



The Lady and the Unicorn

By Tracy Chevalier

Download now

Read Online →

The Lady and the Unicorn By Tracy Chevalier

A tour de force of history and imagination, **The Lady and the Unicorn** is Tracy Chevalier's answer to the mystery behind one of the art world's great masterpieces—a set of bewitching medieval tapestries that hangs today in the Cluny Museum in Paris. They appear to portray the seduction of a unicorn, but the story behind their making is unknown—until now.

Paris, 1490. A shrewd French nobleman commissions six lavish tapestries celebrating his rising status at Court. He hires the charismatic, arrogant, sublimely talented Nicolas des Innocents to design them. Nicolas creates havoc among the women in the house—mother and daughter, servant, and lady-in-waiting—before taking his designs north to the Brussels workshop where the tapestries are to be woven. There, master weaver Georges de la Chapelle risks everything he has to finish the tapestries—his finest, most intricate work—on time for his exacting French client. The results change all their lives—lives that have been captured in the tapestries, for those who know where to look.

In **The Lady and the Unicorn**, Tracy Chevalier weaves fact and fiction into a beautiful, timeless, and intriguing literary tapestry—an extraordinary story exquisitely told.

↓ [Download The Lady and the Unicorn ...pdf](#)

📄 [Read Online The Lady and the Unicorn ...pdf](#)

The Lady and the Unicorn

By Tracy Chevalier

The Lady and the Unicorn By Tracy Chevalier

A tour de force of history and imagination, **The Lady and the Unicorn** is Tracy Chevalier's answer to the mystery behind one of the art world's great masterpieces—a set of bewitching medieval tapestries that hangs today in the Cluny Museum in Paris. They appear to portray the seduction of a unicorn, but the story behind their making is unknown—until now.

Paris, 1490. A shrewd French nobleman commissions six lavish tapestries celebrating his rising status at Court. He hires the charismatic, arrogant, sublimely talented Nicolas des Innocents to design them. Nicolas creates havoc among the women in the house—mother and daughter, servant, and lady-in-waiting—before taking his designs north to the Brussels workshop where the tapestries are to be woven. There, master weaver Georges de la Chapelle risks everything he has to finish the tapestries—his finest, most intricate work—on time for his exacting French client. The results change all their lives—lives that have been captured in the tapestries, for those who know where to look.

In **The Lady and the Unicorn**, Tracy Chevalier weaves fact and fiction into a beautiful, timeless, and intriguing literary tapestry—an extraordinary story exquisitely told.

The Lady and the Unicorn By Tracy Chevalier Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #18821342 in Books
- Published on: 2004-01
- Original language: English
- Binding: Unknown Binding

 [Download The Lady and the Unicorn ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Lady and the Unicorn ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

If you think you wouldn't raise your skirts for a rakish legend about the purifying powers of a unicorn's horn, then maybe you aren't a 15th-century serving girl under the sway of a velvet-tongued court painter of ill repute. In keeping with her bestselling *Girl with a Pearl Earring*, and its Edwardian-era follow-up, *Falling Angels*, Tracy Chevalier's tale of artistic creation and late-medieval amours, *The Lady and the Unicorn* is a subtle study in social power, and the conflicts between love and duty. Nicolas des Innocents has been commissioned by the Parisian nobleman Jean Le Viste to design a series of large tapestries for his great hall (in real life, the famous *Lady and the Unicorn* cycle, now in Paris's Musee National du Moyen-Age Thermes de Cluny). While Nicolas is measuring the walls, he meets a beautiful girl who turns out to be Jean Le Viste's daughter. Their passion is impossible for their world--so forbidden, given their class differences, that its only avenue of expression turns out to be those magnificent tapestries. The historical evidence on which this story is based is slight enough to allow the full play of Chevalier's imagination in this cleverly woven tale. --

