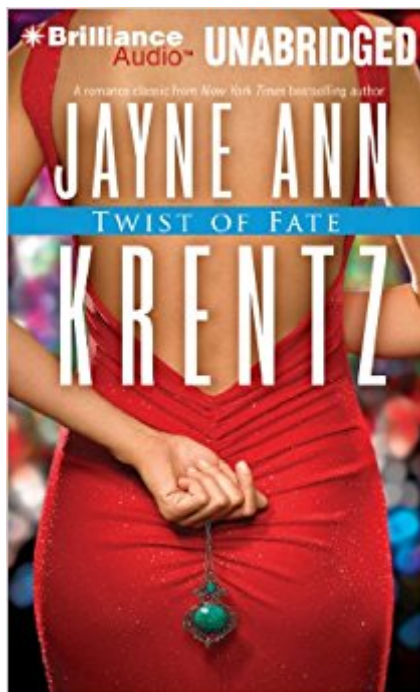


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# Twist Of Fate



## Synopsis

Cloistered as a faculty member at a small college, beautiful Hannah Jessett can almost forget her family heritage. Few know she's the niece of Elizabeth Nord, the legendary anthropologist who stunned the world with her revolutionary work — until her aunt dies, leaving Hannah in sole possession of her priceless unpublished journals. But Hannah has other matters to contend with. Her brother's company is about to be destroyed by Gideon Cage, a wealthy entrepreneur with a notorious reputation in the boardroom... and the bedroom. When she confronts Gideon, all she sees is a powerful man with a fast smile and soft eyes. Yet before she can catch her breath and really understand this puzzle of a man, her whole world is suddenly threatened: her brother, her aunt's legacy, her heart — and her life!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Krentz's storytelling shines with authenticity and dramatic intensity." -- Publishers Weekly --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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. She lives in Seattle.

Although she is still recuperating from a serious auto injury, college guidance counselor Hannah Jessett travels to Las Vegas to try to save her brother's company from businessman Gideon Cage.

Cage has been at the top of his game for years and doesn't have much time or use for leisure and frivolity, but he periodically goes to Las Vegas for a few days of gambling to unwind. Hannah offers Cage the opportunity to decide the fate of her brother's company on the draw of the cards. If he wins, she hands over her stocks, easing his way to a takeover. If she wins, he backs off entirely. Hannah thinks she has a trick up her sleeve. What she doesn't know is that Cage does, too, and he's playing a different game altogether. Hannah (seemingly) wins the game and returns home to have more surgery on her injured leg. Cage returns to his business pursuits, but is distracted by Hannah, as well as the efforts of the vengeful son of an old mentor and rival to ruin him. Before long, Hannah finds herself involved in the situation between Cage and Hugh Ballantine (the deceased rival's son). She's also dealing with the estate of her aunt, the renowned anthropologist Elizabeth Nord (a sort of Margaret Meade character). Hannah just wants to decamp to her aunt's island home to recuperate, but Cage follows her, intent on furthering his relationship with her. Even as things start to heat up between Hannah and Cage, the business situation between Cage and Ballantine continues to escalate to a potentially devastating conclusion. Additionally, Hannah herself has some strange and threatening experiences that lead her to think there may have been more to her auto accident and that her life may be in danger. TWIST OF FATE is pretty standard JAK fare for this early period in her career; however, it does have some interesting characters and some interesting subplots, including the story of Elizabeth Nord and the choices women face in trying to have both fulfilling personal lives and careers. This book was initially published in 1986, but, sadly, many of JAK's points on this topic are still relevant today. The character of Cage is a little more the product of that era. Although he's not as scary as some of her early "heroes" with their controlling attitudes, he is too overbearing at times. Hannah also fits into a standard JAK mold--blithely optimistic and excessively perky. At one point, Cage tells her, "Christ, lady, you're an idiot. But an amusing idiot." Personally, I thought that Hannah was the weakest element in the book and quickly found her more annoying than amusing. Readers were reminded over and over and over that she was, in fact, a guidance counselor, which apparently gave her permission/authority to lecture other people about their lives and choices. (And I got really sick of hearing descriptions of her ugly Banana Republic, safari-style outfits.) While TWIST OF FATE isn't a terrible book, it's not a good one, either. For most JAK fans, the interest will lie in experiencing something from her backlist to compare to her later works. For my part, I'm glad I can check it off my list, but I won't be revisiting it. I'm giving this book a scant 3 stars just because I like JAK so much, but it honestly should be closer to 2 ½ stars.

Rich corporate raider Gideon gets no joy from his work. Guidance counselor Hannah surprises him by sensing this and gives him unsolicited advice. Hannah first meets Gideon when she visits him to ask him to stop his takeover attempts of her brother's technology firm. I enjoyed seeing the development of their relationship. He follows her to a vacation island. He visits her in Seattle. A fellow corporate raider who hates Gideon learns of this relationship and he too visits Hannah in Seattle. Her interaction with the two of them was odd, different and fun to watch. She wanted no part of the war between them. A second story is about Hannah's ancestors. There were several independent, successful and never married women in her past, a mathematician, an artist and more recently her aunt Elizabeth who was a famous anthropologist. Elizabeth dies and leaves her research papers and journals to Hannah. Hannah is considering writing a book from these sources. She is tempted to live a life devoted to career success, which would exclude marriage for her. Gideon wants her in his life, but she feels she cannot have career success if she is with him. Her evaluation and ultimate decisions are thoughtful and interesting. Sexual language: mild. Number of sex scenes: three. Setting: current day Las Vegas, Santa Inez Island, Seattle and Tucson. Copyright: 1986. Genre: contemporary romance. For a list of my reviews of other books by this author, see my 4 star review of "Sizzle and Burn" posted 2-09-08.

I have always enjoyed all of Jayne Ann Krentz, Jayne Castle and Amanda Quicks books. It was hard to convince myself to finish this book, couldn't find any to like about Hannah and her so called "quest". The bad guys were very predictable, easy to figure out as soon as they were introduced. Not much depth here.

Representative of the decade in which it was written.

I love Jayne Ann Krentz in all of her incarnations, and *Twist of Fate* was another good read. The suspense was quick paced and the characters engaged me from the very beginning. You won't regret buying this one.

Krentz always makes you want to read her at one sitting. She can keep you interested in all of her stories. In this story you do not know who wants to help her or who wants to hurt her. If you want to read a great book buy this one. It is worth your time and your money.

Love JAK!

I enjoy Jayne Ann Krentz' books and ordered this for my Kindle so that I had something to read when I travel.

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