



A Christmas Odyssey

Anne Perry

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In her beloved Christmas novels, Anne Perry brings readers both the authentic Victorian charm and the nail-biting suspense that have made her Thomas Pitt and William Monk tales bestsellers for a generation. Though rife with intrigue, these special seasonal stories beam with the blessed light of the holiday.

Ten days before Christmas, as an icy wind cuts through London, wealthy James Wentworth feels not joy but grief. His reckless son, Lucien, has been lured into a deadly world of drugs and wild passion. Wentworth's only hope, he believes, is his old friend Henry Rathbone, who volunteers to search for the prodigal son.

Rathbone knows nothing of the sensation-obsessed underworld where Lucien now dwells, but he acquires two unexpected new companions who do: Squeaky Robinson, a reformed brothel-keeper who now works in Hester Monk's medical clinic, and Crow, a mysterious slum doctor who turns no one away, however undeserving.

Slowly this odd trio gathers clues--about Lucien's mad infatuation with a beautiful woman named Sadie, and about Shadwell, the ruthless man who owns her and, like the Devil, never lets go of one of his own.

Rathbone, Squeaky, and Crow even welcome into their little band a most valuable recruit: young Bessie, a teenager whose courage holds fast even in the depths of the slum. And so they set forth on their odyssey into London's dark streets, on a mission whose outcome they cannot begin to guess.

Anne Perry's novels are supreme masterpieces of suspense, and "A Christmas Odyssey" ranks with the very best. The days leading up to Christmas may prove to be fraught with challenges, but 'tis the season for comfort and joy and miracles.

A Christmas Odyssey Details

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From Reader Review A Christmas Odyssey for online ebook

Bobbie says

I ran across this book at the library in a Christmas display and checked it out on impulse. It was certainly not what I expected in a Christmas book, when I want to read something uplifting. This was my first Anne Perry book and I was disappointed. I wish I had started with a different one by her as I have heard really good things about her books. I do intend to try another because she writes novels set in Victorian times in London and my favorites are historical novels set in England, Scotland and Ireland.

Irina says

Not a type of story I would describe as Christmassy. Nor something I'd like to read over festive season.

Diane says

Love Anne Perry--her detailed descriptions from facial expression to mannerisms to dress are incredible. The book was interesting because it really delved into the darker side of life.

Cindy says

Not my favorite in series but "all's well that ends well" ... hope the series goes on. Well narrated and recommended.

Nancy Cook-senn says

Henry Rathbone has to rescue a friend's son from a life of degradation, with the help of a reformed pimp and a well-meaning unlicensed doctor.

Fred says

Other years were better in this series.

Laura says

A gift from dear friend Bettie which just arrived safely home. THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!

This is my first book on the series "Christmas stories" and I really liked it.

This is the story of James Wentworth's search for his disappeared son. He asks for the help of Sir Henry Rathbone who was also helped by Squeaky Robinson and Doctor Crow. Their search delves into the underworld of drugs and prostitution in order to rescue Lucien.

Brent Soderstrum says

This is the 8th book from Perry's Christmas Stories series-the series that really has nothing to do with Christmas with the exception of the time the story takes place.

A very dark Christmas season is upon you in reading this selection from Perry. We are in the 1800's in London ten days before Christmas when James Wentworth comes to his old friend Henry Rathbone and asks him to find his son, Lucien, who has turned to the dark side of London's underbelly. Drugs, drink and prostitutes abound. Henry gets help from Squeaky Robinson and Dr. Crow (although he isn't really a doctor). The pickup and young girl named Bessie after they begin. Murder and many disgusting things are seen by the search party. A showdown presents itself at the end to save the story. Before that the story basically describes various gross things as the search continues for Lucien.

Not a joyous read for the holidays.

Kathy Albright says

Very tedious read. Twist on the Prodigal Son.

Janet says

I enjoy reading Anne Perry and was not disappointed in this novel dealing with the darker side of Victorian England. James Wentworth is not feeling the Christmas joy this year. His son, Lucien, has been lured into the world of drugs and sex. He asks his friend, Henry Rathbone, to help him locate his son. With the help of Squeaky Robinson, a reformed brothel keeper and Crow, a mysterious slum doctor, he finds himself in a London that he knows nothing about dealing with people has sunk so low that they don't want to get out of the gutter.

Lisa says

I checked this book out before Christmas thinking that it was a nice little story of Christmas and redemption in Victorian England. Some of that is true, but it is a very dark tale a wayward son that has been lured into a world of drugs, murder, and wild passion. Most of the story centers on the three men that are trying to track down the prodigal son.

In fairness, this is not the type of book I enjoy reading.

Caroline says

Longer than it needed to be - liked the idea of a story of Christmas redemption, but not enough of that side of it for my taste

Pamela Mingle says

Many years ago, I was an avid reader of Anne Perry's Victorian mysteries. I drifted away, for some reason and never returned. Unbeknownst to me, she had written a number of Christmas mysteries. One caught my eye at the library recently, so I thought I'd give it a try.

Sorry to say, it just didn't work for me. It involved the rescue of a young man from the hellholes of debauchery in London. Initially, three men are involved in the rescue, but they pick up a young girl along the way. After they found Lucien (the young man in question) it simply did not make sense to me that they would linger in this environment and attempt to exonerate him from having committed a murder (there's no body and no real evidence). Wouldn't sensible people remove him, and then try to solve the mystery? It's foggy in London during the story, and that was how I felt about the plot.

Amy Yingling says

This one was pretty dark for a Christmas story of any kind, but it did include some Christmas here and there. I found it entertaining, but it didn't hold me like A Christmas Guest (#3 in this series) did.

Nancy Ellis says

Another delightful entry in this Christmas series! Henry Rathbone searches for his friend's missing son in the sinister depths of underworld London. Thoroughly enjoyable as always!
