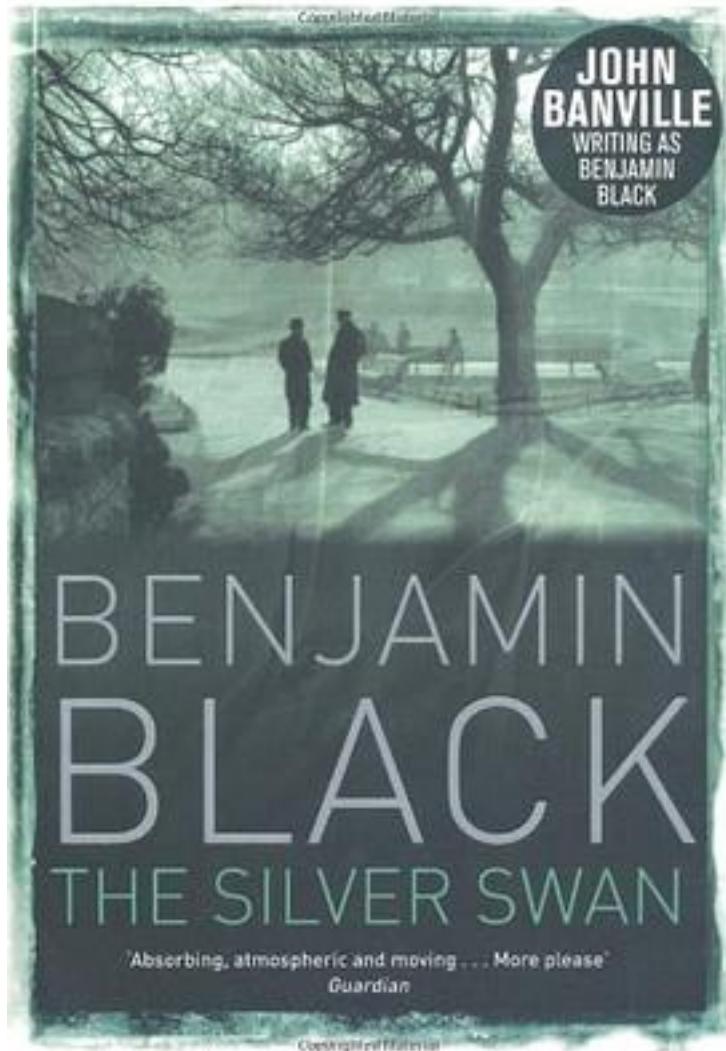


# Silver Swan



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著者:Benjamin Black

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装帧:Paperback

isbn:9780330454087

## From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. In this stunning follow-up to 2007's *Christine Falls*, Black (pseudonym of Booker Prize-winner John Banville) spins a complex tale of murder and deception in 1950s Ireland. Pathologist Garret Quirke, surprised by a visit from a college acquaintance, Billy Hunt, is even more surprised when Billy begs Quirke not to perform an autopsy on his wife, Deirdre, whose naked body was recently retrieved from Dublin Bay. Though everything points to suicide, Quirke knows something's amiss and begins to retrace Deirdre's steps. Black expertly balances Quirke's investigation with chapters detailing Deirdre's past, from her marriage to Billy to her shady business deal with Leslie White, an enigmatic Englishman who knew Deirdre as Laura Swan, the proprietress of their joint venture, a beauty salon called the Silver Swan. As Quirke digs deeper, he discovers a web of lies and blackmail that threatens to envelop even his own estranged daughter, Phoebe. Laconic, stubborn Quirke makes an appealing hero as the pieces of this unsettling crime come together in a shocking conclusion. Author tour.(Mar.)

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## From Bookmarks Magazine

The *Silver Swan* raises two major questions: First, is Black-the-crime-novelist as good as Banville-the-novelist? Second, does *The Silver Swan* live up to expectations raised by *Christine Falls*? Not surprisingly, critics diverge on both questions. A few think that Black's crime novels don't stand up to Banville's best work. "This distracting mediocrity doesn't suit him at all," notes *The Globe and Mail*. Others cite Black as a genre-bending novelist intent on using the noir framework to successfully delve deep inside individuals' psychologies. Either way, most critics agree that *The Silver Swan*, though well-written, is a slightly lesser effort than *Christine Falls* "with too many characters and coincidences, a likeable but uncharismatic protagonist, and a phlegmatic plot. Critics hope that *The Silver Swan* will send readers back to *Christine Falls* or, better yet, back to Banville.

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## 作者介绍:

本杰明·布莱克 (Benjamin Black) 是著名作家约翰·班维尔 (John Banville) 的笔名。班维尔1945年出生于爱尔兰，现居都柏林。班维尔是一位敏锐的评论家，更是一名出色的小说家。2005年，凭《海》获得当代英国小说界最重要的奖项——布克奖 (Booker Prize)；随后，应《纽约时报》之邀，班维尔化身本杰明·布莱克创作“犯罪侦探小说”《堕落的信徒》等，成为当代备受瞩目的犯罪小说作家之一。

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评论

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