



The Fatal Fortune

Jayne Castle , Jayne Ann Krentz

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Gazing into her crystal, the psychic predicted money, but not murder.

GUINEVERE JONES -- Fortune-telling seemed a harmless game. But when it became clear that Madame Zoltana was making big profits by playing on her clients' fears. Gwen knew she had to stop the cruel scam.

ZACHARIAH JUSTIS -- Success meant calling in an office decorator and hosting a catered affair -- until a close call with death convinced him that real success meant survival -- and calling Gwen his very own.

A young woman's dark secret, a diary, a crystal bowl -- they put the daring duo on the trail of a cunning charlatan -- a blackmailer and killer out to destroy every trace of the past.

The Fatal Fortune Details

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From Reader Review The Fatal Fortune for online ebook

Alice says

The last of the Guinevere Jones & Zac Justis "mysteries"

This series is really a glance back at the 1970s. One forgets how the technology has changed not only our lives but the way characters in our books interacted and lived.

Gwen is, an excellent example, she's not exactly a feminist but clearly sees herself as a strong modern woman, who has parlayed a spotty career history into the perfect qualifications to open her own temp agency; she not only knows what to look for in a good bar-maid, typist, word-processor or even executive secretary but can fill in herself when necessary.

Zac is a strong, silent, intense man with a caring and sensitive side. He used to be a special agent of some sort and has opened a one-man corporate security firm, because he wants a more ordered life.

In this book Gwen's and Zac's companies are finally doing well. Zac is staying over with Gwen most nights and they are clearly part of each others lives.

Gwen gets Zac embroiled, reluctantly, with a black-mailing 'psychic' counselor, and with the other books Gwen's gentle feminine (empathetic) heart cause her to take on a 'case'; in this case one of Gwen's employees is being 'protected' from something dark in her past by Madam Zoltana, and Gwen relises that protection is really only a slightly modified form of blackmail and is determined to stop it. Zac only gets fully involved when Gwen's safety is threaten.

Lara says

So, this book was poorly titled. It should have been the title of the previous book in the series. However, I did enjoy seeing the relationship between Zac and Gwen continue to develop. The story was a bit farfetched, but still somewhat entertaining.

Elizabeth says

This had an interesting little plot with a quick wrap up. Again I really enjoyed a look into the early writings by Jayne Castle and I liked the Guinevere Jones series. I wish they have been more developed books but they are cute fun reads as they stand. If your looking for a blast to the past on a beach day this series is totally worth trying.

Julie (jjmachshev) says

Sometimes fascinating, sometimes humorous trip back to the 80s, 1980s that is. "The Fatal Fortune" by Jayne Ann Krentz writing as Jayne Castle is the final of a 4 book short series written to appeal to female fans of Remington Steele and Moonlighting.

She runs a temp employment agency and he's a security consultant, but she keeps dragging him into

investigations as the two continually grow closer in their own relationship.

Cute series.

Diane ~Firefly~ says

One of Gwen's temps is being scammed by a psychic, so Gwen decides to investigate against Zach's advice. She also runs into a former flame while filling in for her temp. Some nice old-fashioned social engineering, since this is set in the 80s. A nice end to the series that shows good progression of their relationship.

Kathy says

Fourth book in the series and Gwen decides to take on her own case. One of her employees has fallen under the spell of a crooked psychic. Gwen is determined to prove to the young woman that the psychic is just manipulating her and has no special powers. As usual, Gwen involves Zac and the investigation becomes dangerous. Nice ending and it's always lovely to see romantic characters make progress in a relationship instead of just stying in a status quo for books on end.

Maria says

The plot in this book is intriguing with a twist on fortune-telling that I never would have dreamed up myself. Watching Guinevere and Zac move through the last of their adventures and get closer to each other was fun and felt like familiar ground in that the essence of a JAK book was there throughout - unlike the first book in the series which I found delightfully unexpected, particularly in the dialogue. The only downside of the four books in this series is that there are only four books in this series. I finished the last one 48 hours ago and I'm still ready to go on to the next. Maybe some day JAK will come back to these in her "spare" time. Unfortunately that's probably like the fifth book in this series. There isn't any.

Farah says

My favorite in all four. I didn't want it to end , the book was extremely entertaining and the mystery got me thinking quite hard though I have to admit the conclusion wasn't the wow I was waiting for but it was still pretty good. It was hard saying goodbye to both Guinevere and Zach .. I definitely wanted more , can't believe I postponed reading those books for so long , I absolutely loved them.

Alexis Rogers-Esparcia says

This cover though! Lol

It looks like a weird exotic Nancy Drew! I don't know why Good reads have this very old cover. My kindle

has the newer one and it is a lot less laughable.

First of all I adored this book. It was my favorite out of all the books in this series. Psychics and blackmail. Super fun stuff. My only complaint is this: Too short!!!! ? the last couple books I didn't love the main characters love interest. He grew on me in this book.

Any time I pick up a Castle, Krentz, and Quick book (she has so many pen names) I know it will be a great read.

Grace says

The last of the Guinevere Jones and Zac Justis series, and the best. It has as interesting plot that moves along quickly, and the characters are finally showing a glimmer of the charm that Krentz is known for.

Rebecca Dowd says

CONCLUSION!!!

The Guinevere Jones were a series in a earlier time period. There were still pay phones and no cell. The story did not lose anything by the dated technology, but it was interesting to see the obstacles we dealt with. As a writer Castle has come a long way.

Donna says

This author is one of my "must buy" authors and I have enjoyed this series. It is too dated for me to really love but was certainly a worthwhile read!! I'm just glad Zac finally got to move in!!

Marisella says

I read the first Guinevere Jones story a few days ago, and had to buy and read the others. Well written, humorous and just the slightest bit sexy they're perfect reads. Guinevere considers herself a worldly business woman, yet she's very sweet and unexpected. Zac Justis isn't the typical hero either; he isn't wealthy and sought after but his persistence and tenacious nature make him sexier than Christian Gray.

Jeri says

Older book but cute characters. Very like "Moonlighting".

Robin says

Guinevere Jones discovers that one of the girls at her temp agency is being scammed by a fortune-teller. Madam Zoltana is making a big profit by playing on her client's fears. To stop the scam, Gwen asks Zac Justis to help her feret out the charlatan. Soon they uncover a crystal bowl, a black-mailer, and secrets that may destroy Gwen and Zac's relationship.

I thought this was the best of the series. It's a light mystery with a Nancy Drew feel to it...if Nancy was 30 years old. My rating: 4.5 Stars.
