



A Shared Dream

Jayne Ann Krentz

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The warrior died at her feet, his blood running out of the cave entrance and mingling with the waterfall. With his last breath he cursed the woman -- told her that her spirit would remain chained in the cave forever until a child was created and born there . . .

So goes the ancient legend of the Chained Lady and the curse that bound her throughout the ages -- until destiny brings Diana Prentice and Colby Savagar together. Suddenly, they are both haunted by dreams that link past and present, while their waking hours are filled with danger. But it is only when Colby, Diana's modern-day warrior, learns to love can these dark forces be vanquished. Only then can Diana set the Chained Lady free . . .

Compilation of *Dreams, Part One* and *Dreams, Part Two*.

A Shared Dream Details

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Author : Jayne Ann Krentz

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From Reader Review A Shared Dream for online ebook

Aura Moronta says

Not her usual style, but you will enjoy it.

I read both books one after the other. I found the first book disappointing Because I normally hit them right away and have never been disappointed. I thought that this one would be have been A lot of a action from the beginning, but in totally I'd say worth reading.

rivka says

Quite enjoyable. Even surprisingly so, for a romance novel from the late 80s, with only a touch of the over-the-top machismo that so characterizes romances of that era.

And also just a touch of paranormal woo-woo. Which is how I like it best -- just a smidge.

Reine Lighthart says

It is a fascinating story.

I really like Jayne Ann Krentz. Her stories always have a surreal feel to them. I liked in this story, she linked the past and present with the legend.

Linda says

LB

It is great to read an earlier work by one of your favorite authors. What I like most about Jayne's books is the tight story lines and uniqueness of her characters. I enjoyed the story and the characters very much. I might read it again.

Maria says

I believe the two parts were originally published as two books in 1988. I am glad I bought them together in A Shared Dream published in 2001. Both parts are wonderful, but it is better to read them together. Once again, the characters, Diana Prentice and Colby Savagar, are interesting characters who grip you right away. I rarely dislike a JAK main character. They are so believable. I had a little trouble with the dream and legend themes, mainly because I'm not much into the paranormal, but Ms. Krentz makes it work, as usual. I always look forward to re-reading this one. I particularly liked Spectre and the adversarial relationship he had with Colby. Most of their interactions were quite funny. Also, Jennifer in Room 301 was a riot in the second part, even though you never actually meet her. Her descriptions of childbirth are spot on, and JAK has Diana back that

up when she has her turn to have a baby. Anyone who has given birth will truly enjoy these parts (unless you are currently pregnant, maybe). There are also a couple of zingers in Colby's conversation that make me laugh every time I read them. I won't give them away. See if you can spot them.

Alicja says

It is a story about mature people. FWith the past, with the already broken dreams , children, more realistic expectations . This is a story about equal treatment of women, both in legend and in life. Colby is a mature man , who had to quickly grow up, to deal with being a single father . His past bothering him. Diana is hidden behind a wall of independence , single living . They both need each other , they are meant for each other . Independently and each other they learn being together . Diana helps Colby to keep a distance with beeing a father . But she really needs him because her world suddenly changed about 360 degrees. Work, baby , marriage.. In her place I would myself have panicked . But as it Colby repeats they are mature and give cope . Great supporting cast : Son, mother -in-law , the son's girl ...
I love that book...

Ellen Williams says

Interesting

Interesting easy read. Not as good as most of her books, but a good story line and a relaxing easy read.

Ashley♥Alexis says

This was a nice combination of contemporary romance and super natural. loved it.

Cami says

I enjoyed this book but it wasn't a favorite by this author. Parts of it were a little far out even for me. I enjoyed the myth and Colby and Diana's meeting, but I didn't enjoy Colby's attitude and the way he steamrollered over Diana's feelings about her career and what she wanted to do. That kind of attitude would be a game breaker for me. Diana was a bit wishy-washy and I would have liked to see her as a stronger character.

I was very interested in the story though, and I finished it quite quickly because I really wanted to know what was going to happen. I'm so glad I was able to read both parts of the story together. I would have been terribly annoyed to have had to stop in the middle, I don't really like cliffhangers. This was generally a fun read.

Frances says

The inner cover shows the book was printed in 1988. This is important to remember when reading as Colby is narcissistic, chauvinist, domineering, (you catch my drift). I also feel that Diana as a business career woman is not properly portrayed as I know business women and they are not uptight but the core of many gatherings of food and fun.

And yet I still liked the book as it had multiple interests: Brandon and his girlfriend, the bad guys, Colby's history with the town, the ancient legend.

This is the 2nd reading of this book as I read it about seven years ago.

Nancy says

Very different book, ancient legend and shared dreams between two very different people.

Diana is a thirty-four accountant who has just lost a large promotion.

