



## The Lost Night

*Jayne Castle*

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**The Lost Night** Jayne Castle

**Even the mysterious world of Harmony has people who don't quite fit in. They're drawn to places like Rainshadow Island, a beautiful sanctuary where anyone can feel safe—and where secrets are closely guarded.**

Schooled in an exotic form of martial arts, and with the ability to detect auras of dangerous psychic criminals, Rachel Blake and her dust bunny companion have found peace and quiet on Rainshadow Island, operating a bookstore and café.

But her tranquil new life is thrown into chaos when Harry Sebastian, the descendant of a notorious pirate, arrives to investigate strange developments in the privately owned woods known as the Preserve.

Immediately drawn to the amber-eyes woman, Harry must tread carefully. While Rachel's special talents can help him track down dangerous rogues who have violated the Preserve, they can also sense the heart of darkness within him. But desire can weaken the toughest of defenses—and leave even the strongest man wanting more.

## The Lost Night Details

Date : Published September 4th 2012 by Jove (first published January 1st 2012)

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Author : Jayne Castle

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## From Reader Review *The Lost Night* for online ebook

figuranta♥?addicted♥?to♥?books♥? says

4.5 Stars

### The Blurb

With the ability to detect the auras of dangerous psychic criminals, Rachel Bonner has found peace and quiet on Rainshadow Island with her dust bunny companion. Then Harry Sebastian, the descendant of a notorious pirate, arrives to investigate strange developments in the privately owned woods known as the Preserve. Rachel can sense the heart of darkness within him— and the stirrings of desire within her own soul...

As per usual Jayne Ann Krentz succeed to suck me into the amazing Harmony World and the world of her fantastic **Dust Bunnies**.

**The Lost Night** is the 9th book in the **Harmony** series and the first book in the **Rainshadow** series. As we are used to by now, with almost all her works, this book it's so well written and you can get so easy into it and don't even realized that you got to the end. I have to admit the PNR books from J.A.K. are some of my fave PNR reads cause they seem so real when you read them, and I personally loved to have some of they "**talent**" and be able to live in that world.

Full review to be posted soon.

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### Sharyn says

Jayne Ann Krentz, present, Amanda Quick, past and Jayne Castle, future. I love these books and look forward to each one. I like the paranormal activities and the family ties through the ages. The future takes place on Harmony, where there is a long lost alien civilization, whic some people from long ago earth can use psychic abilities that resonate through alien artifacts. There is always a love story and a mystery. I loved the hero Harry and also the heroine, Rachel. The charcters of the previous book, show up and I assume Harry's bother will be the protagonist in the next Castle book! I hope so.

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### boogenhagen says

Darwina was awesome, glad to see the sub-tropes (harmonic communities and zen etc.) started in the older Orchid and the inability to fit into mainstream society from Hidden Talents grow up here.

I liked this one, loved Amberella and Darwina was adorable, the little adrenaline junkie. The romance is par for JAK, she is like really cheesy mac and triple fudge brownies, always a good comfort read. Rex and Darwina were adorable together too, we need more dust bunny romance.

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## **Dani C. (Paulette's Papers) says**

FYI – This review is written by a huge Jayne Castle (aka Jayne Ann Krentz) fan. I have been reading her books for over 15 years now and I have no plans on stopping!

Rachel Blake has an unusual psychic talent as an aura healer, and an unusual childhood. After trying to fit in with the mainstream community and finding that it isn't working for her, she moves to Rainshadow Island. There she reopens her Aunts bookstore and sells not only books she also sells her very own specially blended just for you teas. Soon she meets Harry Sebastian who has been to Rainshadow Island to check on the unusual paranormal activity happening in the Preserve, his family's private woods.

Harry is drawn to Rachel and thinks she might be the key in helping find out what is going on at the Preserve. After all, she is the only person who has ever gone missing in the Preserve and lived even though she doesn't remember it.

