



## When All the Girls Have Gone

*Jayne Ann Krentz*

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**When All the Girls Have Gone** Jayne Ann Krentz  
“A master of the genre.”—*The Philadelphia Inquirer*

**Jayne Ann Krentz, the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Secret Sisters*, delivers a thrilling novel of the deceptions we hide behind, the passions we surrender to, and the lengths we’ll go to for the truth...**

When Charlotte Sawyer is unable to contact her stepsister, Jocelyn, to tell her that one of her closest friends was found dead, she discovers that Jocelyn has vanished.

Beautiful, brilliant—and reckless—Jocelyn has gone off the grid before, but never like this. In a desperate effort to find her, Charlotte joins forces with Max Cutler, a struggling PI who recently moved to Seattle after his previous career as a criminal profiler went down in flames—literally. Burned out, divorced and almost broke, Max needs the job.

After surviving a near-fatal attack, Charlotte and Max turn to Jocelyn’s closest friends, women in a Seattle-based online investment club, for answers. But what they find is chilling...

When her uneasy alliance with Max turns into a full-blown affair, Charlotte has no choice but to trust him with her life. For the shadows of Jocelyn’s past are threatening to consume her—and anyone else who gets in their way...

## When All the Girls Have Gone Details

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## From Reader Review When All the Girls Have Gone for online ebook

**Chris C - A Midlife Wife says**

3.5 stars

Normally I'm a sucker for romantic suspense books and this one started out with a unique plot. With plenty of characters to follow and get to know, things really got interesting in the development of this story. But I found a few problems with this story for me, as well.

One thing that disappointed me a bit was the fact that the romance portion of this book seemed a bit lacking. There was no heat or passion. It was just more like the couple agreed that they would be together. There's a few heated looks and personal thoughts and one get together with the couple. But the romantic portion of the story definitely took a backseat in the plot.

While I enjoyed the story, there were also a few issues where the words seem rather dry. I just felt a real disconnect between the characters in the book. I started out liking Charlotte, but as the story progressed, I ended up not caring for her mouthy attitude much. Plus, the story felt like it was missing something and was lacking finesse. The suspense part was not overly suspenseful and parts of the story seemed a bit predictable.

All of the books I have read prior by this author I have enjoyed. And while the plot and story line was great, this one just didn't grab me like her others have in the past.

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**Barbara says**

Charlotte Sawyer is the activities director at a retirement community in Seattle, Washington, and - among other things - oversees a program for senior citizens who are writing their autobiographies. When one would-be author wants to spice up her story by saying she shot her husband, it causes a hubbub.....and leads to a discussion of fiction vs. non-fiction.

Charlotte has other things on her mind as well. Her former fiancé called off the wedding five days before the nuptials, leaving Charlotte with a stack of bills and a large dollop of self-doubt. And Charlotte's step-sister Jocelyn has gone off on a 'tech-free' retreat, leaving Charlotte to water her plants and take care of the mail.

As it happens, Jocelyn's mail contains a package from her best friend Louise, with a key and a mysterious note about hidden files. Shortly afterward Louise is found dead from a supposed drug overdose, and - when Charlotte goes to Louise's apartment to look for the files - she meets private investigator Max Cutler.

Max has been hired to look into Louise's death, which her cousin suspects was murder. Moreover, when Charlotte and Max try to inform Jocelyn about Louise's demise, they learn that Jocelyn isn't at the tech-free retreat and her whereabouts are unknown.

Charlotte and Max team up to investigate Louise's death, and find two likely paths for inquiry. Firstly, Louise, Jocelyn, and several other women belong(ed) to an 'investment club' that's about to reap a huge profit. This brings up the possibility that one of the club members is killing off her compatriots, to get all the money for herself.

Secondly, the investment club was secretly involved in another activity. The members were looking into 'cold case' rapes and murders. The impetus for this investigation was Jocelyn's rape, on her college campus, 15 years ago. The police never solved the case, and in fact LOST all the files. The club members think Jocelyn's attacker went on to assault and kill other women, and they're trying to track down the perp and bring him to justice. Did the rapist/murderer find out they're on his trail?

