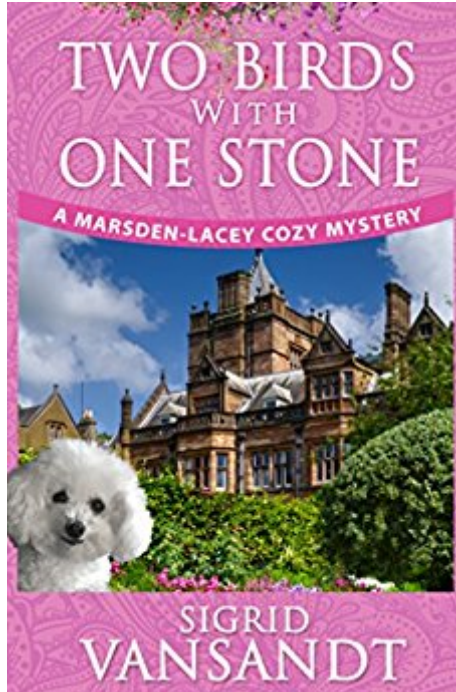


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# Two Birds With One Stone (A Marsden-Lacey Cozy Mystery Book 1)



## Synopsis

It's a beautiful summer and the busy village of Marsden-Lacey, England, has murder on its mind. Someone just whacked everyone's least favorite villager, Sir Carstons, on his villainous head. That's when American expats, paralegal Martha Littleword and book expert Helen Ryes, find themselves knee-deep in Yorkshire murder. Spirited empty-nesters, they throw their newbie detective hats into the ring, only to discover that a murder mystery can quickly turn from adventurous lark into personal peril. With a dash of Southern charm and humor, and the help of a few quirky villagers, the girls just might survive. They'll also have to figure out how to handle the local catch-of-the-day, Piers Cousins, and the cantankerous Chief of Police, DCI Johns. Will they or won't they? If they do, they might solve a murder, or two, along with a hundred-year-old mystery involving a Brontë sister and a famous piece of English history.

## Book Information

File Size: 1896 KB

Print Length: 254 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publication Date: December 30, 2014

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00RNF181S

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #5,373 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #64 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Cozy > Animals #67 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Cozy > Animals #80 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Amateur Sleuths

## Customer Reviews

This was fun reading with good characters and plenty of twists in the plot. The personalities of the two main characters make a good contrast. I like the way they play off each other. Good suspense to the end. Thought I had the villain all figured out but in the end, I was fooled completely. Good

read for a first time author. Looking forward to what else she writes next.

I will admit this one started off weird and I had to look up more about the beginning to find out more about the Bronte' sisters to understand this book but after that I loved it. Threw me for a complete loop when I found out who the murderer was and why. It was a good book and I hope there is more to come.

I loved this book. From the cover I was afraid it would end up being poorly written "chick lit," but it turned out to be one of the most enjoyable cozy mysteries I've read in a long time. The characters are quirky, funny, and likeable. The descriptions of the characters, environment, and other details are colorful and evocative without being over-stated. The story is original and well plotted. A joy to read. I hope there will be many more in this series!

I love cozy mysteries, but I have tired of the same old plot, repeated by numerous authors: 20 or 30-something woman, fleeing from a bad romance, moves back home to open a shop of some sort, stumbles on a dead body, starts dating the local police officer, etc., etc., etc. This formula has been overdone, so I was looking for an original new plot/series, and I found it with Two Birds. Yes, there are some of the same character-types used in the works of others, but Helen and Margaret are unique: Southern ladies who live and work in England. There is a manor house and its aristocratic occupant, a teenage hoodlum who might turn to the good, two very suspicious but likable gardeners who live next door to the police station, and a sweet English village. As soon as I finished this book, I downloaded the second in the series, and I will go immediately to the third after reading the second. Very enjoyable, Ms. Vansandt. Keep writing!!!!

Wow! This was a very well written book and I pretty much read it while I was supposed to be doing other things. The 2 main characters are 40 something southern born Americans and I have to say I was really impressed with them. I've always felt that when you turn the big 4-0 you come into your own and Martha and Helen definitely have. This book kept me guessing with twists and turns. The whole cast of characters were well developed and entertaining. I would definitely recommend this book and I'm impatiently waiting for the next one.

There is an interesting but not complicated plot. Helen and Martha are two brave if not sensible middle aged women. There is a little suspense and a little mystery and a little romance. This book is

for the cozy reader looking for entertainment.

Love, love, love this book! This was such a fun read. It made me laugh out loud at the situations that Helen and Martha found themselves. Once I started reading, I could not put it down. Like the other reviewers, the ending was a complete surprise. I hope this author intends to write more stories about Helen and Martha. I can't wait to see what happens to them next.

This book was so enjoyable and such a treat! The cast of characters were so well written that I felt like I was right there with them through the whole story! Martha & Helen, who are both American Southern women in their late 40's living in England meet for the first time at a murder crime scene and become instant friends. They become involved in the mystery and decide to conduct their own investigation of the murder driving Det. Inspector Johns who is in charge absolutely crazy. This was a laugh out loud, suspenseful, clean, well edited mystery with some romance and I really loved it. I guessed wrong on who the murderer was and I like to be surprised. Two other characters I'm really hoping are in future books is Peregrine & Alistair. Even though they are reformed (maybe) thieves, they get themselves involved in police business and their antics are hilarious. I loved the setting of the small village in Yorkshire and the mixture of American & English. I'm definitely looking forward to more of this new author's writing. Hopefully the next in the series will be out soon.

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