Big surprise – I loved *The Lost Night*. I always feel like Jayne Castle's characters are people I wish I knew in real life. They have such personalities and interesting psychic abilities. Then we have the dust bunnies. I want one so bad!! Darwina always seem to steal the show in whatever scene she was in. The plot didn't have any big surprises in it but it was a nice mystery/romance. All in all it is a book I can see myself rereading and enjoying again.

*The Lost Night* is the first book the Rainshadow series, a spinoff of the Harmony series. It can be read as a standalone. This is an adult paranormal romance with a suspenseful mystery set in a futuristic world.

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## **? Kimberly says**

This novel was an absolute pre-order for me. I love the Harmony and Arcane series. All of the books are designed to be read as a standalone, but I have read them in order since book one. *The Lost Night* offers up a suspenseful paranormal mystery with a healthy side dish of romance. Every time I open a Castle novel I find a delicious escape.

The novel centers on Rachel Blake an aura healer who was raised in a Harmonic Enlightenment community. Rachel doesn't quite fit in and after trying life in the big city; she chooses to reopen her Aunt's bookstore and café on Rainshadow Island. There has been a lot of unexplained paranormal activity near the Preserves and Harry Sebastian is sent in to take a look. The Preserves is a dangerous sanctuary filled with psi-energy. Despite safeguards and warnings, would be treasure hunters and explorers enter and never return. When Harry shows up on the island and asks for Rachel's help, she had no idea how much her life is about to change. The tale that unfolds is filled with suspense, monsters, romance and enough twists to keep me turning the pages.

Castle always provides delightful characters that I can connected with. Rachel is sweet, caring and trying to find her way. She is confident in who she is, but very unsure how others perceive her. She has a remarkable gift, and a unique outlook based on her upbringing. Harry is of course completely swoon-worthy and an all out hero. He is however flawed. He is a powerful para-hunter and his skill level is off the chart. He sees himself as a monster, and tries to keep control of his abilities. The chemistry between Harry and Rachel was intense. They were both leery and the dance they performed was delicious. Castle gave us a creepy villain, a

para-vampire who gave me the chills. I loved going back to Rainshadow Island and seeing some of the characters from the previous novels.

The world-building Castle has created in this futuristic world is fascinating. Harmony is actual another planet that Earth colonized. After a tragic event, it became shut off from Earth. Filled with alien artifacts it's always a cool place to visit. Despite the strange landscapes, it has been colonized much like Earth, and the cities and towns are all unique. The Preserves on Rainshadow Island is fascinating and scary. I loved learning more about it and the owners who claim responsibility for it. In this tale, we have thieves trying to enter the preserves, and they are willing to use whatever means necessary. Something they are doing is affecting the weather. I quickly became swept up in the story and consumed this in a single evening.

I recommend The Lost Night and the Harmony series to fans of paranormal suspense and romance. Jayne Castle is a Pseudonym for author Jayne Anne Krentz. She is one of my favorite authors, and I have read almost everything she has published. I credit Krentz for introducing me to the world of paranormal woo-woo, with her novel Second Sight, the first book in the Arcane Society published under the pseudonym Amanda Quick.

Kimba the Caffeinated Book Reviewer

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### **Cheri says**

Very good!

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### **Alex is The Romance Fox says**

The Lost Night is 2nd book in the Rainshadow Series and we go back to and takes us back to the isolated Rainshadow Island, and its inhabitants.

Harry Sebastian, descendant of one of the original settlers of Rainshadow Island, has been asked by his family to find out what is happening at the island's mysterious Preserve. He meets up with Rachel Bonner, whose psychic power is that of recognizing evil auras in people. She has settled on the island with her dustbunny...naturally.....and runs her great-aunt's quirky bookstore and cafe.....but strange things have been happening to her lately....and the two now have to work together to finding out what is going on.

Nice amount of suspense, romance, with great secondary characters and lots of twists and turns.....

Jayne Castle's vivid world building is absolutely amazing. What I like about this series is that is part sci-fi, paranormal but the characters and the world is very relatable...it could be another Earth planet.

I really like this series.

