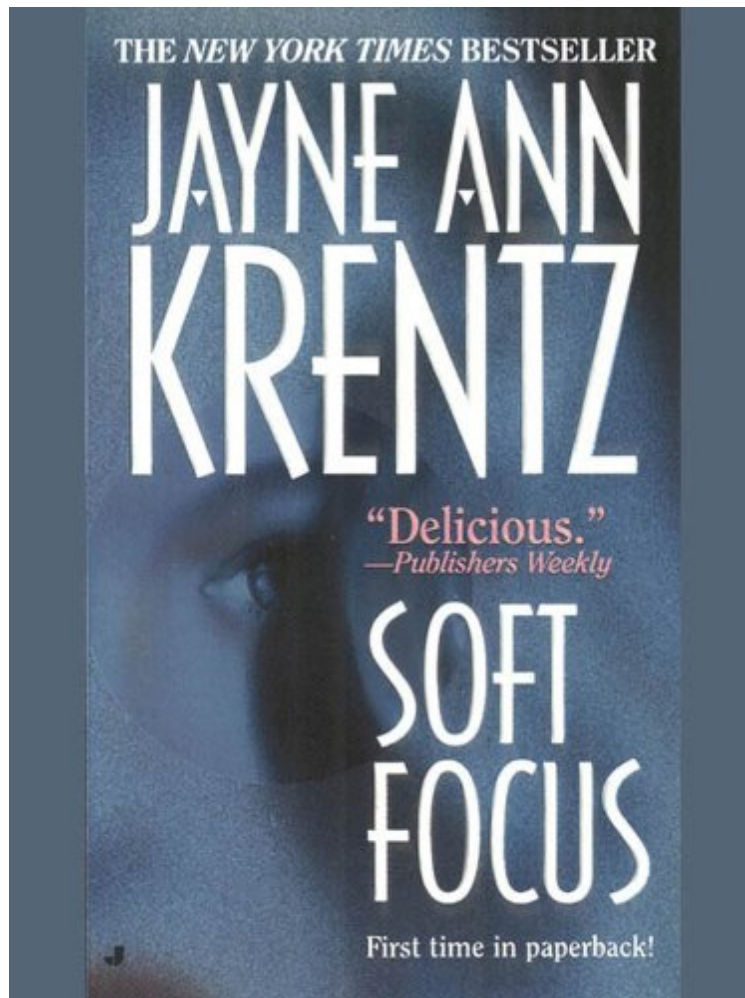


## Soft Focus

Von Jayne Ann Krentz  
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**Von Jayne Ann Krentz : Soft Focus** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Soft Focus:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. a deft tale from JAKVon Deborah MacgillivraySoft Focus was a very enjoyable Single Title Romantic Suspense (meaning before Krentz and her publishers started doing the Trilogy releases - 1 good strong tale followed by two weaker ones). It was a very enjoyable read, but not Krentz at her best.In Soft Focus, Elizabeth is an all business heroine (typical JAK!). She applies the same cost and profit in her business life to her romance life. So after a one night stand with Jack Fairfax, and Elizabeth discovers Jack deceived her, she wants to cut her losses. Jack is not willing to let her do it, and uses their business contract to keep a leash on the spunky lady.Jack owns Excalibur, a cutting edge technology firm. When he discovers there is sabotage going on that could put them both in the red financially, Elizabeth has to let

Jack back into her life. If she helps Jack save Excalibur, she stands to make millions of dollars. Together they search for a missing scientist who made off with a new special crystal. Elizabeth and Jack follow the clues to a film festival and the fun begins, with Jack keeping an eye on winning Elizabeth back as well as saving his firm. A very deft tale from a talented writer. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. *Soft Focus Will Put You In Dreamland* Von Mrs. Fitz What happened to JAK? Used to love her books. This is the second one in a row I can't even finish (ok did cheat and read the last chapter). I felt like I'd read this book 100 times before. Same heroine, same prickly hero, with a murder thrown in to throw them together. Also I didn't really warm up to either character, which makes it hard to care what happens to them. Don't waste your time on this snoozer. Check out some of her early titles for a good read. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. *Crisp and Fun* Von Aficionado This book opens with one of the best opening scenes Jayne's ever given us, and the action never lets up from there. The dialogue in this book just crackles with humor and intelligence. The characters of Jack and Elizabeth are likeable people who never quite fool themselves into believing they aren't crazy about each other, offering and accepting all kinds of lame excuses to keep hanging out together. The mystery that sends them off to share a cozy mountain lodge at a small film noir festival is engaging, but it also gives the the time alone to figure out their relationship (which had exploded back in that first scene). Krentz's skill with dialogue just keeps getting sharper and this book has some of the best zingers I've read--laugh out loud funny at times. I smiled my way through this one and literally never put it down from first page to last.

