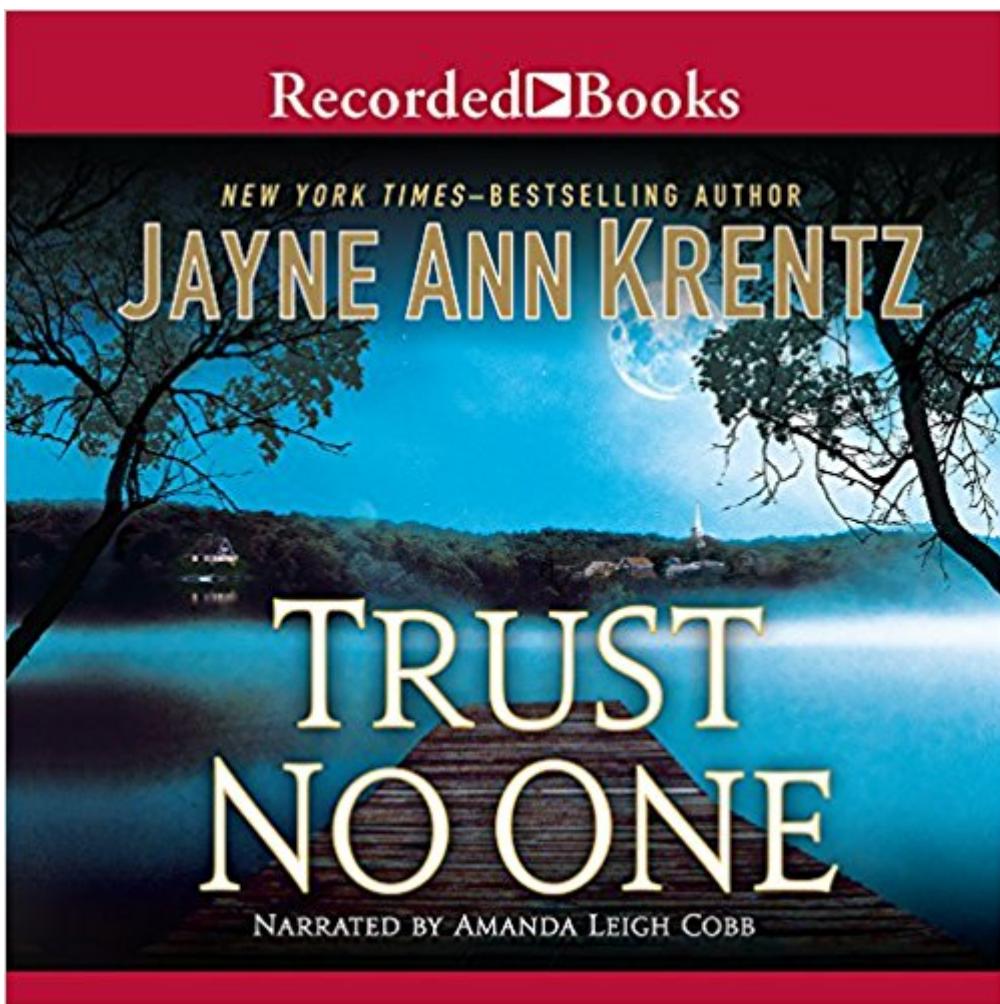


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Trust No One



Synopsis

Following up on the incredible success of *River Road*, New York Times-bestselling author Jayne Ann Krentz delivers another masterpiece of romantic suspense. It's no coincidence when Grace Elland finds a vodka bottle next to the lifeless body of her boss, motivational speaker Sprague Witherspoon. The bottle is a terrifying-and deliberate-reminder of the horrors of her past. Grace retreats to her hometown to regroup and tries to put everything she's learned about positive thinking into practice-a process that is seriously challenged on the world's worst blind date. Awkward doesn't begin to describe her evening with venture-capitalist Julius Arkwright. She has nothing in common with a man who lives to make money, but the intense former Marine does have some skills that Grace can use-and he's the perfect man to help her when it becomes clear she is being stalked. As Witherspoon's financial empire continues to crumble around them, taking a deadly toll, Julius will help Grace step into her past to uncover a devious plan to destroy not only Grace, but everyone around her.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Praise for *Trust No One*: "Krentz never disappoints, but this title shines with authentic characters, an unusual setting in the motivational business world, and a creative arc that ratchets up sexual and psychological tensions. An intriguing, textured mystery that perfectly layers humor, suspense and romance." Kirkus, starred review "Clever plotting, complex pacing, and a compelling cast of characters propel *Trust No One* to its dynamite finish. Factor Krentz's deliciously dry sense of wit into the story and you have another

flawlessly executed novel of romantic suspense from one of the genre's most reliable literary stars. •Booklist, starred review "The final twists and turns of the plot are among Krentz's best, laced with a humor that augurs well for a happy future for the protagonists." •Seattle Times "A great way to begin the New Year is by indulging in a hot new romantic suspense offering by the always amazing Krentz." Thanks to consistent excellence, no matter the genre, a Krentz book never disappoints! •RT Book Reviews "Two appealing protagonists, a mysterious enemy, and a twisty plot provide all the necessary ingredients for a satisfying story." •Publishers Weekly "Praise for River Road: "Best-selling Krentz returns to her classic romantic-suspense roots with a spine-tingling tale of a small town harboring deadly secrets. With its irresistible mix of scintillating humor, stunning suspense, and sexy romance, River Road is a complete page-turner." •Booklist "Wonderfully appealing protagonists, a clever, skillfully crafted plot, soul-stirring sensuality, and delicious flashes of humor." •Library Journal (starred review) "An intricate and engrossing plot. Another Krentz winner." •Kirkus Reviews "The excitement of a thriller with the sweetness of new passion." •Publishers Weekly --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Jayne Ann Krentz is the author of fifty New York Times bestsellers. She has written contemporary romantic suspense novels under that name, as well as futuristic and historical romance novels under the pseudonyms Jayne Castle and Amanda Quick, respectively. Krentz lives in Seattle. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

