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Dream Eyes (Dark Legacy)



Synopsis

Gwen Frazier is no stranger to ghosts. She sees them in pools of water, windows, mirrors—any reflective surface—at the scene of violent deaths. But finding justice for the dead is something she's not trained to do and a luxury she can't afford. What pays the bills is her work as a psychic counselor who sees auras and interprets dreams. The death of her friend and mentor, Evelyn Ballinger, brings Gwen back to the small town of Wilby, Oregon, and brings back memories she would rather forget. Two years ago, a killer stalked the members of one of Ballinger's research studies—including Gwen. She survived, but two others didn't, though the deaths were attributed to natural causes. The apparent suicide of the killer closed the case, yet Gwen knows otherwise. And now, she's a suspect. Enter Judson Coppersmith—a man of startling power and disturbing energy. Sent by a friend to help Gwen, the psychic investigator arrives in Wilby barely in control of his own talent and his own life, haunted by urgent dreams. His attraction to Gwen is primal, but there are secrets he must keep to protect himself from surrendering to her completely. As their investigation into deaths past and present draws them ever closer to danger, Gwen finds herself going too far—into dreamscapes, into decades of deception, and into the fires of a desire too strong to resist.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review Gwen Frazier knows Evelyn Ballinger was murdered because Evelyn told Gwen so herself. Unfortunately, most police departments do not consider ghosts to be credible witnesses.

In fact, the police chief of Wilby, Oregon, seems more convinced that Gwen has something to do with Evelyn's death, especially since Gwen was around several years earlier, when two members of a paranormal research study group organized by Evelyn were murdered. All of which means that if Gwen is going to bring Evelyn's killer to justice, she is going to need help from someone who specializes in paranormal investigative work. In other words, someone exactly like Judson Coppersmith. Writing with her signature sharp wit, Krentz (Copper Beach, 2012) flawlessly juggles a richly imaginative, paranormal-tinged plot fueled by an abundance of high-adrenaline danger and an engaging pair of protagonists whose combustible sexual chemistry threatens to permanently singe readers' fingers. The end result is another perfect fusion of suspense and romance from an author at the top of her game. --John Charles --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"[Krentz] is on a roll." • The Seattle Times "The master storyteller once again creates authentic, well-drawn characters, a quick-paced, engrossing plot . . . a little bit of everything, all wrapped up in wonderful." • Kirkus, starred review "With her signature sharp wit, Krentz flawlessly juggles a richly imaginative, paranormal-tinged plot . . . and an engaging pair of protagonists whose combustible sexual chemistry threatens to permanently singe readers' fingers. The end result is another perfect fusion of suspense and romance from an author at the top of her game." • Booklist, starred review "With walk-off-the-page characters, crackling sexual tension, swift pacing, and the author's trademark sassy humor, this wonderfully inventive high-stakes adventure will whet fans' appetites for more." • Library Journal --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

It's official. My days as a JAK fan have come to an end. Her writing has become so formulaic that it's beginning to sound as though it's written BY a computer, not just ON a computer. I finished the book, but it took me weeks to read it. Nothing compelled me turn the page - dialogue was flat, the situation was so complicated that I couldn't recall from one page to the next what was going on and who the bad guys were or might be, and by the time I got near ending #2, I didn't even remember who the Bad Guy for THAT ending was in the story. I mean, c'mon... there are 'red herrings', and then there are dead herrings which just stink when you finally discover them at the bottom of the trash bin. And, as at least one other reviewer mentioned, the ending just dragged ON and ON and ON and ON... By the time I read the last actual page, I could barely recall what the point of the book was. SO BORING! (Good sleep aid, though!)

I liked the book. Overall, it was a snappy and charming story. The best book JAK has put out in a while and her Dark Legacy series is definitely looking up. However, I'll be completely upfront- there are some flaws and some readers may be disappointed. For me, though, I thought the positives far outweighed the negatives. My impression of this book is that it had a really pleasant sense of JAK charm and nostalgia. It isn't one of her very best books (which actually isn't an insult because she has written some really awesome books) but it was enjoyable and worth the money I paid.

