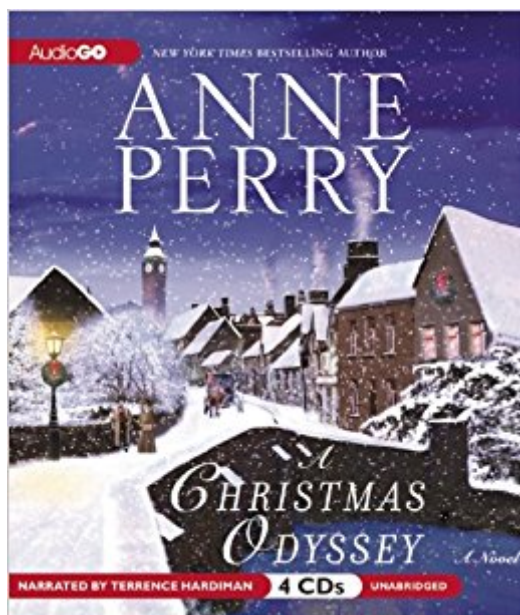


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A Christmas Odyssey (Christmas Novellas Series)



Synopsis

Henry Rathbone is called by an old friend whose son has gone missing just before the Christmas holiday. Now in his early twenties, Lucien has known trouble for some time and has often fallen victim to the vices of drugs, alcohol and women. His father now fears the worst. Their old friend, Squeaky Robinson, volunteers to help as well. Henry agrees and, joined by Crow, a young doctor at the clinic, the pair trawls the pubs, brothels, and opium dens of the West End in search of clues.

Book Information

Series: Christmas

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Customer Reviews

Praise for the Christmas novels of Anne Perry: *A Christmas Promise* "Poignant . . . should be on the Christmas stocking list of anyone who likes a snuffle of nostalgia." *The Washington Times* *A Christmas Grace* "[A] heartwarming, if crime-tinged, complement to the holiday season." *Booklist* *A Christmas Beginning* "Intriguing . . . Perry's use of period detail is, as always, strong and evocative." *The Seattle Times* *A Christmas Secret* "A delightful little book . . . Perry's gift is that she can evoke a sense of place and time while still producing the thrills and chills expected of a modern-day mystery writer." *The Orlando Sentinel* *A Christmas Guest* "[A] satisfying tale." *The Wall Street Journal* --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Anne Perry is the New York Times bestselling author of a number of holiday novels, two acclaimed mystery series set in Victorian England, and a series set during World War I. She has also written

several stand-alone novels and novellas, and her books have been finalists for the Agatha, Edgar, and Macavity awards. Born in London, she now lives in the Scottish highlands.

A Christmas Odyssey is the eighth in Anne Perry's series of Christmas novelettes, and it is a worthy addition to the list. As usual, a peripheral character is the protagonist--in this case Henry Rathbone, retired mathematician and father of Sir Oliver Rathbone. He is assisted by Squeaky Robinson, a reformed criminal who is now the accountant for Hester Monk's clinic, and Crow, a man who is "almost a doctor." They descend into what seems to be the depths of Hell itself searching for Lucien Wentworth, the son of an old and dear friend of Henry's, who has gone into a world of women, drink, drugs, and quite possibly violence. Bessie, a teenager very reminiscent of the Pitts' maid Gracie, joins them. Between Squeaky's & Crow's knowledge of the underworld and Bessie's expert guidance through the mazes of the underground world, they enable Henry to fulfill his quest and learn Lucien's fate. The novel features some very intriguing characters. Sadie, the woman whom Lucien has followed deep into this violent world because of his obsession with her, is extremely beautiful, very alive, and most likely a cocaine addict. Mr. Ash is an odd figure, but Crow seems to be able to diagnose his physical condition. And there is the mysterious Mr. Shadwell, the "Shadow Man," who pulls the strings and controls Sadie. He will stop at nothing to hold onto his power. One cannot help but like, admire, and respect Henry. Squeaky is an interesting character who comes to appreciate his newfound respectability when it seems he may lose it along with his life. I hope to see Crow again. It would have been nice to know Bessie's fate after the book ended. I know I would have hoped that Squeaky would rescue her and that Hester would find some work, and possibly some education, for this very bright, very endearing young woman. I can only hope.

I read this book quite awhile ago and can't get into the story line because I read so many books, but I totally love Anne Perry books and think I have every one of them if not on the shelf, which most of them are - then on my kindle. Her writing is always great and getting into a book of hers is always like Christmas. Love this author.

A wonderful read for any time of year, but in the case of Perry's Christmas novels, the length is perfect for fitting in between seasonal commitments. The dark side of Victorian society is depicted with wrenching clarity and Perry's insight into the strengths and weaknesses of her characters is masterly, as usual. The idea of weaving plots around characters familiar from other novels, but not as principals is ingenious.

Excellent condition book. I had a hard time finding this book and when I found this one described as in very good condition I bought it. I was very pleased, a great read...just like all the other books by Anne Perry.

Anne Perry comes up a winner again in this addition to her Victorian Christmas series. I love how she takes peripheral characters from her other series (Monk and Pitt) to create these little gems. This is not one of the very best of the series, but still shines. I look forward each year to the next installment, all so different.

I liked visiting old friends and learning more about them. It doesn't hurt to have a good story also.

I liked the book but was expecting more of a Christmas story. It takes place at Christmastime, but that is as Christmassy as it gets.

Anne Perry writes great novels, and her Christmas ones are especially enjoyable. I now have all of them in my collection.

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