find out more about all my books at [www.eacoe.online](http://www.eacoe.online).

*Coe*