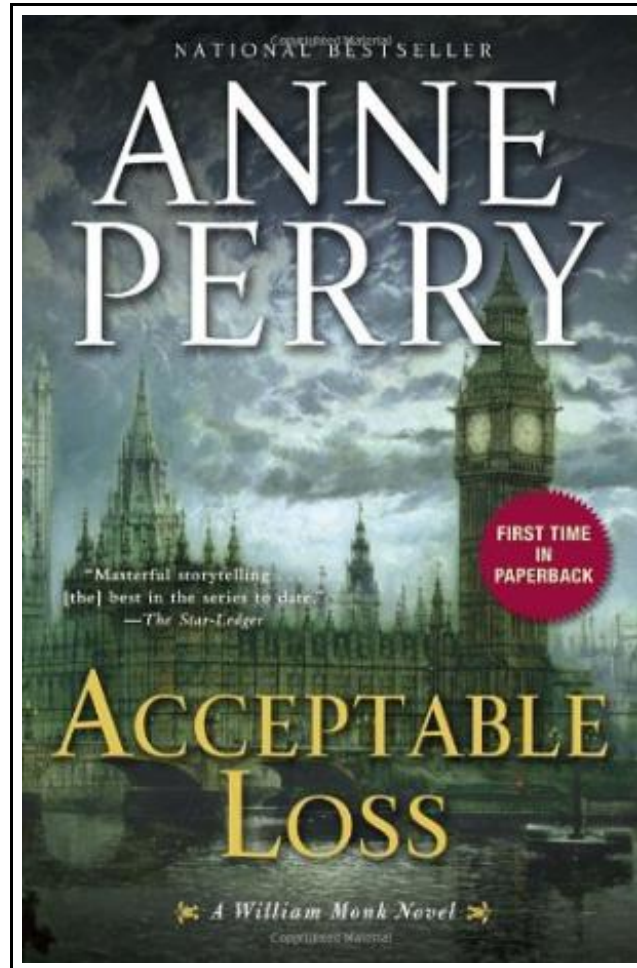


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Ballantine Books, New York, NY, 2012. Trade Paperback. Book Condition: New. No Jacket. John Macvicar Anderson (illustrator). There are no obvious defects in this book. The book is stored in a Mylar bag. " When the body of a small-time crook named Mickey Parfitt washes up on the tide, no one grieves; far from it. But William Monk, commander of the River Police, is puzzled by the expensive silk cravat used to strangle Parfitt. How did this elegant scarf--whose original owner was obviously a man of substance--end up imbedded in the neck of a wharf rat who richly deserved his sordid end? Dockside informers lead Monk to what may be a partial answer--a floating palace of corruption on the Thames managed by Parfitt, where a captive band of half-starved boys are forced to perform vile acts for men willing to pay a high price for midnight pleasures. Although Monk and his fearless wife, Hester, would prefer to pin a medal on Parfitt's killer, duty leads them in another direction--to an unresolved crime from the past, to blackmail and more murder, and to a deadly confrontation with some of the empire's most respected men. To a superlative degree, *Acceptable Loss* provides colorful characters, a memorable portrait of waterfront life, and a story that achieves its most thrilling moments in a transfixed London courtroom, where Monk faces his old friend Oliver Rathbone in a trial of nearly unbearable tension--in sum, every delectable drop of the rich pleasure that readers expect from an Anne Perry novel. From the Hardcover edition. Synopsis: Anne "On a London riverbank, when the body of small-time crook Mickey Parfitt washes up with the tide, no one grieves. But William Monk, commander of the River Police, is puzzled by the murder weapon: an elegant scarf whose original owner was obviously...

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