As Charlotte and Max pursue their dual-approach inquiries they put their lives in grave danger.

Max is an interesting character. As a child he lived in a cult with his mother, and was almost burned to death when the cult leader set fire to the compound. Many people were killed.....and Max lost his mom. However, all the children were rescued - and three of the boys (including Max) were taken in and raised by a loving foster father.

Max grew up, got married, and became a criminal profiler, but lost his wife and job when stress and anxiety derailed him. Afterwards, Max moved to Seattle and became a private investigator. A side issue of the story involves Max searching for the cult leader who killed his mom, and I imagine this will be revisited in future books in the series.

As Charlotte and Max work together, there are sparks of attraction that lead to a slow-burning romance.....and hot encounters between the sheets. {So if you like romance in your books (unlike me) there it is. LOL }

During the course of the story, we meet a variety of interesting characters, including: members of the investment club; the police officer who was in charge of Jocelyn's old rape case; senior citizens at the retirement community; Max's foster father and foster brothers; Charlotte's ex-fiancé (guess what he wants....ha ha ha); and more.

The solution to the mystery struck me as unlikely, but the book is entertaining.....and there's a fun surprise at the end. I would recommend the novel to fans of romantic suspense.

You can follow my reviews at <https://reviewsbybarbsaffer.blogspot....>

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### **Mskychick says**

Meh.

Obvious plot line, feels simplistic. Also feels like every other book I've read by her lately.

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### **Carole (Carole's Random Life in Books) says**

This review can also be found at Carole's Random Life.

This was a decent book. I would probably rate this book closer to 3.5 stars but I decided to round up since I am feeling generous. It was a very readable story that I never quite figured out but it failed to completely pull me in. I thought that the book had some really nice elements with a fast paced plot. There were some parts of the story that were a bit predictable but it was entertaining nonetheless.

I liked both Charlotte and Max. It was nice to see them work together on the case from the very beginning of

the story and I thought that they made a nice team. I liked that they both gave equally to their partnership and really tried to work together. The romance between them was nice but it never felt very exciting to me. For some reason, I didn't really feel their chemistry like I had hoped. I believed that their feelings were genuine but I missed the extra spark that I had hoped to see.

The mystery was fairly complex. Max and Charlotte were busy trying to solve a murder and find a missing person from the start of the book. As they worked to figure things out, the book takes a few twists and turns that keep the book moving along. There were times that I was able to predict some of the twists but I still enjoyed the overall mystery aspect.

I would recommend this book to fans of romantic suspense. This was a quick read with a lot of enjoyable aspects. I have not read a lot of books by Jayne Ann Krentz but I have found that I enjoy her writing style and I plan to read more of her work in the future.

*I received a copy of this book from Berkley Publishing Group via NetGalley.*

### **Initial Thoughts**

This was entertaining. There were a few things that happened in the book that were a bit of a stretch but it was an enjoyable read nonetheless.

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### **Ellen ♦ Book Bellas ♦ says**

I've been on a thriller kick lately so this easy read fit the bill. 'When All the Girls Have Gone' is intelligent, fast-paced and very creative. Max and Charlotte are very real and relatable characters. Loved the author's smart and snappy writing style! The romance felt completely honest, down-to-earth and very "true".

Jayne Ann Krentz is a new author to me so I very much enjoyed getting to know her writing style. She has legions of fans and I can see why. I adored Max, who is a man of few words but knows how to get the job done. He has a very painful past so his lovely romance with Charlotte seems all the more sweeter. Charlotte is a no-nonsense heroine, who finds herself working in a retirement home after making some big life changes.

Charlotte's step-sister Jocelyn is traveling to a retreat. The two sisters are very close but Jocelyn has protected and sheltered Charlotte all of their lives. A mysterious package arrives at Jocelyn's home while she is away and Charlotte learns that Jocelyn's best friend Louise has died. Jocelyn is unreachable, since she is on a "no technology" retreat.

