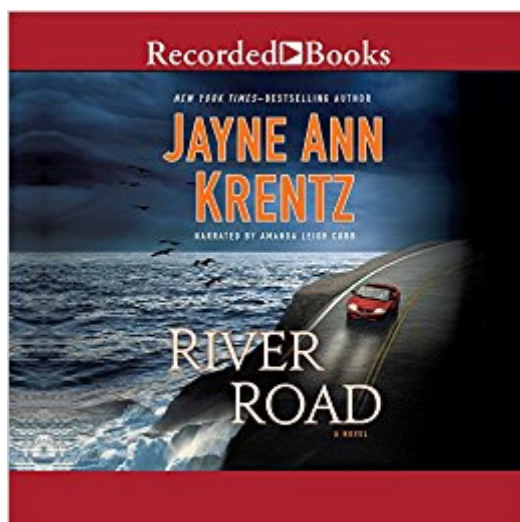


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# River Road



## Synopsis

It's been thirteen years since Lucy Sheridan was in Summer River. The last time she visited her Aunt Sara there, as a teenager, she'd been sent home suddenly after being dragged out of a wild party-- by the guy she had a crush on, just to make it more embarrassing. Obviously Mason Fletcher-- only a few years older but somehow a lot more of a grown-up-- was the overprotective type who thought he had to come to her rescue. Now, returning after her aunt's fatal car accident, Lucy is learning there was more to the story than she realized at the time. Mason had saved her from a very nasty crime that night-- and soon afterward, Tristan, the cold-blooded rich kid who'd targeted her, disappeared mysteriously, his body never found. A lot has changed in thirteen years. Lucy now works for a private investigation firm as a forensic genealogist, while Mason has quit the police force to run a successful security firm with his brother-- though he still knows his way around a wrench when he fills in at his uncle's local hardware store. Even Summer River has changed, from a sleepy farm town into a trendy upscale spot in California's wine country. But Mason is still a protector at heart, a serious (and seriously attractive) man. And when he and Lucy make a shocking discovery inside Sara's house, and some of Tristan's old friends start acting suspicious, Mason's quietly fierce instincts kick into gear. He saved Lucy once, and he'll save her again. But this time, she insists on playing a role in her own rescue.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

**\*Starred Review\*** The last time Lucy Sheridan saw Mason Fletcher was 13 years ago, when he extracted her from a wild teen party and took her home to her aunt Sara. It doesn't take

Lucy long to realize Mason hasn't changed a bit in all that time: he still has a protective streak a mile wide, and he still loves giving orders. One thing that has changed is Lucy's hometown of Summer River. The ever-expanding push from Napa Valley for more vineyards has turned the once-sleepy little Summer River into the latest wine-country hot spot. Property values are skyrocketing, and Lucy would be a fool not to sell the home she inherited from Sara. However, as she embarks on some renovation work, she discovers something that may seriously drag down her asking price: a dead body walled up behind the fireplace. Best-selling Krentz returns to her classic romantic-suspense roots with a spine-tingling tale of a small town harboring deadly secrets. With its irresistible mix of scintillating humor, stunning suspense, and sexy romance, River Road is a complete page-turner. --John Charles --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Praise for Jayne Ann Krentz "[A] master storyteller." --"Kirkus Reviews" "An author at the top of her game." --"Booklist" "Krentz clearly is on a roll." --"The Seattle Times" --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

In this book the author has returned to her roots. There's a mystery to be solved by the heroine, Lucy. There's a past that contains some trouble. There's a hero who was orphaned and raised by a relative (always someone who marches to a different drummer). He's a good hero too...makes me think of the song "I need a hero" from the movie Shrek 2. The first sex scene is nice because it is so realistic and so true to life. There's JAK's classic funny repartee. It's not top shelf but a good read which I enjoyed. I have nearly given up reading recently published romance novels of any kind because they are all so ridiculous nowadays. I am glad I can count on JAK...no bloodsucking vampires...no werewolves...no Dukes...no billionaires...no BDSM...no competitive Olympic level gymnastic sex. A side note to the author: I know some readers are tired of Arcane but could you write one every now and then for me with a dust bunny, please?

