



Smeddum: A Lewis Grassic Gibbon Anthology (Canongate Classics)

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Edited and introduced by Valentina Bold.

This selection of Lewis Grassic Gibbon's writing brings together old favourites and new material for the first time. There are all his lively contributions to *Scottish Scene* (co-written by Hugh MacDiarmid) including the unforgettable lilt and flow of his short stories 'Smeddum', 'Clay', 'Greendenn', 'Sim' and 'Forsaken'. The anthology ends with the full text of his last novel, *The Speak of the Mearns*, unpublished in his lifetime.

Valentina Bold has also included a collection of poems, 'Songs of Limbo', taken from typescripts in the National Library of Scotland, and a selection of Grassic Gibbon's articles and short fiction, with work done for *The Cornhill Magazine* along with book reviews and essays on Diffusionism, ancient American civilization and selected studies from his book on the lives of explorers, *Nine Against the Unknown*.

A Lewis Grassic Gibbon Anthology provides an indispensable supplement to Canongate's edition of *A Scots Quair*, and it also offers further insight into the wide-ranging interests and the lyrical, historical and political writing of the greatest and best-loved Scottish novelist of the early twentieth century.

'It would be impossible to over-estimate Lewis Grassic Gibbon's importance . . . [his work] permeates the Scottish literary consciousness and colours all subsequent writing of its kind.' David Kerr Cameron

'Gibbon's style is one of the great achievements of [*A Scots Quair*] and should be seen in relation to Scottish forerunners like John Galt as well as in the context of modern innovators such as James Joyce, Gertrude Stein and William Faulkner.' Tom Crawford

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