Enter Max Cutler, who was already involved in the matter after being hired by a cousin of Louise's. Is Louise's sudden death related to Jocelyn's disappearance? The details begin to unfold in this delicious thriller. There are lots of shady characters and plenty of secrets. This is a quick, super-intriguing and twisty story that you can read in one day. I absolutely loved Max Cutler, with his smart, strong, quiet ways. He is my kind of hero! The romance is a quiet one but it fits perfectly with this story. There is tons of action and I was on the edge of my seat the whole time I was reading this book.

Jayne Ann Krantz is a skilled writer and Max and Charlotte's story grabbed me from the very first page. There are lots of surprises in this one with some humor thrown in for good measure. Charlotte and Max are a little awkward, very lonely and absolutely perfect together! If you love a good mystery with a little romance and a smart and "spunky" heroine, then you'll love 'When All the Girls Have Gone.' There are several characters' POV's in this book which kept me on my toes. All in all, an enjoyable, solid thriller with just the

right amount of romance and danger!

*(ARC provided by the publisher in return for an honest review.)*

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## **WhiskeyintheJar/Kyraryker says**

3.5 stars

I received this book for free in exchange for an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review.

Checking her step-sister's mail while she is on vacation, Charlotte comes across a letter and a set of keys from one of her sister's friends that has her very curious. When Charlotte finds out that friend is now dead, she has even more questions. Teaming up with private investigator Max, they start to discover that each thread they pull on only stirs up more questions. A decades old rape case, murder, money, and friendship hold all the clues but will they be able to find all the answers before it is too late?

***Not the handsomest man in Seattle---not by a long stretch, she thought. But probably the one most likely to survive if he went into the gladiators' ring to confront the best-looking guy.***

Where Have All the Girls Gone is at heart a mystery thriller with Charlotte and Max's building romance and relationship a companion piece. From the moment they meet it's obvious that they have chemistry but their past hurts keep them cautious. Charlotte is freshly off a broken engagement that ended only five days before the wedding and Max recently moved cross country after a divorce and job burnout. Both were fully flushed out characters whose insecurities and shy vulnerability kind of made them adorable. Their instant connection didn't feel too fast as they just seemed to click and as they spent more time together it was apparent their personalities gelled. They're not a hot and cold drama angst couple but cool and calm sexily belonging together partners.

The catalyst for the murder mystery is Charlotte's step-sister Jocelyn investigating rapes and murders that have occurred recently that seem to match her rape in college where the man was never caught. We learn the investment group Jocelyn belongs to and didn't want Charlotte a part of doubles as a cover for her and her friends to find men who abuse their wives and covertly punish them. When Jocelyn's friend Louise is found dead, it's not known if she really did overdose, one of the punished men found out about the group, or if Jocelyn's rapist has discovered that she is hunting him. As Charlotte and Max investigate, the tangled weave starts unraveling with even more threads, a corrupt police department, the investment group might be coming into some money, a serial rapist might have turned murderer, and even more lies, backstabbing, and deceit. Add all this in with multiple povs from secondary characters who have their own very flushed out storylines, background drama with Max and his biological father, and a reappearance from Charlotte's ex-fiancée and you have enough storylines for at least five books.

All the characters and their storylines were interesting on their own but we already had a great kitchen, each added drama started to feel like an extra sink being thrown in. The secondary characters and their storylines were obviously added to keep the reader guessing as to who was guilty of what but they ended up detracting from the true villain/s as their storylines were hidden towards the end; made them feel the least flushed out with their motivations. The ending and big reveals ended up feeling dragged out and full of info dumps, very staggered. We are left with some loose threads in regards to Max's past and with mentions of two other brothers, one coming to work for Max, along with Jocelyn and her friends in the investment club, it looks like this might be the start of a series.

With rape and murder being the center of this mystery thriller it had some darker tones but Max and Charlotte brought a lightness and charm that also gave it some light. Too many plot lines unnecessarily overcomplicated and cluttered the story at times but the danger, mystery, romance, and fully fleshed out secondary characters will keep you locked in, engaged, and entertained.

