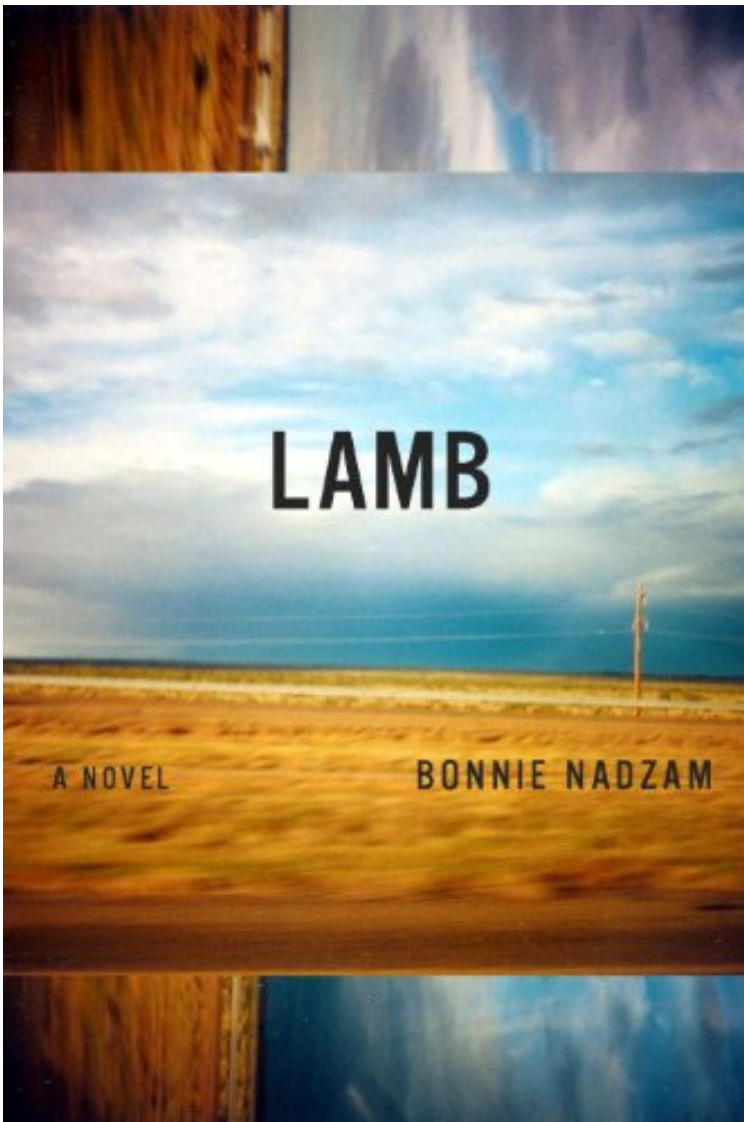


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# Lamb



*Par Bonnie Nadzam*  
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**Par Bonnie Nadzam : Lamb** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lamb:

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## Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurWinner of the 2011 Flaherty-Dunnann First Novel PrizeLamb traces the self-discovery of David Lamb, a narcissistic middle aged man with a tendency toward dishonesty, in the weeks following the disintegration of his marriage and the death of his father. Hoping to regain some faith in his own goodness, he turns his attention to Tommie, an awkward and unpopular eleven-year-old girl. Lamb is convinced that he can help her avoid a destiny of apathy and emptiness, and even comes to believe that his devotion to Tommie is in her best interest. But when Lamb decides to abduct a willing Tommie for a road trip from Chicago to the Rockies, planning to initiate her into the beauty of the mountain wilderness, they are both shaken in ways neither of them expects.Lamb is a masterful exploration of the dynamics of love and dependency that challenges the boundaries between adolescence and adulthood, confronts preconceived

notions about conventional morality, and exposes mankind's eroded relationship with nature. David Lamb rubbed his temple and thought he might sit down right there in the parking lot, wait to see who'd come for him or who would ask him to move, but when he turned away from the wake of traffic to light the cigarette,