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### **Sheila Melo says**

**I'd Rate This One a 4.25**

## **I'd Rate This One a 4.25**

THE LOST NIGHT is the first book in the Rainshadow series (although CANYONS OF NIGHT introduces the island and operates as prequel to the series). Rainshadow Island is on the planet of Harmony (this book is also the ninth book about that earth colony) and has an intense paranormal energy about it.

Harry Sebastian has a frightening paranormal talent that caused his wife to leave him after only three weeks of marriage. He comes to Rainshadow Island because something is going wrong on the island. There is an area known as the Preserve where strange things are happening. Harry is the descendant of a pirate and one of the first explorers of the island. His family is responsible for the Preserve and so he has come to see what is going on.

Rachel Blake has come to Rainshadow because she was being stalked by a psychic vampire. Although she feels a bit of misfit in the outside world, she has found a place operating the bookstore and cafe on the island. She had an incident where she was in the Preserve and lost 12 hours of her life. That has made her afraid of herself in some ways. When Harry arrives on the island, she is his prime suspect and being an aura talent she is strong armed by Harry into helping with his investigation.

This book is a futuristic paranormal romantic suspense. There is a nice balance between the suspense aspects of the story dealing with the mystery in the Preserve and the man stalking Rachel and the romance between Rachel and Harry.

Rachel and Harry are an interesting match. They have a great adventure together and it brings out their personal insecurities. I like stories when the characters have weaknesses that are softened by their relationship. I really liked Harry because he is a strong man with personal demons because of his talent. Rachel is strong despite her fear that she is not. Their romance is intense and happens quickly.

There is nice humor in the book added by the dust bunny Darwina. As with all dust bunnies, she plays an important role in the story as a companion to Rachel.

Good addition to the series.

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## **Jilly says**

Let me tell you all a story about Jilly's wild youth as a hip vegetarian girl who lived in Los Angeles in the 80's/90's. The patchouli-wearing, blonde-dreadlocks, surfer-hippy dudes would always have some sort of gimmick to pick-up girls. It might have been that they handed you a friendship bracelet, or talked to you about an upcoming PETA demonstration, or tried to impress you with their Greenpeace membership. And, that was fine with me if he was cute enough, but the one guy who would annoy the crap out of me at parties was Mr. Aura Cleaner. It was always some dude in tie-dye who would step in front of you when you were trying to get to the bathroom or the keg and would tell you that he can see your aura and needs to clean it for you right now. Ugh! I remember one of these aura cleaners getting me stuck on a front porch with him while he waved his hand in front of my face and acted like he was picking bugs out of the air in front of me. He then handed me little pieces of crystals and proceeded to explain how they would help me in life. I knew what would really help me in life - another beer, a more interesting companion, or a cock-blocker to show up at that moment. Because getting away from an aura-cleaner was like trying to get away from the IRS or a toddler. It just doesn't happen. You can run but you can't hide.

And so that man is now my husband.

Naah, just kidding! I escaped aura-guy. That party. Unfortunately, there were always more. I had to wonder just how often the aura-cleaning worked with the ladies. Was this guy's giant sale's pitch really paying off, or did he end each night with a pocketful of crystals and a sore throat from all of his blathering?

Luckily, he believes in reincarnation. Maybe in his next life, he will be cool.

Anywho, why this history lesson? Well, our heroine in this book, Rachel, is just like aura-dude. She reads auras and was raised in a commune type of place where they learn special "principles" to live harmonious lives. This makes her better than everyone else, of course, and she makes sure to spout these principles and the fact that she is one of these special people at least every page. That's right, she's more annoying than a new vegan, a Mormon at your doorstep, or a mom with a kid selling gift wrap paper for school.

Some annoyances are timeless.

But, apart from that, this story was pretty entertaining. There is a special magic-land called the Preserve where something has gone wrong and if the Preserve melts-down, the whole island where they live can blow up. Harry was called in to investigate because some sort of magic rocks (again with the crystals) were stolen and he thinks that may be why the land is getting unstable. Rachel can also work with rocks and crystals, along with the aura thing (same old same old), so she is his number one suspect. And, his number one "person of interest" for luurve.