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## Chloe says

When All The Girls Have Gone is a cozy romantic mystery by Jayne Ann Krentz with not too many surprises.

Charlotte finds out that her step sister's friend Louise was murdered and there meets Max who is looking into the investigation at her brother's request .Then Charlotte discovers her step sister Jocelyn is not on her month long tech free vacation and all of Jocelyn's friends who were participating in an investment trading club are getting killed one by one. Charlotte teams up with Max to find out who is behind the murders and tries to save Jocelyn before the murderer get to her.

Overall I would rate this book 3 3 ½ stars. It is a fast ,breezy read with some witty banter between Charlotte and Jocelyn .I liked the romance between Max and Charlotte too but the mystery was lacking. It was easy to guess the murderer and I so think it was a beginning of a series as some of Max's past remained unresolved . A quick fun read if you are into cozy mysteries.

Many thanks to the publisher & NetGalley for this advance reader copy in exchange for my honest and fair review.

This and more reviews at <https://chloesbooksblog.wordpress.com/>

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## Julie says

When all the Girls Have Gone by Jayne Ann Krentz is a 2016 Berkley publication.

Charlotte is stunned when her step-sister's best friend is found dead. When she learns Jocelyn, who had uncharacteristically gone off radar, could be in danger, as well, she teams up with private detective, Max Cutler, to discover who may be after her sister and her friends.

While this story is, in many ways, standard fare for JAK, but in other ways, this book is edgier than usual, dealing with dark topics, like rape.

I prefer romantic suspense to be as balanced as possible, with equal parts suspense and romance. If an author must favor one side or the other, I prefer the focus to stay on the mystery, and that is exactly what JAK did in this instance.

If you are looking for steamy, hot, angsty romance, this one might not work for you. There is chemistry between Charlotte and Max, but it is very much in the background and the one moment they get in the book was very anticlimactic and bland.

Although the plot is very fast-paced, with some complexities and a few nice twists, the dialogue, as with the romance, was bland and stilted.

I've read JAK for many, many years, although over the last ten years or so, I have only read or two of her later releases and found them to be very disappointing, save for one. I had hoped this new series would be a nice fresh start for me with this author, but I will have to withhold judgement until I read the next book in the series.

I'm finding it harder and harder to hold on to my optimism, but I'm still not quite ready to give up on this author or this series without giving it a fair shake. So, here's hoping 'Promise not to Tell' will restore my faith. Stay tuned.

3 stars

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### **Kathryn says**

Thoroughly enjoyed this romantic suspense. Enjoyed characters, mystery and light romance. All for one foot in front of the other. Go Max and Charlotte.

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### **Carrie says**

Charlotte Sawyer has been house sitting for her step-sister, Jocelyn, while she is off on a no technology retreat for a month when a package arrives from one of Jocelyn's close friends. Charlotte tries to get into contact to find out more about what the package means but finds out that the friend that had sent the package has died.

Charlotte immediately tries to notify Jocelyn that her friend has passed but finds that Jocelyn hadn't stayed at the retreat and has gone into hiding herself. During her searching Charlotte meets Max Cutler, a private investigator hired to look into the suspicious death so Charlotte decides to team up with Max to find the answers of what's happened to her step-sister.

When All The Girls Have Gone was one of those books that kept the pages turning all throughout the journey. A bit of a cozy mystery feel to it with Charlotte and Max teaming up to find out the answers of not only one crime but also investigating things that had happened in the past. In the current story Jocelyn had a group of friends that seem to be being targeted with one of the members already being murdered but in the past there is a rape case that is still open that the ladies had also become involved in. Never a dull moment as the action builds throughout the story with several twists and turns to keep a reader guessing.

Overall, likable characters and intense plot to solve, would definitely recommend checking this one out.

