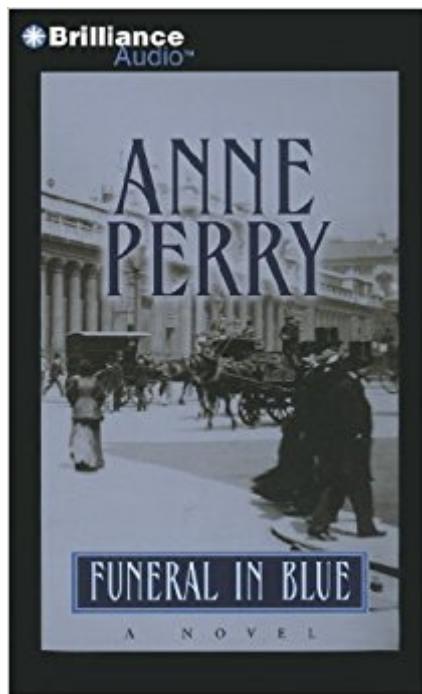


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# Funeral In Blue (William Monk Series)



## Synopsis

The headlines were gruesome: two beautiful women found strangled in the studio of a well-known London artist. To investigator William Monk and his wife Hester, the murders are a nightmare. One of the victims is an obscure artist's model. The other is the wife of Hester's cherished colleague, distinguished surgeon Dr. Kristian Beck, a Viennese emigre who swiftly becomes the principal suspect. With an intensity born of desperation, Hester, Monk, and their dear friend Lady Callandra Daviot, who cannot hide her deep love for the accused, seek evidence that will save Kristian from the hangman - hoping to penetrate not only the mystery of Elissa Beck's death... but the riddle of her life.

## Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #2,821,426 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #13 in Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > ( P ) > Perry, Anne #4995 in Books > Books on CD > Mystery & Thrillers #7665 in Books > Literature & Fiction > British & Irish > Historical

## Customer Reviews

From the enormously popular and hard-working Perry comes her 11th Victorian mystery featuring Hester and William Monk, to the certain delight of her faithful admirers. In the studio of a London artist, two women have been murdered, one of them the wife of Dr. Kristian Beck, a physician from Vienna with whom Hester's dear friend, Lady Callandra, is secretly in love. When Beck is charged with the murder, Callandra enlists the aid of Hester and William. Neither of the Monks fits tidily into polite society. William, a former policeman now working as a private enquiry agent, has no memory of his life before a serious injury five years ago; it may partly explain his cantankerous personality. Hester, a nurse who served under Florence Nightingale in the Crimean War, is outspoken,

courageous, passionate, independent and stubborn not exactly your typical subservient Victorian gentlewoman. Indeed, a common theme for Perry is spotlighting the social ills of 19th-century England, particularly the treatment accorded to women. Here she layers a new evil into the plot: anti-Semitism, widely accepted then and a haunting precursor of ugliness to come. The author excels at re-creating the ambience of 1860s London streets, but stumbles in plot cohesion, succumbing at the last moment to out-of-left-field syndrome. Throughout, the key characters engage in a great deal of inner reflection made ponderous by wordiness and repetition. No doubt Perry's myriad fans won't care a whit. (Oct. 2)Forecast: The sample chapter included in the mass market edition of *Slaves of Obsession*, featuring Thomas and Charlotte Pitt from Perry's other Victorian series, will help fuel this novel's surefire sales. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Adult/High School-William Monk and his wife Hester become involved in a murder investigation when their friend Lady Callandra Daviot asks them to help prove the innocence of her distinguished colleague, whose wife was one of the victims. The action moves from London to Vienna and deals with such issues as anti-Semitism and religious and intellectual freedom. The details of Victorian London are essential to the atmosphere of the book and help advance the story as the two search for the killer. Perry is so masterful at setting the scene that readers can picture the fog rolling in along the river, smell the stench that rises from the gutters, and hear the hooves of the horses as they plod along the cobblestone streets. A secondary plot concerns the inner turmoil that Monk experiences as he joins forces with Runcorn, commander of the Totem Court Road police station and an old adversary. When Monk travels to Vienna to interview people who knew Kristian Beck and his wife, he finds treachery, deceit, and long-buried family secrets. Will the devastating information that Monk uncovers be enough to save Beck's life? This is the issue that heightens the suspense throughout his murder trial. Teens who enjoy Victorian murder mysteries with lots of atmosphere will have no problem delving into this one. Patricia White-Williams, Kings Park Library, Fairfax County, VA Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I tried to guess the outcome of this one as I read. I was wrong! Not even close. Perry comes up with surprising yet plausible endings that satisfy and entertain. I also like the look into England and medical practices of that era as well as the social structure. I see why heading to America was so popular. I find myself urging some of the characters to head out across the ocean and live how you

want to!!! There wasn't the abundance of "typos" in this one as earlier ones in the series, though typos can be so entertaining. My favorite was "as she watched the feces of the jury", which was in the 3-book set of Wm Monk mysteries I bought for my Kindle.

When we look back at the end of our life, will we regret the decisions we have made? Did the journey become different than it could have been either for better or worse because of the choices we made? The book led me to look more closely at small choices of my life for they can ultimately influence the future decisions and thus the path my life can take. For each path may have a very different end point. I need to keep in mind the long term goals, and not just the immediacy of the moment.

I've read so many of Perry's books and have loved them all. This one was such a disappointment. Felt as if the author wasn't sure where she was going with this and just wrapped it up with a very poor ending

Better than expected. Has many of the main characters we are used to. Took until the end to realize the killer. It was just different enough to break the monotony after reading so many of them in order.

I am reading all the Anne Perry William Monk series books, and in order. Really wonderful mysteries and I like it that I know the characters from previous books and can get right into the story. Anne Perry does a wonderful job both in this series and the Thomas Pitt mystery series. I haven't read her other works yet, but will get there.

This story brings about the best in storytelling by Anne Perry. This story rates five stars and brings in all of the characters we have come to love, letting us get to know and understand them more.

I have read many of her books from the William Monk series, which take place from the late 1850s to the late 1860s Victorian era. I have enjoyed them each time. They are interesting, have enough information to keep the story moving along, and are easy reads. I will be buying more from this series as well as her Charlotte and Thomas Pitt series as well, which take place in the late 1880s and into the 1890s Victorian London era.

Anne Perry takes one back to the passions, class prejudices and poverty of the 19th century. All of

this plus engaging and fascinating characters plus a good mystery. Her writings is beautiful and memorable I am binging on reading all the William Monk series and enjoyi ga lot of new friends in the series.

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