"Trust no one. Everyone has a hidden agenda." **THE STORY:** Grace Elland is getting emails from her dead boss. Grace believes in a positive outlook that is threatened when she discovers her motivational speaker boss murdered. The vodka bottle next to his body thrusts her into memories of when she had to kill to escape another murderer. Grace returns to her mother's home in order to figure out what she will do with her life. On a horrible blind date, she meets Julius Arkwright a successful venture capitalist who is so successful that he is bored with making money. Although their date went poorly, the attraction between them is immediate. When Grace is in danger from a stalker, Julius comes to her aid. As the past and the present dangers threaten them, Grace and Julius try to figure out what their relationship will be. **OPINION:** This novel is a book of definite opposites. The interactions between Grace and Julius are cute because while Grace is a positive person who thinks up witty aphorisms, Julius has the motto of "trust no one." Their witty banter is a

highlight of the book. This is a fast paced story and the suspense story is the way that the relationship between Grace and Julius are explored. I enjoyed much about this book. The story is one that encourages page turning to find out the outcome and there are many twists and turns that keep the reader guessing. My complaint is that I think there is more suspense story here than romance. There is little conflict between Grace and Julius and thus their characters are not explored enough to make them interesting to me. It is difficult to see why the blind date didn't work out because these two quickly join forces. The characters emotional lives are as much a mystery at the end of the book as the beginning and thus as a reader, I didn't feel a deep connection with them. As a result, this is a book that I thoroughly enjoyed reading once, but probably won't remember in a month.

WORTH MENTIONING: I am a big fan of Jayne Ann Krentz and many of her books are on my all time favorites list. I do, however, prefer romance to suspense so when her books trend toward the suspense end, I tend to be less satisfied with them.

FINAL DECISION: I liked *TRUST NO ONE*. The story was interesting and I enjoyed it, but because the characters and their relationship is not well defined, this is a one time read for me.

CONNECTED BOOKS: *TRUST NO ONE* is a standalone book.

STAR RATING: I give *TRUST NO ONE* 4 stars.

Trust No One goes back to Krentz's straight contemporary romantic suspense roots and has all the charm of her earlier heroines and heroes, without all the dated claptrap of her earlier works. Granted, it is formulaic, so you can definitely kind of pick out the mish mash from earlier works, but as I have said before, this formula works for me. It is a little bit of: *Dawn in Eclipse Bay*, *All Night Long*, *Sweet Fortune*, and *Deep Water*, in my opinion. There are probably novels that would equally apply, but those are the ones that I immediately thought of (and that this book made me immediately want to go back and re-read). Others would probably have other books pop up into their heads. Personally, I think that is part of the charm though, because it makes the reader's connections to the main characters and setting instantaneous, so that it is just so comfortable slipping right into this world. More specifically about this story, Grace Ellend is an eternal optimist, with a spunky way about her. She's a real sweetheart but she is definitely a woman who can handle herself. When she finds her boss murdered, this sets up a chain of events that leads her home. And of course, when you head home, people want to match make. Here she is trying to deal with current events, trying to find a new job, deal with some horrors in her past, and the mystery surrounding right now...so of course her oldest friends are setting her up on a blind date. I laugh, because it is true, no matter what is going on in your life, when you go home to a small town people are almost desperate to marry you off. Which brings us to Julius Arkwright, who might be the most awkward blind date ever,

but at least he isn't boring or useless. He's got his own past shadows, a successful career, and more money than he needs, what he doesn't have is the slightest clue about what he actually wants or needs. He's bored. I really liked them as a couple. They had their own personal angst and issues, but they weren't really angsty about each other. They were just kind of cute and the chemistry was there, but it wasn't as if they needed to save each other, they just bring the balance the other one needs. The suspense part was plenty twisty enough for my tastes with plausible red herrings and a conclusion that made sense. Altogether an enjoyable read, but time will tell whether this one makes it to my re-read stack. 4 Stars

Trust No One is a dependable book, a good entrant in Ms Krentz's modern romance catalog. There is a mystery to be solved, a quirky heroine who is off balance and a hero who cannot resist his better nature. This is a comfy book, it fits nicely. However it is not her best. Satisfactory yes, addictive no. I read this book as I do most of her midlist offerings, in one satisfied gulp. There are other works by Ms Krentz I like better, some I love whole heartedly. I buy her new books faithfully. And I will continue to do so. What this volume lacks is the quirkiness, the passion that runs thru her historical and science fiction and fantasy offerings. Trust No One is a solid contemporary romance. I cannot fault it for that. I had just hoped for a little more.

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