While Colby is the town's bad boy who has turned things around and is now a famous Author of horror stories. Their paths are somehow linked to this small town, the falls and the legend.

What a great book I read it in a couple of days on a trip.

Do give it a try, know you will enjoy the different plot..

Annette McIntyre says

Chained Lady Falls has a legend attached to it and now two strangers are drawn into the story.

Mcfree says

1988. Boy, was this a book set in its published date time. The stereo-typical characters wore me out. I finished it only because I am compulsive and can't leave things unfinished. I was ready to bash Savagar over the head. He was a jerk.

I think Krentz lost track of her story as she went along. The whole Native Americans or whoever Diana and Colby were supposed to be reincarnating got lost as the book went on, which made the ending just as weak and useless and expected as the beginning.

Don't bother with this one. It is a waste of time.

Kristy says

Good re read

I always enjoy a good JAK novel! This is a classic and one I often go back to for a reread.

Alice says

Dreams Part 1 & 2 is an interesting ebook; it was originally published as two separate books as Harlequin Temptations book #229 (*Dreams Part 1*) and #230 (*Dreams Part 2*), both published in 1988. It works well as one single book; I imagine it was rather awkward as two, since it's so obviously a continuation. There's a bit of recap at the beginning of part 2, but I can't imagine that a reader would have been able to pick up part 2 and read it on its own without reading part 1.

Dreams is an interesting transitional book in the development of Jayne Ann Krentz's writing style. As usual, there are certain aspects of her style that are consistent so far throughout her career—the "manly man," this time named *Colby Savagar*, the intelligent and strong-willed female (*Diana Prentice*, which reminded me too much of *Wonder Woman's* Diana Prince and made me wonder if there was a connection), and the Pacific Northwest setting of the novel. What makes this book transitional is that there is a movement in the male character, who starts out as being rather too manly, patriarchal and condescending to the female character, to being more "modern" in his dealings with the woman protagonist at the end. What's interesting is that this protagonist acknowledges the transition. In Part 2, Chapter 8, Diana accuses Colby of hiding "behind his wall of outdated, patriarchal machismo" which he doesn't acknowledge at the time, however, later in the Part 2 (Chapter 9) he realizes that he sees her strengths as a threat, and was worried that she would not need him, and that he wants her to need him. As the book continues, as Colby realizes that he loves her. So his character development is well in hand, from a old-fashioned he-man to somewhat less of a he-man. What I don't recall seeing is him realizing that he needs her too, or at least an overt realization of it, although I think that it's understood in the way that his character changes.

Diana is an interesting character—we are introduced to her as a career woman, on leave because she is stymied by a head-blow to the glass ceiling at her work, currently rethinking her career options and with the ability to cook only one "company" dish to her name. Later, in love (rather quickly) and caught in a situation she hadn't ever expected, she adapts by quitting her job, decorating, and learning to cook. Thank goodness she doesn't give all career women a bad name, since she also plans on starting her own business and hiring away former coworkers from her last place of business. Quite frankly, she doesn't really have much character development at all, Diana is just adapting to the circumstances, and has learned (like many women do in the real world) to just roll her eyes at the bizarre chauvinistic pronouncements of their mates who they love despite their stupidity, and keep on beetling away on their path, figuring the man will eventually follow if he know what's good for him.

There are a few additional side characters that add flavour to the book. Colby has a nearly grown-up son from an ill-advised early marriage that didn't end well who he raised on his own, there are a few antagonistic characters who add to the plot and lead to the climax of the book, and then there's Diana's dog *Specter*, whose name is probably indicative of foreshadowing (although we are never told why Diana named her dog *Specter*). *Specter* is a fantastic character, fully fleshed out and nuanced, the perfect companion with a personality all his own, and people familiar with Jayne Ann Krentz's body of work can see how companion characters like *Specter* gradually grow into the "Dust Bunnies" of her current *Harmony* set of books.

Dreams also has the beginnings of what is now Jayne Ann Krentz standby—a paranormal element. There is a parallel (could be possession, could be ancestors, never really explained) between the primary couple, and a very long ago legendary couple who had issues in their relationship also. The legend is important to the overall story of the book, but the paranormal connection is not necessary to the book. The entire book, including the crucial climax, could have completely stood on its own without any paranormal element, and thus the paranormal element seems forced and nearly sidetracks the story. Jayne Ann Krentz definitely has improved her use of the paranormal in her books since 1988!

Final verdict: enjoyable; somewhat dated. Fans of JAK (like I am) will enjoy this book, and will be able to read it with the appreciation that she really just gets better as time goes on, even though many fundamental elements often are the same. If you have never read anything by Krentz, this is probably not the book to start with—start with something more recent, and work you way down to the oldies-but-goodies.

