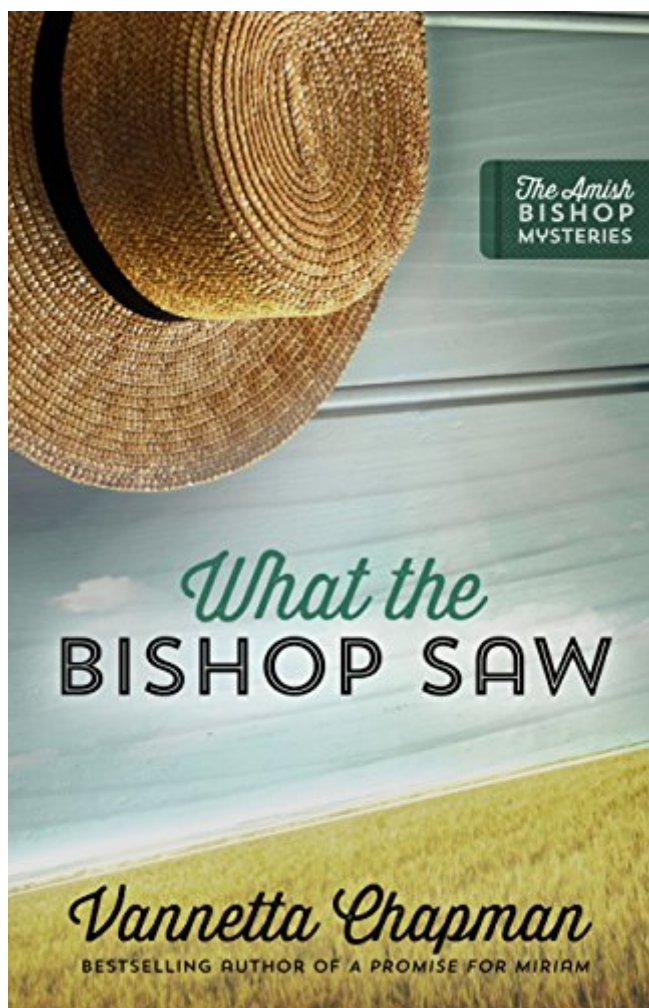


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What The Bishop Saw (The Amish Bishop Mysteries Book 1)



Synopsis

Somewhere in the Embers Lies the Truth A fire blazes out of control in the San Luis Valley of Colorado, leaving an elderly Amish bachelor dead. Bishop Henry Lapp rushes to the scene, and he learns the fire was no accident. Someone intended to kill Vernon Frey. But who would want to kill Vernon? Well, practically everyone—Amish and Englisch alike. When the police point the finger at a suspect Henry knows is innocent, the bishop must decide whether or not to use his mysterious, God-given gift—one he's tried desperately to ignore all these years—to try and set the record straight. His close friend and neighbor, Emma, encourages Henry to follow God's leading. Could the clue to solving the case be locked somewhere deep in his memory? Will Henry find the courage to move forward in faith and put the right person behind bars? Is his friendship with Emma becoming something more? What the Bishop Saw is a story of extraordinary talents, the bonds of love and friendship, and the unfailing grace of God.

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Customer Reviews

When a much disliked Amish man dies in a fire set by an arsonist, Bishop Henry Lapp must guide

his people to safety and the truth. It doesn't help that the Englisher they have to communicate with most is a young, brash, red-haired female investigator. As the arsonist ramps up his attacks, Henry has to watch the People lose life, property, and even desire to remain in this Colorado community. Will he make the ultimate sacrifice that almost cost him dearly years ago in Goshen, In? I truly love Vanetta Chapman's Amish mysteries, and this is the best one yet. So often the bishop of the People is portrayed as being strict, stiff, and power-hungry. Henry is none of these. He truly seeks God's will in all things, puts others before himself, and sees people with "the Father's Eyes." It would be a blessing to be a friend of Henry's. We also get to know Emma's family. They are as complex as Henry, and are woven into the story along with others of the church to make a tightly woven, multi-dimensional tale. One quote true for Amish and Englishers alike: "They would all be remembered by their deeds, their kindnesses to one another, and the roots of love they left behind." What The Bishop Saw motivates me to ask God for vision to see people as incredibly compassionately as Henry and ultimately God our Father see them. I gratefully received this book from the publisher and NetGalley. I am freely leaving a review. I am solely responsible for the opinions therein.