Sidenote: One of my recent criticisms of JAK's books has been the repeated recycling of material and plot points that I thought was done without much of thought and that recycling overwhelmed a basically weak or re-hashed story. I'll warn like minded readers- there is a lot of recycling in this book. HOWEVER, I think this book shows how recycling of material can be done well. If you want a completely original and innovative book- don't read JAK. She sticks to familiar territories and writes a lot of books in the same universe so a lot of elements do get shared. But, if you read and like JAK, this isn't necessarily a problem. For me, I want a good story that at least tries to be original and well-crafted. Here, JAK has taken several familiar plot points and elements but has finessed them- they are not the whole of this story. They are mostly minor points and they do not overwhelm the central story of this book. A story that I liked and enjoyed. Also, I enjoyed some of her recycling because it wasn't actually central to the plot- they were like little JAK presents peppered throughout the story for her long-time fans (the mirror engine, the cult, the geode- it wasn't all that relevant to the central story so their presence was just a little fun.) My biggest compliment goes to the central mystery of this book- it was exceedingly well-crafted (for a JAK book) with several layers and offshoots that actually gelled together nicely. I'll try not to spoil anything but the book revolves around the murder of the heroine's friend. And that is connected to mysterious doings concerning the heroine two years before. Which is connected to... and so on. The investigation into the mystery was decently paced and the clues were handled fairly well for a psychic mystery. I appreciated that the psychic's had limits on their abilities and their abilities did not just expand to cover whatever the plot needed. The points of the mystery were actually well plotted and the author presented a reasonable investigation with leads and issues. The hero and heroine were brought to together in a reasonable manner- two degrees of separation between friends/family. The hero's back-story mystery was pretty minor and mostly irrelevant to the central story (which I like because you just shouldn't tie every thing together just because you can!) His back-story was used more as a vehicle to gauge the hero's growing emotional attachment to the heroine- the more of his back-story he gave to the heroine, the more he trusted her and respected her. The mystery neatly roped in one of

the best secondary character's in this book in a believable side story (which seemed to have some nice fore-shadowing for the next book, perhaps?) And, then all the pieces started to fit together and there was more than one actual surprise at the end of the book that I didn't see coming. (I will say that some parts of the mystery were easy to solve- this isn't a hard book.) I thought the heroine was a real plus. She wasn't plucky so much as she just came off as pretty mature and had a lot of self-possession. I liked her a lot because she was just so grown-up. She was scared but never mindlessly scared. She never defied the hero just because he told her what to do. She admitted to vulnerability without it being about her being insecure or whiny. She wasn't perfect. It was like one of those JAK-trademarked plucky, independent, loud-mouthed heroines at age 40 or so. She had mellowed and didn't have to prove so much to anyone. And, she had an interesting back-story that, I hope, foreshadows where this series will head next. The hero was fine. Truly. Maybe I'm overloaded on Alpha males but this guy also came off as pretty mature. While he had the worst pick-up line I can ever recall in a book, he wasn't some growly alpha dude who is forever thinking about how possessive he is of the heroine. His most remarkable moment is when he took his father's suggestion about showing a woman you admire and respect their abilities and talents. That was nicely and neatly done. For JAK's fans- if you, like me, got tired of all that Arcane romance stuff- then this book is worth a shot. JAK actually builds the romance rather than just having the leads' auras resonating = true love. They are obviously attracted to each other but neither is all that inclined to start a relationship. The romance is just fine. Again, it is not her very best, or hottest, or most charming (but, then, she has written an awful lot of awesome romances.) But, it was fine and was not a flaw for me. I was really pleased with the return of JAK's trademark offbeat secondary characters! They are one of the best perk of her books. Here, Gwen and Abby's friend Nick is showcased- in all his suspicious, sneaky, insecure cat burglar glory. Please, please, please give us more Nick in the next book? I liked the heckling ghosts. I liked Nicole the deranged florist. I liked the hippie wind chime witch. I liked Thor the reality t.v. producer. I liked how everyone just despised the cat. They don't need to have a particularly big role so long as each secondary contributes something positive to the story's progression and they are memorable. And, here they all did. It was fun. Overall, I think her readers will enjoy this book. Yes, it is nothing new or earth-shattering. But, I thought it was a really nice entry to my JAK collection. I genuinely liked it and was totally and pleasantly surprised by all my JAK nostalgia. I'm going to re-read Copper Beach. When I was reading it, I was constantly thinking about the story, itself, rather than thinking about all the other books she has written. She really did a great job on this book.

Enjoyed this book as all of Jayne's physic series. She grabs you in the first chapter and keeps you turning pages. Sometimes I can figure out the murderer and so crimes there's a twist. She keeps you guessing until the end. Usually in these series she does trilogies. You meet some interesting characters in this book with unusual talents. A great read!

I don't understand why some of JAK's books are so good - humorous and gripping, with attractive characters and witty dialogue - and why some of them are so poor. Dream Eyes was one of the worst of hers that I've read, with one-dimensional characters, an over-abundance of quasi-technical detail and very little humour. I'm sorry to say this, because this author has given me many hours of enjoyment, but if the next JAK book is equally disappointing I'm going to stop buying them.

I chose this book because it was Jayne Ann Krentz. I read whatever name she writes under. This one had hunky hero, smart, overly brave heroine, mystery, humor, and some hot sex. The ending is a surprise. Highly recommend.

I really enjoyed the characters in this one and the whole story. It helped that I read "Copper Beach" before I read this, twice actually. My only disappointment is that she hasn't written Book 3 yet.

Great like all her books. What about Sam's sister. No book for her? And what about Nick's story? These two books are incomplete. We need the other histories the sister and the gay brother do not count? What a shame.

This was a very good follow on to Copper Beach. I'm just waiting for Emma and Gideon to find one another. Love the character growth and humor. The humor is probably one of the major reasons I have always loved these books.

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