It's so yawn engaging, boring! I know I am not the majority but I felt I had to write this review because the book costs 10 plus dollars. I find myself reading a page and then flipping over to facebook, the news, my email, filing my nails whatever and then I go back and try to read some more, and I'm back flipping through facebook, reading emails, flossing my teeth, dusting the furniture, blowing dust bunnies around the floor. The characters are flat, the mystery is not interesting, the descriptions do not trigger anything for me, I cannot get into it. It's been a long time since I had such a hard time getting through a book. I didn't like Lucy either. I didn't like how she

chastised whatever his name was (see, I can't even remember his name because he was so boring), in the name of standing up for herself. This had the recipe to be good and I don't know if it was just me or the book but we did not click. I don't think I can bring myself to finish it and I'm a little over half way through. I could care less what happens to any of them. If you must read it, I would wait for it to show up at the library. I have read other books by this author and not had so much trouble. I feel bad for writing this review but I just could not let it go. And there are some people who really enjoyed it so it's probably just me but just in case it's not just me, I'm letting you know ahead of time so you can get your dust bunnies ready for the race.

I chose 3 stars because this book just didn't quite live up to its potential. It was full of redundancy. I understand an author is shooting for a specific length but have the same thing repeated 5 times is annoying. Multiple times. The conversation between characters was choppy and very superficial. Emotions were poorly described. The plot was not very linear. The climax fell short and the love making less than stellar. Now I know this sounds harsh, but I'm a huge fan and this book just disappointed me. Almost like Krentz did not write it. :- ( However not going to deter me from reading her books.

This story was Jayne Ann Krentz at her romantic suspense best. The characters were amazingly life-like. Well, except for the fact that, if men like Mason Fletcher exist, they are staying well away from me. The story begins with a prequel. Lucy Sheridan, age 16, is being hauled away from a wild party by her crush, the responsible and mature 19-year-old Mason Fletcher. She leaves town the next day and doesn't return to Summer River for thirteen years. What Lucy doesn't know is that she has been targeted by Tristan Brinker who wants her to star in his latest rape video and Mason saves her from that fate. Now, Lucy is grown up and working as a forensic genealogist. She works for a private investigation firm and finds lost heirs. She is a successful woman in all areas of her life except her romantic life. She has dumped her fiancé after finding him in bed with another woman. Her therapist tells her she has commitment issues. She is currently trying to find Mr. Right by using an online matchmaking service. She has returned to Summer River to settle her aunt's estate. Her beloved Aunt Sara and her partner Mary Colfax recently died in an automobile accident. Lucy has inherited her aunt's estate and some shares in Colfax Inc. from Mary. She is being urged to sell Sara's house and land to turn it into a vineyard and she is being wooed by various Colfax family members who want those shares back, too. Mason Fletcher has returned to Summer River too. He has established a successful private investigation business specializing in cold crimes with his

younger brother Aaron. But when a case goes wrong, he heads for home to rethink his life. He is working in his uncle's hardware store when Lucy comes in for light bulbs. An offer to help her with some home improvements lead to the discovery of Tristan Brinker's body bricked up in her aunt's fireplace which starts a chain of events that combine the past and the present. I loved that both characters were strong people and that, in the course of their falling in love, they didn't have misunderstandings that hurt each other. I also liked the way Krentz wove events and characters from the past into the mystery. She also managed to surprise me when she revealed the villains of the story. I really enjoyed this story and couldn't put it down. For me, it was a compelling page-turner.

Ms Krentz has created a well crafted murder mystery, with some clever misdirection, and it was a clever piece of writing. I really can't say much about the plot without giving too much away, and I know how much I dislike spoilers myself. Not only was this a clever murder mystery, but, I was completely charmed by the development of Lucy and Masons romance! Not only was it believable, it was witty, sweet, funny, and very sexy! Warning: some explicit sex scenes, and mostly mild curse words; If you are offended by those things...they are in here. IMO, there aren't that many of either, but that's debatable depending on your viewpoint. I really enjoyed everything about this story! I was so engrossed in it, I read it through very rapidly in one sitting. Tomorrow, I plan to kick back in my recliner with a cup or three, or four, (or more), of hot tea, and read it again. This time, I plan to savor it slowly.

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