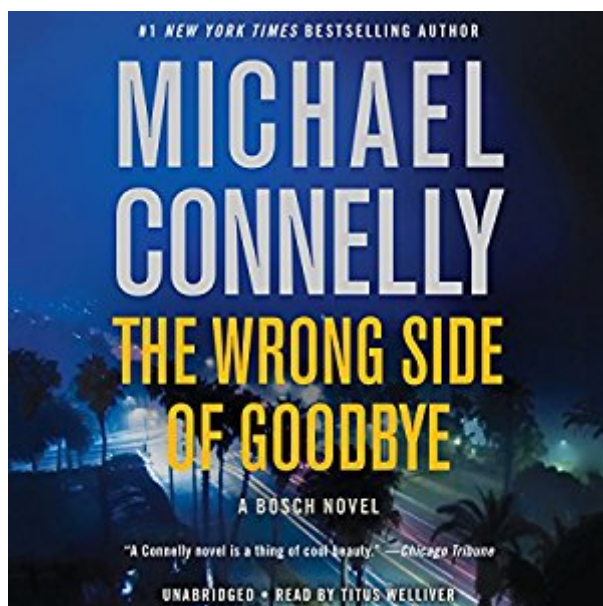


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# The Wrong Side Of Goodbye: A Harry Bosch Novel, Book 21



## Synopsis

Unstoppable detective Harry Bosch returns in a new thriller from New York Times best-selling author Michael Connelly. Harry Bosch is California's newest private investigator. He doesn't advertise, he doesn't have an office, and he's picky about who he works for, but it doesn't matter. His chops from 30 years with the LAPD speak for themselves. Soon one of Southern California's biggest moguls comes calling. The reclusive billionaire has less than six months to live and a lifetime of regrets. He hires Bosch to find out whether he has an heir. Using all of his cold-case skills, Bosch pieces together a 65-year-old mystery and finds out that the case is not as simple - or as cold - as he thought. Swift, unpredictable, and thrilling, *The Wrong Side of Goodbye* proves once again that "Connelly is still very much in his prime" (>).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Harry Bosch left the LAPD again before they could fire him over a minor infraction. Since then he has successfully sued for being illegally forced into retirement. Once again Bosch has set up his shingle as a private investigator, but at the same time he is working as an unpaid part-time detective in the town of San Fernando outside of Los Angeles. In his private investigator role, he is invited to meet an aging aviation billionaire, Whitney Vance, who has a proposition - find out if he has any surviving offspring who could become the heir to his huge fortune. At age 18 Vance had a relationship with a young Mexican girl called Vibiana Duarte, but soon after becoming pregnant she disappeared and Vance had never seen her again. Bosch quickly finds a lead that Vibiana had a son

who was adopted out shortly after birth. This lead fades when Bosch finds that the son perished when he was shot down in a helicopter in Vietnam. As soon as he starts to find more leads Bosch realises that he is being followed by powerful parties who don't want any surviving relatives to be found. When his search takes a more dramatic and serious direction he turns for help and legal protection to his half-brother, Mickey Haller. At the same time, Bosch gets tied up almost full time with a major case for the small police force of San Fernando - a serial rapist who gains entry by cutting through the screen door of victims' houses. The hunt for the "Screen Cutter" heats up when more victims are identified and a criminal profile suggests that it is only a matter of time before the rapist also becomes a killer. Connelly showed his skills in weaving Bosch's investigatory skills between two totally different cases. It was certainly a change not to see him constantly doing battle with his police superiors. There is not much background about his personal life as his daughter Maddy is at college and only has a cameo role. Over the last year, I have been revisiting and enjoying several of Michael Connelly's earlier books. IMHO this one stands out as one of the best he has written and maintains his top place in US crime fiction and showcased Connelly's skills in keeping this long-running series alive. We will certainly see a lot more of Harry Bosch in the future. I was able to review this book now as it was published in Australia on 24 October 2016 and won't be released in the US until 1 November 2016. It certainly deserves to be in the bestsellers list leading up to the festive season.

In *The Wrong Side of Goodbye*, former LAPD detective Harry Bosch is hired as a private eye to find out whether a reclusive billionaire has an heir related to him by blood. Now well into his 80s, the man had left behind a pregnant underage Mexican girl - on the wrong side of goodbye - when he was a college student. Harry's search will lead him into the heart of Chicano culture in Southern California. The investigation will also expose him and his teenage daughter to great danger, as the board members of the billionaire's company seek to protect their access to wealth and power. Two mysteries, unfolding in tandem. Meanwhile, Harry has been taken on as a volunteer reserve officer by the San Fernando Police Department to investigate cold cases. He has succeeded in linking a series of bold and brutal rapes through his usual dogged research. While he pursues the search for an heir to the billionaire's fortune, Harry and his young female partner find themselves ever closer to identifying the rapist. Unlike so many other mystery novels, in which all the strands of the plot are tied together neatly in the end, the two cases unfold in tandem. Harry Bosch may be aging, but he's still in fine form. In so many instances, long-running series of mystery novels lose steam after a time. But Michael Connelly's work

remains fresh and compelling even in the 19th novel of his Harry Bosch series. (He has also written ten other mysteries between 1992 and the present.) *The Wrong Side of Goodbye* is detective fiction at its best. It's no mystery that Connelly is now producing for the third season of a television series based on the Harry Bosch novels.

Thank you again, Michael Connelly, for a consistently superior product which continues to reveal and embody the literary DNA strands we have come to know as Harry Bosch. After years of reading all of Connelly's books, including the Haller series, Bosch just keeps piling on layers of character development extensions which keep adding higher resolution to our fully fleshed out detective. Add competent and realistic storylines that don't rely on manipulation of invention, nor alterations to the standard laws of physics, but an assemblage of process and reasoning in which you share with an intimate narrator, and you have a book you can sink your brain into, every time. If anyone is reading Connelly for the first time, you will find the same reader experience throughout all of his books.

When I first discovered Bosch, I ordered every book (used) up until that point, and have read everything since. Great body of work, captivating police procedurals. Those that enjoy literature written with an augmented dose of psychological tensions (for characters and the reader) within a police procedural, I have to recommend Saul Black's "The Killing Lessons: A Novel". Nothing else like it (Saul Black is pseudo for Glen Duncan). Jo Nesbo is another author in which every book is superb. Some of Lee Child's Jack Reacher series is comparative, but uneven and inconsistent over the last 10 years. Early stuff is very good. Later stuff is churned out for a paycheck and big screen.

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