I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

For more reviews please visit <https://carriesbookreviews.wordpress....>

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### **1-Click Addict Support Group says**

I am such a sucker for a good romantic suspense. I need a break from swoons and feel good romances

occasionally, and love a little danger and intrigue thrown in for good measure. *When All the Girls have Gone* delivered that perfectly. The pace was non-stop, yet never overly hurried. The romance was not too pressing, like a nice little cherry thrown on top for good measure. There didn't seem to be a huge amount of mystery to figure out, yet as pieces fell into play there were so many little parts of the puzzle that came together to make this a worthwhile read.

**"It wasn't one of the slow, drugging kisses that left her clutching at his shoulders. It was a quick, deliberate, intensely intimate kiss."**

The spark was bright, and the romance definitely a factor in upping the ante for the suspense. It gave a new level of investment in how things would play out for the main characters. It made you want so much more for them than to just survive. Max and Charlotte were two incredibly strong characters, not giving in, or subjecting the readers to annoying amounts of angst and whining. Yet their relationship helped to soften them, make them just a little more relate-able. Charlotte's see the best in everyone trusting nature was a breath of fresh air, and Max's hard cynicism gave it a knock of reality that balanced them out perfectly.

All in all, this was a wild ride from beginning to end, pulling you to the edge of your seat then knocking you back with a blast of romance. Jayne Ann Krentz always delivers and this was no exception. ~ George 4 Stars

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## **Katherine says**

*”It seemed like a game at first. But it was never a game. We all knew we were taking chances. There was always the possibility that someone would realize what we were doing.”*

*‘But we were very careful.’*

*‘Maybe not careful enough.’*

This book shows that some authors are worth taking second chances on.

Charlotte Sawyer has always lived a very cautious life compared to her older stepsister Jocelyn. If you don't count the fact that she was dumped at her wedding reception, Charlotte would say that her life was predictable but comfortable. That is, until her sister's co-worker is found dead in her apartment. Convinced it wasn't murder, her co-worker's cousin hires a private investigator to dig deeper into the mystery. Divorced, broke and battling his childhood demons, Max Cutler needs this job just to stay afloat. He also likes to work alone, but when forces collide and Charlotte Sawyer becomes entangled in the same mystery, they must work together to solve the case before anyone else ends up dead, including themselves.

Well, what do you know? A romantic suspense novel that actually has both romance and suspense. What a time to be alive! All sarcasm aside, I say this because Krentz's last book I attempted to read had neither of these elements. This had both, and they were done extremely well. How well? I was going to read a completely different book and started reading the inside of this one just for kicks, and before you know it, I got completely sucked in.

Charlotte and Max's relationship was amazing. Their interactions were some of my favorite parts of the book to read about. I've noticed a pattern when it comes to these some so-called romantic suspense novels; the

male is completely alpha and the woman tries desperately to tag along and prove herself to him, that she's "one of the boys" or something along those lines. Sexist dialogue and toxic masculinity ensue, usually with the two main characters having hot and steamy hate sex. I was internally bracing myself for more of that, but what a refreshing surprise for this book to turn a total 180 on that plot point. Charlotte and Max are complete, utter equals. When she wants to become part of the investigation he accepts and keeps her fully informed. He doesn't keep her in the dark about anything and never tried to show off or make her feel inferior to him. He willingly asks her opinion about the case and actually listens to her advice.

**DO YOU HEAR THAT ROMANTIC SUSPENSE WRITERS?** This book shows that it is, indeed, possible for romantic suspense males not to be dickheads.

Charlotte and Max work so darn well together. Krentz could write a 36 book series about them solving mysteries and I wouldn't even be mad. In fact, I demand it. I want more of their teamwork and detecting and Max being all sweet to the senior citizens at the retirement home where Charlotte works. Their banter isn't so bad, either.

