



# Three Bags Full: A Sheep Detective Story

By Leonie Swann

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## Three Bags Full: A Sheep Detective Story By Leonie Swann

A witty philosophical murder mystery with a charming twist: the crack detectives are sheep determined to discover who killed their beloved shepherd.

On a hillside near the cozy Irish village of Glennkill, the members of the flock gather around their shepherd, George, whose body lies pinned to the ground with a spade. George has cared for the sheep, reading them a plethora of books every night. The daily exposure to literature has made them far savvier about the workings of the human mind than your average sheep. Led by Miss Maple, the smartest sheep in Glennkill (and possibly the world), they set out to find George's killer.

The A-team of investigators includes Othello, the "bad-boy" black ram; Mopple the Whale, a merino who eats a lot and remembers everything; and Zora, a pensive black-faced ewe with a weakness for abysses. Joined by other members of the richly talented flock, they engage in nightlong discussions about the crime and wild metaphysical speculations, and they embark on reconnaissance missions into the village, where they encounter some likely suspects. There's Ham, the terrifying butcher; Rebecca, a village newcomer with a secret and a scheme; Gabriel, the shady shepherd of a very odd flock; and Father Will, a sinister priest. Along the way, the sheep confront their own all-too-human struggles with guilt, misdeeds, and unrequited love.

*Three Bags Full* is already an international hit. "It's rather as if Agatha Christie had re-written *The Wind in the Willows*, and I ended by loving it," Jane Jakeman wrote in *The Independent*. Funny, fresh, and endearing, it introduces a wonderful breed of detectives to American readers.

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In this refreshingly original detective story from debut German author Swann, a flock of sheep investigates the murder of their beloved shepherd, George Glenn. Leading the effort is Miss Maple, considered the cleverest sheep in the Irish seaside village of Glennkill. She slyly "pretends" to graze while eavesdropping on suspects who come to search George's caravan for something he may have died for. When a long-lost ram recounts an incident that occurred upon his departure years earlier, Miss Maple uncovers the catalyst for George's death. The woolly troupe reveals the crime's solution in a near-Shakespearean mime at the annual "Smartest Sheep in Glennkill" contest. The author's sheep's-eye view and the animals' literal translation of the strange words and deeds of the human species not only create laugh-out-loud humor but also allow the animals occasional flashes of accidental brilliance. (*June*)

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From [Booklist](#)

**\*Starred Review\*** A completely original, sparkingly inventive, cleverly written story, first published in Germany, about a flock of Irish sheep who vow to solve the murder of their shepherd, George. George has always treated the flock like humans, reading to them, feeding them the best fodder, protecting them from the local butcher, acknowledging their individual personalities, and even promising to take them to Europe. Imagine the flock's shock when George is found dead in their meadow with a spade stuck in his chest! Led by Miss Maple, the smartest of them all, the sheep decide they must find out who killed George (depriving them of the best--and only--shepherd they've ever had). How they finally achieve this ambitious goal makes for a quirky, humorous, lively, weird, surprisingly dark yet joyous tale that shows how a disparate set of sheeplike personalities can work together for the greater good. Although the plot meanders a bit, readers willing to accept the premise will find themselves engaged--rooting for the sheep, marveling at the ingenuity of the author, or simply enjoying the madcap story. Good fun and a fine first novel from a promising new writer. *Emily Melton*

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Review

PRAISE FOR THREE BAGS FULL

The Internationally Bestselling Novel of Crime-Busting Sheep

"Sheep make great detectives. I loved this book."

—Robert B. Parker

"Refreshingly, joyously different."

—*Sunday Telegraph*

"Moments of High Comedy come thick and fast...This entertaining, lighthearted mystery is told from a refreshingly novel perspective."

—*Daily Mail*

"Genuinely odd and affecting...The best sheep detective novel you'll read all year."

—*Guardian*

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Elizabeth Ashton:**

This book untitled Three Bags Full: A Sheep Detective Story to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, this is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit onto it. You will easily to buy this book in the book retail outlet or you can order it by using online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quickly to read this book, because you can read this book in your Smartphone. So there is no reason to you to past this publication from your list.

#### **Susan Padgett:**

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#### **Larry Tatro:**

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#### **Danny Solberg:**

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