**Kurzbeschreibung** With her hallmark blend of sparkling style and wit, intricate suspense, and steamy passion, Jayne Ann Krentz is truly one of a kind. One of today's premier storytellers, she has more than twenty-three million copies of her novels in print. Now the phenomenal New York Times bestselling author spins her latest scintillating tale: a story of two people bound together by that most binding of ties--a business contract. Elizabeth Cabot is all business. She knows how to maximize her investments and cut her losses--in both her career and her personal life. So when she discovers that Jack Fairfax has deceived her, she's determined to end their relationship. Putting a stop to their budding romance is easy. But breaking up their business deal will be more difficult. Despite all her efforts, she has no luck disentangling herself from Jack's client company, Excalibur. But the situation becomes even more strained when a new obstacle emerges: a lethal act of sabotage that could put both of them out of business for good. Elizabeth is no fool. If she can help Jack save Excalibur, she'll recoup her substantial investment plus millions in profit. Putting her emotions aside, she insists on helping him search for the scientist who's disappeared with a valuable new crystal that could revolutionize the high-tech industry. She'll go in, solve the problem--and get out. The trail leads Elizabeth and Jack to a fringe film festival, but their goal is as elusive as the shadowy black-and-white images from classic noir films. Life starts to imitate art, and double-dealing seems to be the name of the game. For these business adversaries turned reluctant partners, keeping an eye on each other--and the lid on a sizzling attraction--seems the only insurance against further treachery. But with millions at stake, trust can turn to betrayal in the blink of an eye. From Booklist *Onetime lovers Elizabeth Cabot and Jack Fairfax are forced to work together because she is the administrator of the fund that is supporting Excalibur, a small, family-held R D firm, and he has been hired as CEO to turn the company around. When the lab is trashed, a technician is murdered, and the crystal that the fortunes of the company depend upon disappears along with its inventor. Jack knows he has only two weeks to solve the mystery or Excalibur will be beyond salvation. Uncovering the fact that the missing scientist was obsessed with film noir and was the producer of a film that will be premiering at the Neo Noir Film Festival in Mirror Springs, an exclusive Aspen-like Rocky Mountain resort, he heads to the hills. Meanwhile, Elizabeth discovers Excalibur's predicament. She also decides to investigate, and they end up together in the same house in overbooked Mirror Springs. Taking in independent neo noir films, attending panel discussions and parties feting those involved, the duo, who have good reason to dislike each other, muster up a mutual if grudging respect and admiration and then ignite a sizzling passion as they become submerged in the gritty film noir world. Best-selling Krentz, known for her strong-willed, independent characters, once again provides satisfaction in this hot, suspenseful romance set against the fascinating and darkly glamorous atmosphere of a film festival. Diana Tixier Herald* From Kirkus *sCEOs meet, mate and solve a mystery. Perennial bestseller Krentz (Eye of the Beholder, p. 473, etc.) throws frustrated ex-lovers Elizabeth Cabot and Jack Fairfax together at a ski resort in the Colorado Rockies as they seek to recover Soft Focus, a stolen high-tech crystal that will rescue Jacks Seattle company Excalibur (largely backed by Elizabeths Aurora Fund). The dueling execs had an unsatisfying one-night stand under their belts when Elizabeth discovered that Jack was responsible for the hostile takeover of a friends business. Jack is unrepentant, though, because the friend tried to cheat his computer-genius brother out of software royalties. His only regret is that Elizabeth never had an orgasm while they were between the sheets; he resolves that if he ever gets another chance, hell do it all much, much better. Jacks opportunity comes when the pair tracks the scientist/thief (also the producer of a movie called Fast Company) to a neo noir film festival in the Aspen-like resort of Mirror Springs. As usual with Krentz, the wisecracking lovers are much more fun than the garbled mystery. There's plenty of romantic fictions*

required sexual tension, as Jack lies his way into the glam vacation house where Elizabeth is staying and the two are thrown together nightly at the illuminated hot tub. On the crystal-seeking front, Krentz tosses in several murders of people trying to do each other out of the valuable invention; a femme fatale who stages her own death, because her husband has a history of killing his wives for the insurance money; and some amusing references to classic noir films. Unfortunately, the villain, such as he is, is identified in a disappointing denouement that ties up loose ends without providing much of a climax. All the flirtatious banter and steamy sex one would expect, but romance writers should leave the whodunit to those who do it better. (Literary Guild/Doubleday Book Club selection; author tour) --  
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