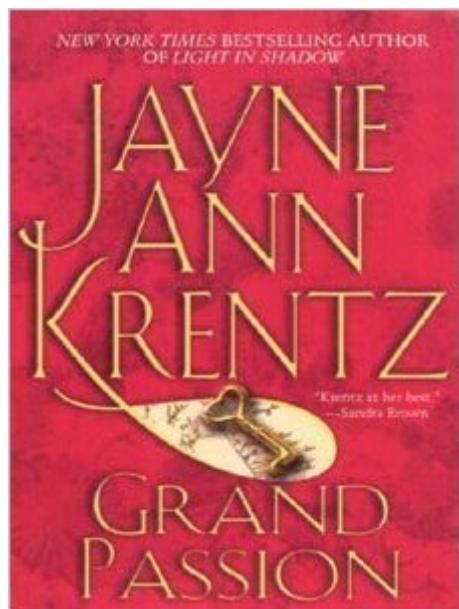


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Grand Passion [UNABRIDGED CD] (Audiobook)



Synopsis

New York Times best-selling author Jayne Ann Krentz has penned the captivating tale of a man's search for the one thing eluding him-a family. Max Fortune heads to the Robin's Nest Inn to retrieve five valuable paintings left in the care of Cleopatra Robbins. Once there he discovers there is much more to life than money, power and fine art. But will Cleo's dark secret threaten not only Max's happiness, but also his very life?

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Customer Reviews

New York Times best-selling author Jayne Ann Krentz has penned the captivating tale of a man's search for the one thing eluding him-a family. Max Fortune heads to the Robin's Nest Inn to retrieve five valuable paintings left in the care of Cleopatra Robbins. Once there he discovers there is much more to life than money, power and fine art. But will Cleo's dark secret threaten not only Max's happiness, but also his very life?

This is my favorite Jayne Ann Krentz novel.*****CAUTION POSSIBLE SPOILERS AHEAD> PLEASE STOP NOW IF YOU DON'T WANT READ ANY SPOILERS>THANKS*****Hero is dark and brooding. He is an orphan that, bottom line, just wants a loving family. He tries to work hard to please those around him and "never screw up" so he can feel accepted. He doesn't know what is love and is not part of his vocabulary. All he has is this intense need to be useful so he can feel like he belongs. He lives in constant fear of being rejected. He is ruthless in wanting to get what he wants...a family. Before he met the heroine he was lost and trying to fit into a family that were to afraid to let him in. They knew that if they gave him any power he would take over and take away something that has been in the family for generations. So the mentor that took him in and he worked

so hard to part of his family hides some paintings in a bed and breakfast. This is not just any bed and breakfast. No this particular place is a haven for lost souls. The owner herself has traumatic history and has managed to collect lost souls along the way to create a cute, misfit of a family. The hero comes into the bed and breakfast to get the paintings but came out with something more valuable: a family. I loved this book. The heroine was really sweet, bubbly and quirky. She was loyal to the hero, once they got together. Hero was head over heels in love with the heroine, but did not even know it. He was desperate to become part of her family and was very persistent in his quest to integrate himself into her life. The more the story progressed the more demanding and overwhelming he read. Heroine took it all in stride and was the balm to his high octane, anxiety peaking, insecure emotions. She is definable someone I would love to meet and becomes friend's with. The love story also has two suspenseful stories that are well written into this loves story. You have someone trying to kill the heroine and the family that never accepted the hero trying to win him back to the company. Everything was well balanced and I never felt that the suspense took away from the story line. The main drive was how the H/h developed in their relationship. The love scenes were hawt. In my opinion, one of the best sexual books Ms. Krentz has written. They are not numerous but they are well written and add to the intensity of the hero's emotions towards the heroine. The hero is heroine's first. She was saving herself for Mr. Right. It was her way of coming with her trauma. She had no regrets and their first love scene was very intense and beautifully written. The humor in this book I subtle but very entertaining. The climax scene was very exciting and I didn't see the bad guy coming until he is revealed at the end. There is nothing I did not love about this novel. One of the best contemporary romance novels I have ever read. It had it all: suspense, action, hero literally saving the heroine, heroine figuratively saving the hero, steaming hawt love scenes, excellent dialogue, wonderful secondary characters, fast paced read, and great chemistry btwn H/h. I can't recommend this read enough. It is a safe read. The love develops well over time btwn the H/h but what a finish!

This was a solid book. The plot kept me interested and I liked both the hero and heroine, Max and Cleo. Max is a rich but lonely business man who desperately wants to belong to a family but doesn't know the first thing about being a part of one. Getting bounced from one foster home to another as a child taught him that possessions are the only things he can be sure won't leave him. When the story begins, art is the only thing that stirs any sense of passion in Max. Cleo is a young and generous innkeeper/writer who has lived through the tragic death of her parents. Orphaned in her twenties, she assembles a new family made up of close-knit friends who all work at her inn. Max's

mentor, Jason was an accepted member of that "family" prior to his death. Cleo and the gang had no idea that Jason was secretly a billionaire hotel mogul when he wasn't at the inn with them. When Jason dies, he says that he's bequeathing Max five valuable paintings and that they're at Cleo's inn. Max jumps to the conclusion that Cleo must have been Jason's mistress and even after he meets the twenty-something Cleo, Max still assumes she must be secretly cold and calculating. Especially when Max asks about the paintings and Cleo claims to have no knowledge of them. The rest of the book, and their relationship, moves quickly. Cleo is basically ripe for the sexual picking and so open-hearted that there's never any doubt how she feels. Even when Max does things that should raise her suspicions, Cleo gives him the benefit of the doubt and believes the best of him. It takes Max much longer to trust the relationship because of his past, and even after he admits to himself how much he needs Cleo, his thoughts are of finding ways to permanently bind her to him so that she'll never leave him. All in all it was a satisfying read. Max was a good hero. He was confident and take-charge without being abusive or overbearing, and by the end he'd learned to open himself up to Cleo and the family. Cleo was a good heroine and the rest of the family members were fun additions. The villain was a little easy to spot and his motivations only got tossed in at the very end like an afterthought but it was sufficient to give a decent finale to the story.

Sammy is my favorite character. And as we find out lucky ducky can swim every where. To learn more read this book.

I've read over eighty books this year in this genre. Can't seem to get enough of them for some reason - maybe because I can lose myself in them and forget about the economy and other depressing facts of life. All I seem to be doing these days is reading and working. There are three books that have stood out above all the others I've read so far in 2009 - "Obsession," by Karen Robards, Sandra Brown's "Envy," and now Ms. Krentz's "Grand Passion." The uniquely interesting characters have woven a fine fabric of yearning and discovery - of love, of family, of home, of imagination, of self. Jayne Ann Krentz expertly accomplishes this through her characterizations - through the clothing they wear, their manner of speech, the way they hold a toilet plunger. I've not quite finished the book, but sit here at my desk waiting for this evening when I can dive back into it and gobble it up, like Daystar's corn muffins. If you're a romantic suspense fan, you've got to read this one. Max and Cleo's blossoming relationship will touch you in places you've never known.

I have never found a novel by JAK that I did not like in some way. Most are 5 Star. This one should

be a 10 if it were possible. I loved Max and Cleo. The romance was hot and sexy, but also warm and comforting. The ducky and little boy were touching and cute. The villain was evil and very unlikeable. I hate it when the author tries to make me understand and care about a villain. I would recommend this book to anyone, but especially to those who have never read a Jayne Ann Krentz novel before.

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