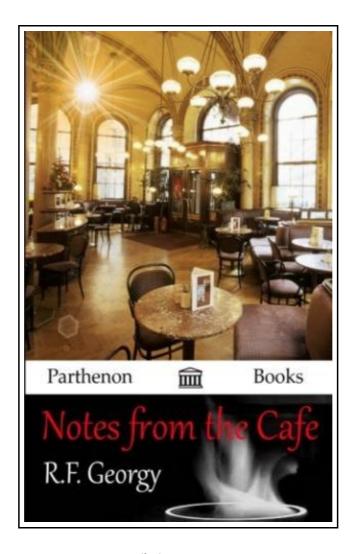
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Reviews

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(Lavina Torp)

NOTES FROM THE CAFE



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Parthenon Books, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 214 x 149 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. In 1864 Feyodor Dostoevsky published what is considered to be the first existentialist novel. The Underground Man is one of the most iconic characters in all of literature. One hundred and fifty years later, R.F. Georgy brings back the concept of an underground, Neo-Luddite to offer us a chilling image of the digital age. In the preface to Notes from the Underground, Dostoevsky states, The author of the diary and the diary itself are, of course, fictitious. Nevertheless, it is clear that such persons as the writer of these notes not only may, but positively must, exist in our society. In Notes from the Cafe, Georgy introduces us to one such person with a unique observational perspective. The Cafe Dweller is the Underground Man brought back to life to offer us an unsettling commentary on the information age. In one sweeping attack, the Cafe Dweller declares, Information paints no picture, sings no song, and writes no poem. Notes from the Cafe is a powerful intellectual indictment against science, technology, and the dizzying pace of modern life. Quotes from Notes from the Cafe: Do you want to know why I smoke? I smoke in defiance to the science of our time. Yes, you heard correctly. I smoke out spite. Science has become our new church. It is the ipso-facto intellectual authority that instructs us on all aspects of living. Teachers no longer have autonomous control. They have surrendered their authority to sophisticated technocrats who are only interested in creating more technocrats to help expand and maintain the digital complex. The very idea that teaching is a noble and virtuous enterprise, whose singular aim is to transmit knowledge, is...



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