



## Anne Perry's Christmas Vigil: A Christmas Promise / A Christmas Odyssey

*Anne Perry*

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**Anne Perry's Christmas Vigil: A Christmas Promise / A Christmas Odyssey** Anne Perry  
**IN THESE TWO HOLIDAY MYSTERIES SET IN VICTORIAN LONDON, CHRISTMAS COMES WITH A HELPING OF MAGIC AND MURDER.**

## A CHRISTMAS PROMISE

Three days before Christmas, in London's East End, thirteen-year-old Gracie Phipps encounters eight-year-old Minnie Maude Mudway, freezing and alone. Only the day before, someone murdered Minnie Maude's Uncle Alf and made off with his rag-and-bones cart—as well as with Charlie, the beloved donkey who pulled it. Now, Grace and Minnie Maude set off to rescue Charlie. But the path that Uncle Alf had taken to his death was not his regular route, and in his cart, the children are told, was a dazzling golden casket that could very well be a Pandora's box of evil or a shining prize of hope.

## A CHRISTMAS ODYSSEY

Ten days before Christmas, James Wentworth feels not joy but grief. His reckless son, Lucien, has been lured into a world of drugs and wild passion. Wentworth's only hope, he believes, is his old friend Henry Rathbone, who volunteers to search for the wayward young man with the help of two new companions—Squeaky Robinson, a reformed brothel-keeper, and Crow, a mysterious slum doctor. As this odd trio gathers clues about Lucien's disappearance on London's dark streets, they find themselves on a mission whose outcome they cannot begin to guess.

*From the Trade Paperback edition.*

## Anne Perry's Christmas Vigil: A Christmas Promise / A Christmas Odyssey Details

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# **From Reader Review Anne Perry's Christmas Vigil: A Christmas Promise / A Christmas Odyssey for online ebook**

## **Hapzydeco says**

Anne Perry's description of the hard life in Victorian England coupled with universal expectations for Christmas season makes these holiday mysteries a worthwhile read.

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## **Cindy says**

Had already read the first story, A Christmas Promise, but wanted to read the second, A Christmas Odyssey.

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## **Coral White says**

### **Christmas sentiments**

This is a fun read filled with the spirit of Christmas. Because of some of the content it should be read by adults

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## **D Carr says**

I dont recall ever reading anything by this author but wanted to explore some Christmas related books. These were excellent, redemptive and possessed good characters!

No regrets here! I'll be reading more of her work! (DONE 12/19/15)

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## **Manju says**

liked the way gracie and minnie's story was told. didn't like the second one

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## **Maddy says**

I'm not going to lie, I only read the first story of this 2 story set -- I couldn't get into the 2nd one. The first story was good but the ending a little abrupt.

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## Mitch Cardella Trudel Du Mond says

good

**eyes.2c says**

...once more Perry's Christmas wisdom shines!

in *A Christmas Promise*, a lost donkey points the way to absolution.

in A Christmas Odyssey:

again we meet Squeaky Robinson in a Christmas story. How fitting a character for the season of change, the heralding of hope and peace.

Squeaky is helping Oliver Rathbone's father Henry find the son of a friend. Squeaky calls on Crow for help.

Their search takes them into the bowels of London, through the nastiest of brothels and opium dens. They find Lucien Wentworth. Murder has been committed. The threat of the mysterious Shadwell or Shadow Man hangs over them all.

And Squeaky has these wonderful moments of humanity that shine through his tattered implacable exterior. He is a truly magnificent character in the Hester Monk series. I love him. His inner thoughts are gems. He is quite aghast and flummoxed when he realizes that.

'since [he] had become respectable he had gone soft. Was this age catching up with him? Or Cowardice? He had always been careful, all his life; to do otherwise would have been stupid. but he was never a coward! All his values had slithered around into the wrong place! Everything was out of control!' [p.209]

Poor Squeaky. Meeting Hester Monk has truly started him down a very different path. Although he'd flee in terror at the thought, he is learning about compassion, friendship and how to feel.

As Squeaky just a little later explosively complains to us, 'Being respectable was a pain, and hard work!' [p.210]

Perry wrote at the end, 'Dedicated to all those who looked upward'

I love it.

## Rosemary says

Hmmmm. I'm feeling rather cheated.

This year's entry into Anne Perry's Christmas mysteries series is in fact 1 short novella from 2009 I hadn't read, and a longer one *that I read last year!*

Grrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr. I really would rather they'd skipped a year than recycled without being clear about it. I specifically saved this book to enjoy now, and find myself rather grumpy. Not the way I wanted to end the year.

**Briansmom says**

Really enjoyed these two mysteries in one by Anne Perry. Made me very interested in her Monk series; thought I am reading her series on Charlotte and Thomas Pitt, haven't read the Monk series but I will begin to look for these. Love these Dickensian Christmas stories!

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**Janie R. says**

I had a really hard time getting into this 2 stories.

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**Shawna Hansen says**

Loved both stories, but "A Christmas Odyssey" and the journey into the bowels of hell (London underground) was, for me, a knockout. Loved the ending to "A Christmas Promise" and glad Charlie to see how things went with Charlie.

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**Pam says**

Her Christmas stories are short, sometimes a little too somber or depressing, but I enjoy reading about the minor characters from her other series.

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**bert-bobbi says**

just not my style of writing ...

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