Henry Lapp is a widower in his mid-sixties who is the Bishop of a small Amish community in Colorado. When he was a boy of 12, he was hit in the head with a baseball. After being in a coma for a while, he had the ability to draw from memory a picture-perfect drawing of a scene he had encountered. He used this talent once as a boy with harsh results. He hasn't used the talent for a long time, but soon he will be left with no choice but to put his God-given gift to work. Henry is unsure if it is a gift or a curse. An unlikeable, older, Amish man is killed in a house fire that is discovered to have been deliberately set. An arson investigator is called in to solve the case, but dealing with Amish people who like to keep to themselves proves to be a challenge for her. As the case comes to a standstill, Henry's drawing talent is put to use. His picture provides a lead, but that turns out to be a dead end. Henry and the arson investigator continue to ask questions, but can't seem to discover who the arsonist is. Another building is set on fire, then another with no suspect in custody. Some Amish families begin to think about moving to other communities as they no longer feel safe. Henry confides in Emma, his close friend since childhood and she helps him work through things. Emma is a widow and lives with her son and his family. Henry is very close to this family as his wife died twenty years ago and they had no children. As the danger mounts, Henry feels the tension in his families that he shepherds. He also begins to realize he feels more for Emma than friendship, but is unsure if she feels the same

spark. Now that is how a community should live together! They came together when someone needed help with shelter, food, emotional or spiritual support and much more. This small, tightknit, Amish community was deeply spiritual in their lifestyle, showing Christ in their actions. However, their Bishop was also the first to point out that they were human as well and not above sinful actions, addictions, reactions, negative emotions, etc. Henry Lapp was a humble, but admirable leader of his small band of fellow Amish. I don't believe in or agree with everything their Ordnung says, but in this story the actions of some these Amish people were fine examples of Christian living. I think this is a good start to what I hope will be a fine series of Amish mysteries!

Book Description A fire blazes out of control in the San Luis Valley of Colorado, leaving an elderly Amish bachelor dead. Bishop Henry Lapp rushes to the scene, and he learns the fire was no accident. Someone intended to kill Vernon Frey. But who would want to kill Vernon? Well, practically everyone—Amish and Englisch alike. When the police point the finger at a suspect Henry knows is innocent, the bishop must decide whether or not to use his mysterious, God-given gift—one he's tried desperately to ignore all these years—to try and set the record straight. His close friend and neighbor, Emma, encourages Henry to follow God's leading. Could the clue to solving the case be locked somewhere deep in his memory? Will Henry find the courage to move forward in faith and put the right person behind bars? Is his friendship with Emma becoming something more? **What the Bishop Saw** is a story of extraordinary talents, the bonds of love and friendship, and the unfailing grace of God. **My Review** This book is the 1st book in the Amish Bishop Mysteries. Vannetta is one of the GREATEST authors who write about the Amish. This book is about the Amish who relocate to Colorado. Then all of a sudden, there are so many fires going on and affecting the Amish. The police show up to the Bishop and want his help in solving the crimes of Arson. Then the people of the Amish know that the Bishop has this gift of drawing what he sees and he doesn't even realize what he is drawing. So, the Bishop draws what she sees when Vernon is killed in his home. That helps them out but they are not so sure about it. This book is really good. I could hardly put it down and I would recommend this book for everyone to read it. I am not going to say anything else so I won't ruin the story for you all who love Amish. I love this book. She is GREAT. I would definitely suggest this book to my friends and family. Thank you Vannetta for giving us such a GREAT book to read.

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