*''My therapist told me I needed to learn to be more spontaneous. One of the residents at Rainy Creek Gardens suggested kayaking. Mildred said she's done it for years. She told me it was a great way to meet outdoorsy-type men.'*

*'How'd that work out for you?'*

*'Quite well, actually. Here I am in the great outdoors- with a man.'*

### **I JUST LOVE THEM SO MUCH, OK?**

The mystery aspect of the novel is also quite well done. At first you think it's a financial investment fraud thing that got Jocelyn's co-worker killed, but then you begin to realize that nothing is what it appears. The twists and turns just keep coming, and just when you think the case is solved and you know who's guilty, bam! The rug is pulled out from beneath you and you're in for another surprise. They never felt overdone or done just to keep the page count up. It genuinely felt like a fleshed out story. Within the murder mystery, there's also the mystery of Max and his adopted foster brothers (which actually drew me to this series in the first place because I have a morbid fascination with cults). Max and his brothers Cabot and Jack were orphaned in a fire started by cult leader Quinton Zane; a fire that killed their mothers. They never believed that he was killed in the fires, but no one believes them. I think that mystery will be revealed through the series, but the little crumbs left by the author were enough to leave me horribly intrigued.

The entire book was the exact opposite of *The Secret Sisters*, the book by Krentz I read before and didn't particularly enjoy. The plot was rather convoluted, and the romance was about boring as a bowl of plain oatmeal. This book, on the other hand, had a romance I really rooted for and a plot that had me on the edge of my seat and turning the pages rapidly, desperate to know what happened next. I need the next book ASAP. And while I can't say that this book 100% put my faith back into the romantic suspense genre, it did signal a great start!

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### **\*Avonna says**

When I want to curl up on the couch with a comfy blanket and tea to read without interruption, there are a few authors that I know I can sit down with their books and always be satisfied. Jayne Ann Krentz is one of those authors. *WHEN ALL THE GIRLS HAVE GONE* is one of those books.

Charlotte Sawyer is the average, steady, and some say naïve, director of activities at a senior retirement home. Her step-sister, Jocelyn is beautiful, adventurous and reckless. When Charlotte hears that Jocelyn's best friend from her investment club has been found dead, she tries to contact Jocelyn at the retreat she is on. Jocelyn has disappeared and Charlotte is desperate to find her.

Max Cutler is starting his own P.I. firm after complete burnout from his criminal profiling job and his divorce that followed. He knows the job of finding out what really happened to Jocelyn's friend won't pay, but he is convinced to look into it. Charlotte is trying to find out what happened also and to find her sister so the two join forces.

There are two plotlines intertwined in this story. The investment club's members are being targeted and disappearing and you have Jocelyn's 16 year old rape case that was purposely derailed. Power, privilege, an escalating serial rapist and a friend that may not really be a friend all are fighting to silence Charlotte and Max.

Charlotte and Max were perfect together. Charlotte is very much the steady, optimistic character that isn't boring, even though she believes she is, but you would want to have in your corner. Max is down and considers himself boring, but Charlotte sees him as steadfast and talented in his profession. The banter between these two had me smiling several times and the sex was well written. I liked that these characters weren't looking for a relationship, but they fit.

I enjoyed this story and these characters as much as I knew I would. Sometimes in my romantic suspense reads, I don't want super testosterone alpha males and either their matches in female form or the little woman that they rescue. Sometimes in my romantic suspense, I want normal, everyday characters that come together to become something more and they are just great. Max has two 'brothers' so I believe this will be a trilogy.

Thanks very much to Berkley Publishing Group and Net Galley for allowing me to read an eARC in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Book of Secrets says**

Liked! I listened to the audiobook, compliments of LibraryThing's Early Reviewers. This was my kind of romantic suspense: a believable romance between Charlotte and Max, but the story stayed focused on solving the mystery. Lots of twists and strong female characters. The audiobook was narrated by Amanda Leigh Cobb, and her performance fit well with Charlotte's personality.

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### **Chelsea Humphrey says**

I'll be honest, I just skim read the last half of this book. While it may be partially due to my book hangover from a fabulous last read, this story was unfortunately nothing special. In fact, I felt as though I've already read it 500 times before. The romance was ok but predictable, the mystery didn't hook me, and I found my eyes closing every time I picked this book up. I hate writing less than glowing reviews, so I'll say that I think this book just wasn't for me; I think the right reader would enjoy this, but if you're an avid consumer of romantic suspense, you might be let down by this one.

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