CSI voice: YEAHHHH...

Now, I know what you're thinking. You know that I complain about the terrible sex scenes in these books and called the last guy Quick-Draw for his inadequacies in this department. So, you are wondering if Harry is any better than Quick-Draw. Well, to answer your question, I will tell you the nickname that I have given to Harry - Minute-Man. That tells you all you need to know.

Uh, yeah. Yes it does, in these books.

On the positive side, these ladies are going to have a really good night's sleep every night. Everyone feels better after a great sleep. So..... there's that...

See? There's always a bright side.

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## **Jacob Proffitt says**

This was a serviceable entry in the series. I liked both protagonists well enough, but there wasn't anything there to really grab me. I think I kind of like the little twists Castle is coming up with for the talents. That could be a crutch meant to disguise lack of differentiation in the characters' personalities, but I think it works as it's own expectation for the individuality of the characters. Castle is creative enough that it doesn't feel strained and I kind of enjoy finding out what is unique and new each time.

I do wish we had seen more of Rachel being badass, though. I feel like that was all setup and skimmed on delivery.

**A note about Steamy:** This was on the low end of standard for this series. There were two explicit sex scenes, but the second was almost brief.

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## **Marie-claude Perras says**

Though i usually love amanda quick, i did not like this universe which is somewhere in space with dust bunnies as protectors of homes, it all felt flat.

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## **Maxine says**

2.5 stars.

I really think that Jayne Ann Krentz, and her pseudonyms, have been phoning it in lately.

What happened to the snappy dialogue, great plots, and tension-filled romances of the past?

I liked The Lost Night, but I didn't love it. I thought it was a bit better than Canyons of Night, but still not fantastic.

Our hero and heroine, Rachel and Harry, were both great characters, but there was no tension between them. There were also much fewer first-person descriptions of their feelings for one another, which made the entire "I love you forever" scene a bit of a stretch.

There was too much external dialogue between them.

I think that, Darwina, the dust bunny was the best character.

The plotline and 'mystery' were thin and seemed to have been added in as an afterthought.

Do I still love the world of Harmony that Castle has created? Yes.

Will I read the next one in the series? Yes.

Do I wish they picked up a bit on plot, tension and characterization? Oh, yes.

First read in September 2012.

Re-read August 2014.



re-read March 2015

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## **Lakshmi C says**

Don't worry; legends always survive the truth."

This was my first book by Jayne Castle and its a promising start to The Rainbow series. The author incorporates sci fi and futuristic elements without confusing the reader. It's easy to grasp the parascience involved if you have read about stories featuring psychics.

She constructs an intriguing world, similar to Earth but with its own unique charm. Darwina, the dust bunny steals the show in this one.

"False memories are worse than no memories."

Rachel was a likeable female lead. She was strong, loyal, sorted and self aware. She was dealing with amnesia, 12 missing hours and I like it when the title actually links to the story.

Harry Sebastian was here to investigate unstable energy in the Preserve but the residents won't open up to an outsider. He was protective, logical and thorough.

Both of them had some cool psychic powers and they team up to solve the mystery and keep each other alive. Throw in some explosions, psychic mosters, hidden Alien secrets and you are in for an entertaining read.

Jayne Castle likes to pair up unconventional characters and they are mostly viewed as offbeat or edgy.

The story has an uncertain, eerie tone but you know your mcs will solve this one.

I tested the waters with this one and am eager to read more about Rainbow Island.

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## **Paraphrodite says**

It was ok but I must admit I don't find it very memorable at all. It's still linked loosely with the Arcane series in that it's linked to Canyons of Night. I believe there's going to be another 2 books set in Rain-shadow, I hope they'll get more interesting because JAK is still one of my favorite authors.

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## **Jen says**

3.5 stars

Another good book in the Arcane series.