he saw the girl. She was coming toward him in a crooked purple tube top and baggy shorts and brassy sandals studded with rhinestones. She carried a huge pink patent-leather purse and was possibly the worst thing he'd seen all day. Scrawny white arms and legs stuck out of her clothes. The shorts hung around her pelvic bones, and her stomach stuck out like a filthy, spotted white sheet. The skin on her belly, God, that sheen of purple filth sprayed across her flesh. It was grotesque. It was lovely. Freckles concentrated in bars across her cheekbones and down the tiny ridge of her nose and the slightest protruding curve of her forehead just above her eyebrows. There were huge freckles, pea-sized, and smaller ones. Some faint, others dark, overlapping like burnt confetti on her bare shoulders and nose and cheeks. He stared at her. He had never seen anything like it. Hi. She had a little gap between her teeth, and her eyes were wide set, and she had one of those noses with perfectly round nostrils. She was a pale little freckled pig with eyelashes. I'm supposed to ask you for a cigarette. Behind her, huddled near the trashcan up against the brick wall of the CVS, three girls were watching in a bright little knot of bangles and short shorts and ponytails. He looked at the girl. Her chewed and ratted fingernails. Her small feet in shoes two or three sizes too big for her. Her mother's shoes, he supposed. He felt a little sick. What is this, he said. Some kind of dare? *Revue de presse* Only an

immensely promising young writer could bestow such grace on such troubled characters. *Boston Globe* A beautiful book. Nadzams sentences are admirably clipped and controlled, nesting the emotional turmoil of its two subjects within the stability of their natural surroundings. *Minneapolis Star-Tribune* Beautifully written.

*More Magazine*, *Editors Picks: The Hottest Fall Novels* Brilliant, dark and very disturbing In this stunning debut, Nadzams takes a lot of risks, and the results are thrilling. *The Cleveland Plain Dealer* Nadzams pulls off a neat trick here While kneejerk comparisons to *Lolita* are inevitable, David Lamb is playing a different game than Humbert Humbert. *The Daily Beast*, *Great Weekend Reads* Surprisingly tender, highly

inappropriate Nadzams deserves credit for her convincing portrait of a middle-aged male burnout [Lamb] is difficult and beautiful, and though it may not be normal, it feels very real. *Time Out New York* In Bonnie Nadzams' deliciously dark novel *Lamb*, the author digs deeper into the human urges that drive us to deviant extremes. Instead of taking the lurid turn of *Lolita*, Nadzams cracks tougher truths. *Royal Young*,

*Interview Magazine.com* Unnerving and haunting. *Daily Candy* A remarkably gentle first novel about the brutality of self-discovery. *Shelf Awareness* *Lolita* gets a 21st-century spin in this gripping debut Nadzams has a crisp, fluid writing style, and her dialogue is reminiscent of Sam Shepard's sits a fine first effort:

storytelling as accomplished as it is unsettling. *Publishers Weekly* A disturbing and elusive novel about manipulation and desperate friendship. *Kirkus* sCompelling [Lamb] will find an audience among serious readers. *Library Journal* Bonnie Nadzams manages to write gorgeous prose about people and skies and mountains while still creating tension and suspense on the level of a thriller, while also walking us into complex and delicate and unsettling moral territory with brilliant subtlety and insight. *Lamb* is a remarkable debut, by a writer to watch. I will be thinking about these characters for a long time. *Aimee Bender*, author of *The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake* *Lamb* is one of the most powerful and original novels I have read in years. Beautiful, evocative, and brilliant. *T.C. Boyle*, author of *When the Killings Done* *Lamb* is a wonder of a novel. Bonnie Nadzams has offered an exploration of interpersonal and sexual manipulation and power that left me reeling. This is a novel about responsibility, complicity, blame, neglect, and finally love.

*Percival Everett*, author of *I Am Not Sidney Poitier* and *Erasure* Every sentence in Bonnie Nadzams' *Lamb* teaches us about love, necessity, and the mysteries of the heart. I am haunted by her two protagonists, and by the journey they take together. This utterly compelling novel has launched a major new voice in American fiction. *David Mason*, author of *Ludlow* Bonnie Nadzams' debut is gripping, gorgeous, and utterly original.

The disturbing story resists easy categorization, challenging what we think we know about childhood, adulthood, pain, beauty, and love. This book will jolt you awake. *Anna North*, author of *America Pacifica* Throughout the novel, Nadzams keeps the reader off-balance, veering between sympathy and repulsion for Lamb and his actions. Lamb puts an original spin on the traditional myth of the West through modern-day characters who long to be "saved" and renewed by the Rocky Mountain landscape. *High Country News* "The reader has no time to wonder what's going to happen next, Nadzams just pushes the reader into the characters' lives and forces them forward until they reach the end. This tale will make you question yourself, your virtues, your perceptions of society, and by the end, you still may not have any answers. And that's okay." -*The Examiner* "Lamb is a complex and beautifully crafted tale...A delightful creepiness extends

throughout this novel, but there are also moments of soft, quiet, beauty. That Nadzam managed all of this in her first novel is extraordinary."NomadReader