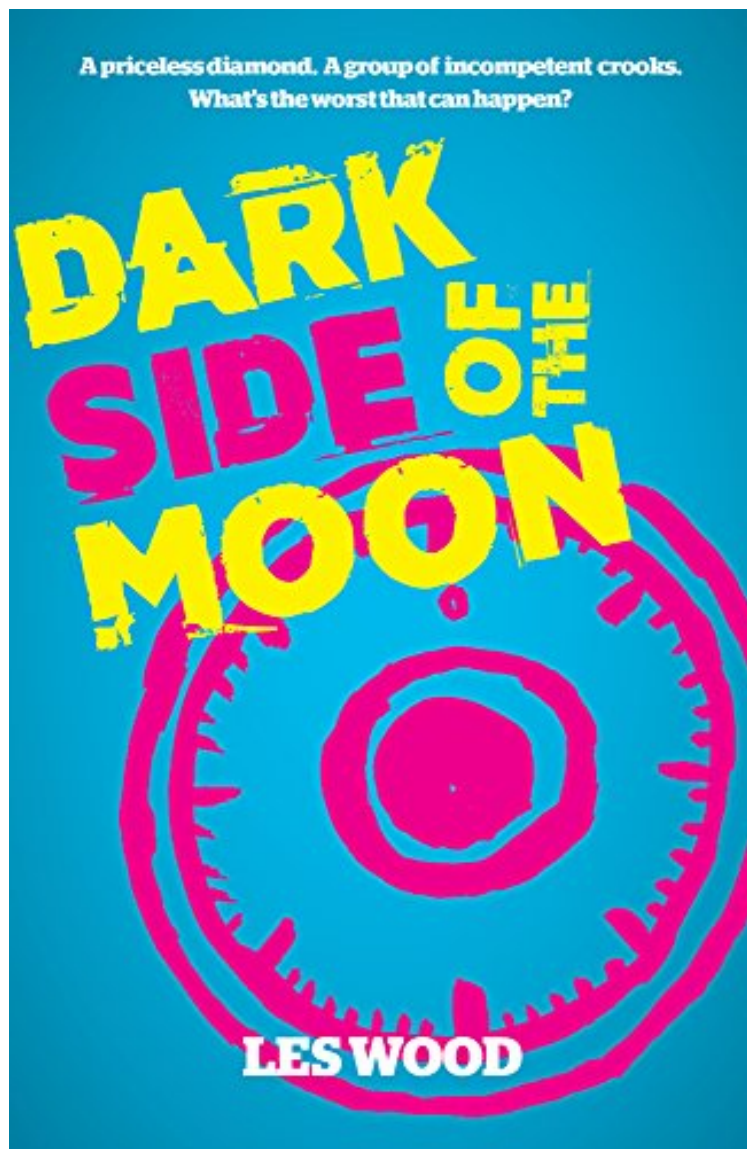


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Dark Side of the Moon

Les Wood

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Les Wood : Dark Side of the Moon before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dark Side of the Moon:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A tragicomedy nonpareil!By DocFirst, if you do not know the words toaly, jakey, glaikit or hirpling, get the app Urban Dictionary. Then read this hidden gem of a tragicomedy. I hope my first review of this book is not the only one it gets, as it blends comedy and tragedy marvelously. I really do not have to say more than that, so read it and trust me that you too will fall in love with with the plot, the characters and the

futility it represents. Enjoy!! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Tonal Dissonance Spoils A Good Time By A. Ross I picked this up with the aim of enjoying a light, humorous Scottish crime story -- after all, the cover is printed in dayglo colors and promises a diamond heist featuring "a group of incompetent crooks." And on the back, blurbs reference *The Italian Job*, mixing *Ocean's 11* with Irvine Welsh, and "a hugely enjoyable romp" -- job done, eh? Well... sort of... it also references *No Mean City*, which, if you don't know, is the original classic novel of Glasgow's mean streets, and there's definitely a dark side to the story which is at odds with the upbeat packaging. The book kicks off like a Guy Ritchie movie, as a preening small time drug boss assembles his team of losers in an abandoned disco hall. There's aging hard-man collector Prentice, twin tattooists Campbell and John, homeless guy Boag, simple psychopath Leggett, and the nondescript Kyle. They're not so much a group of "incompetent crooks", so much as they are reluctant pawns in the Glasgow drug trade -- with few other prospects for making a living. They've been brought together to steal a super-duper priceless diamond, and thus classic heist plot line unfolds. Yes, there are some very amusing bits and pieces, but there's also a dark melancholy lurking from the very opening pages (which involve a dead baby). It's breezily entertaining page-turning stuff right up to the climax, in which everything starts to go haywire. However, that's when the book lost me. All of a sudden, a brutal realism takes over, and people start dying. Some of these are characters who've admitted to doing horrible deeds of violence, but some aren't -- so it's not as if there's a theme of karmic justice at work or anything like that. It's a huge tonal shift that doesn't feel particularly warranted, and it really undid the enjoyment I had taken from the rest of the story. Don't get me wrong, violence and comedy can mix just fine (see Elmore Leonard), but the type of violence and the type of comedy need to sync up -- and here they really don't. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. But this is one of the best crime novels I have ever read. By Terry Barham I just finished it and I plan to edit and say more. But this is one of the best crime novels I have ever read. Character development is so good I already miss those five guys. Reviewers mention the humor but that could mislead. Many readers may not see it, as it's the strange dark humor of *Pulp Fiction* and *Reservoir Dogs*. I've found very few books that lived up to the reviewer's cliché "I couldn't put it down" but this is one. The climax is amazing in its vivid portrayal, and monstrously explosive !

Boddice, a crime lord looking over his shoulder for good reason, has assembled an unlikely band of misfit crooks. Their job is to steal a famous diamond worth millions, known as *The Dark Side of the Moon*. Despite the odds, the crew's self-serving squabbles and their natural incompetence, the plan progresses. As events build to an explosive climax no one really knows who is playing who. Full of twists and turns and laugh-out-loud moments, this is a hugely enjoyable romp from entirely the criminal's point-of-view, with not a single cop in sight.

"Neds, drug dealers, gangsters, molls, jakes, crazy old bag ladies, racketeering, and the biggest jewel heist ever seen in the UK. Welcome to Glasgow. *No Mean City* meets *The Italian Job* in this hilarious comic noir debut, as the dark underbelly of the city's crimeland is spewed onto the page. With razor-sharp dialogue, superbly venal characters and a finely-tuned plot, *The Dark Side of the Moon* builds to an explosive firecracker of an ending." —Douglas Lindsay, author, *The Legend of Barney Thomson*