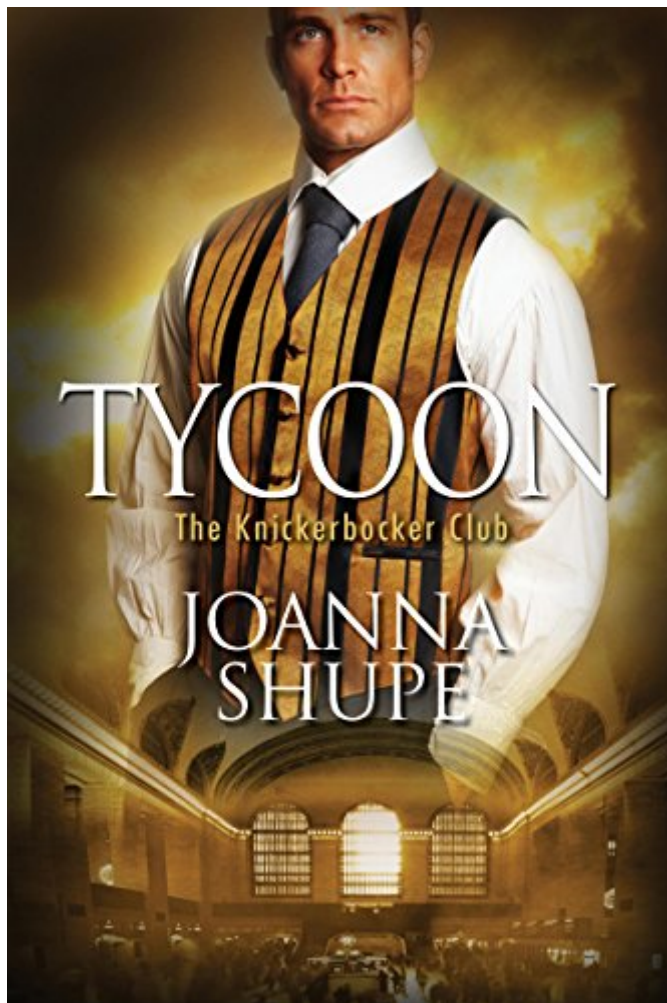


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# Tycoon (The Knickerbocker Club)



## Synopsis

Sometimes the journey is more pleasurable than the destination . . . Standing on the platform at Grand Central Depot, Ted Harper is surprised by a fiery kiss from an undeniably gorgeous damsel in distress. He's certain she's a swindler who's only after his money, but he's never met a woman so passionate and sure of herself. Disarmed, he invites her to spend the journey to St. Louis in his private car--perhaps against his better judgment . . . Clara Dawson has long known how to take care of herself, but the savvy shop girl is at a loss when she witnesses--and becomes entangled in--a terrible crime. Desperation propels her into a stranger's arms at the train station, but she hadn't expected Ted to offer her the protection she so badly needs--nor did she expect their chemistry to develop more steam than the engine of the train. He's everything she never thought she could have, and she's everything he didn't know he wanted. But as her secrets begin to unfurl, their fledgling romance could be in danger of derailing before they arrive at the next station.

Raves for *The Courtesan Duchess* "Original and alluring." --Publishers Weekly "Riveting." --Sabrina Jeffries "Passionate and seductive." --RT Book Reviews "Captivating." --Booklist

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In my view, Tycoon doesn't cut it. Reviewer E Homar sums it up for me - particularly when detailing the poor characterisation, as well as the implausibility regarding the heroine sharing a carriage with a "saviour" on absolutely no acquaintanceship, but then not telling him why she is fleeing. (Let alone the nonsensical trope of the sweet virgin who encourages a virtual stranger - and a mildly reluctant one at that - to have sex with her only hours later.) I certainly agree about the lacklustre romance. Lust sure. Love - hardly. I diverge with E Homer on one point. She likes the H, Ted. I don't. I can't understand why Shupe would think the following description one which would encourage a romance reader to be entranced by her hero: "Ted had fixed stock prices, run companies out of business, provided low cost loans and dozens more questionable acts." By all means, a hero can be a rotter, but why drop in this statement and just leave it? For him to be admired, a reader would have to ignore the human misery Ted caused by these actions - or consider them negligible! Shupe certainly doesn't seem to feel the need to redeem Ted through casual reference to even the mildest philanthropy. So he has no remorse and will continue with this shoddiness? I don't even trust him at a personal level. He has spent years choosing married women as lovers and describes these arrangements in a callous self-serving way. He doesn't even have an epiphany about that - just observes how good it makes HIM feel to wake up with a warm and willing body beside him. So I really don't like Ted - even though I acknowledge that there are/were plenty of him around. In my view, a H has to have something more than deep pockets and a 17 bedroom New York mansion. And if I don't like a H, right through to the last page, the story doesn't work for me. I read this story because I'm working my way through the RWA Awards shortlist recently announced. I can't understand why this novella was shortlisted. Obviously, many other readers love it. Each to her own. Two stars.

Obviously at 102 pages this was a quick read, but regardless of the length, TYCOON was an excellent read and one I totally enjoyed. Starting it, I hadn't realized that TYCOON was novella length but the writing was so crisp and dialogs so witty that I just immersed myself to enjoy a great story. Ted Harper was simply minding himself on a train platform when a beautiful young lady rushed up to embrace him and give him a smack on the cheek and talking a mile a minute so that he couldn't get a word in edgewise! Clara Dawson, shop girl from a

department store hadn't been intending to board a train fleeing from New York but after witnessing her boss's murder by a notorious politician and his police bodyguard who would believe her! The chemistry between Ted the stranger, and Clara was great especially when he offered her a seat in his private car. He's everything she ever desired even if a little stiff, but as a very nice bank clerk, she supposed that was how he should be. However as the danger slips in and Clara doesn't tell him the truth of why she's anxious to leave the city, Ted suspects she is just another female trying to ambush him into marriage. By the time he does come to believe her story, will it be too late to see her and lose the one female he has come to adore? Bottom Line: I loved this story, both characters, and great writing! Can't wait to read more of the Knickerbocker Club! Marilyn Rondeau

Very nice beginning to the Knickerbocker series. I read Magnate before I realized there was a prequel. I knew it was a novella when I purchased it, so had no problem with the length. Quick read...I finished it over my lunch hour. Clara is a nice girl working in a department store who sees a crime and flees New York City. Realizing she's being followed, she attaches herself to a nice looking man and pretends they're married. Ted is the owner of a bank in New York City, on his way to St. Louis. He plays along with Clara's tale and is soon in the middle of her plight. He becomes her hero! Very nice story. Not perfect, but then you don't have time in a novella to fully develop the characters. Having said that, using the train trip to introduce this series was genius! You have a beginning, meeting on the platform. A middle, the train trip and learning about each other. An end. Where do they go? What happens next? What about the crime? Perfectly done in novella format!! I read Magnate prior to realizing there was a prequel, but had to get this as soon as I realized it!

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