This review and more on *Fiction Vixen* Book Reviews

Jayne Castle also writes as Jayne Ann Krentz and Amanda Quick. I enjoy all of Arcane series books no matter what name they are written under. She has a fun way of writing with Amanda Quick being the historical book, Jayne Ann Krentz the present day book and then Jayne Castle following up with the

futuristic book. It makes for some clever and interesting trilogies. She also has series that are standalone under each author. I don't know how she keeps track of all the Arcane series but it never fails to impress me that she does. Her books are not part of an ongoing arc however they are all connected by terms and by the overall storyline of the Arcane Society so if you are not familiar with the her writing you might be a little lost just starting out with this book.

The Lost Night is the first book in a new series set in a place called Rainshadow Island. Rainshadow Island is a place for people who just don't quite fit in anywhere else. It is a collection of the misfits and rejects of society. It is also place of strong psi energy particularly in a place called The Preserve. The island is owned by the Sebastian family and The Preserve is closely guarded. People generally do not go into The Preserve because they usually do not come out alive.

Rachel Blake is one of very people to go into The Preserve and make it out alive however she has no memory of what happened the 12 hours she was lost in the area. All she remembers is coming out of The Preserve and finding the closest house for help. She has been termed to have been in a fugue state and everyone treats her very carefully thinking she might have some trauma from her lost time. Rachel is used to being treated differently because she was raised in a Harmonic Enlightenment family. The outside world has some very interesting views on Harmonic Enlightenment one of those ideas being they are a very promiscuous group. That idea happens to be false.

Harry Sebastian has been sent to the island to figure out why the energies of the are are out of whack. Everything is going crazy causing major storms and fog to take over the area. He suspects it has something to do with The Preserve and when he investigates he finds out he is correct. Many years ago his grandfather hid three stones in The Preserve. They are some sort of beacon or energy holder for the area. Upon arriving Harry finds out the stones have been stolen and knows only a powerful psi personality could have survived entering The Preserve and taking the stones. It is up to him to find the stones or he will evacuate the island to save everyone from what is coming.

Harry's first suspect is Rachel simply because of her 12 hours lost. After meeting her he feels an instant connection and knows she cannot have possibly taken the stones on purpose. There has to be another reason she would have done it, if she is the one, – whether to help a friend or blackmail. Harry enlists Rachel's help and talent as an aura reader to interview the town and find out who could have done the crime.

I am always a little bit in love with the heroes in these books. Krentz/Castle writes the most brooding, angsty men you can read about. They feel they are beyond redemption and are usually high end talents. I have to giggle because each of her heroes are also generously endowed. Can you go wrong with generously endowed and brooding all wrapped up into the same package? Harry Sebastian is just such a man. He has recently had a CM (covenant marriage) dissolved, an normally impossible task, because his wife was afraid of his talent. He ran too hot one night and scared her off. Now he feels he is a walking nightmare and not something any woman would want to be with.

Good thing for him Rachel is an aura talent and is able to withstand the full force of his hunter abilities. She is also able to calm him after he burns too much of his talent. This is a huge help for Harry because he cannot normally be around anyone during his burn off time. Harry is convinced Rachel is the true woman for him because she matches him perfectly.

The villain in the book is pretty straightforward. He is someone we are introduced to fairly early in the book and they do not hide the fact it is him. He does have a partner on Rainshadow Island that we do not know about. I wouldn't say figuring out who the partner is was too tricky but I have never thought these books

were really about the suspense but more so about the world and the relationships.

The ending is left open with Harry and Rachel only finding one of the three stones and Drake, Harry's brother, off to find a woman who might know where the other stones are. I assume with three stones this might be another trilogy in the making. Overall this was a good book for Krentz/Castle. It was a quick read with some engaging characters. I look forward to the next in the series. Final grade- B-

Favorite Quote:

"I sensed almost from the start of this thing that you're the key. Until I find out exactly what lock you can open, I'm not letting you out of my sight."

She winced. "Always nice to feel needed."

His eyes heated a little. "I need you, Rachel. Don't ever doubt that."

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