Regina Marler

From Publishers Weekly

Chevalier, whose bestselling *Girl with a Pearl Earring* showed how a picture can inspire thousands of words, yokes her limpid, quietly enthralling storytelling to the six *Lady and the Unicorn* tapestries that hang in the Museum of the Middle Ages in Paris. As with her Vermeer novel, she takes full creative advantage of the mystery that shrouds an extraordinary collaborative work of art. Building on the little that is known or surmised - in this case that the tapestries were most likely commissioned by the French noble Jean Le Viste and made in a workshop in Brussels at the end of the 15th century - she imagines her way into a lost world. We are introduced to Nicholas des Innocents, the handsome, irrepressibly seductive artist who designed the works for the cold Le Viste, a rich, grim social climber who bought his way into the nobility and cares more about impressing the king and his court than pleasing the wife who has disappointed him by bearing three girls and no sons. Le Viste's wife, Genevieve, tells Nicholas to create scenes with a unicorn but Nicholas's love of women - and especially of Geneviève's beautiful daughter Claude - inspires the extraordinary faces and gestures of the women he depicts. A great romance unfolds. What makes the tale enthralling are the details Chevalier offers about the social customs of the time and, especially, the craft of weaving as it was practiced in Brussels. There are psychological anachronisms: would a young woman in medieval times express her pent-up frustrations by cutting herself as some teenage girls do today? Yet the genuine drama Chevalier orchestrates as the weavers race to complete the tapestries, and the deft way she herself weaves together each separate story strand, results in a work of genuine power and beauty. And yes, readers will inevitably think about what a gorgeous movie this would make.

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From School Library Journal

Adult/High School-This fanciful, engaging tale of the making of the famous unicorn tapestries is woven together as cleverly as the artworks themselves. Dynamic Nicolas des Innocents is proud of his skill as a painter and of his sexual prowess, and displays both at every opportunity. Always in need of funds, he persuades Jean Le Viste, a powerful Parisian nobleman, to commission a series of six tapestry designs of Nicolas's choosing: scenes focused on the unicorn, a fabled symbol of male virility and mysterious powers. Jean's pious wife colludes with the artist, as do her daughter and her lady-in-waiting. Nicolas courts them all. He journeys to Brussels, where his fate becomes intertwined with the family weaving the tapestries, but most of all their daughter, Alienor, whose blindness dooms her to betrothal to a brutish wool dyer. The "family" also includes the workers who assist them, one of whom, shy Philippe, secretly adores Alienor. The deadline

for completion of the tapestries is moved up, and tension increases as all concentrate on the task. The major characters' reactions to their world-early 1490s France-are revealed, like the tapestries being woven, a little at a time. The French court and its aristocracy; Flemish weavers, their work ethic, and their powerful guild-all are delineated with the consummate skill Chevalier brought to *Girl with a Pearl Earring* (Dutton, 2000).-

Molly Connolly, Chantilly Regional Library, VA

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Bobbie Wallace:

As people who live in often the modest era should be up-date about what going on or info even knowledge to make all of them keep up with the era and that is always change and move forward. Some of you maybe can update themselves by reading books. It is a good choice for you but the problems coming to an individual is you don't know what kind you should start with. This *The Lady and the Unicorn* is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

Anthony Davidson:

People live in this new day time of lifestyle always try and and must have the time or they will get wide range of stress from both way of life and work. So , once we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not only a robot. Then we ask again, what kind of activity do you have when the spare time coming to you actually of course your answer can unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, typically the book you have read is usually *The Lady and the Unicorn*.

Katherine Hood:

This *The Lady and the Unicorn* is brand-new way for you who has attention to look for some information mainly because it relief your hunger associated with. Getting deeper you onto it getting knowledge more you know or you who still having tiny amount of digest in reading this *The Lady and the Unicorn* can be the light food for you because the information inside this kind of book is easy to get through anyone. These books acquire itself in the form which is reachable by anyone, yes I mean in the e-book contact form. People who think that in e-book form make them feel sleepy even dizzy this guide is the answer. So there is not any in reading a guide especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for you. So , don't miss the idea! Just read this e-book style for your better life as well as knowledge.

Jesus Rhode:

As a student exactly feel bored to reading. If their teacher requested them to go to the library in order to make summary for some book, they are complained. Just minor students that has reading's internal or real their interest. They just do what the teacher want, like asked to the library. They go to generally there but nothing reading critically. Any students feel that examining is not important, boring in addition to can't see

colorful pictures on there. Yeah, it is to become complicated. Book is very important for yourself. As we know that on this period of time, many ways to get whatever we really wish for. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this The Lady and the Unicorn can make you really feel more interested to read.

Download and Read Online The Lady and the Unicorn By Tracy Chevalier #IAHGN0F2ZKD

Read The Lady and the Unicorn By Tracy Chevalier for online ebook

The Lady and the Unicorn By Tracy Chevalier Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Lady and the Unicorn By Tracy Chevalier books to read online.

Online The Lady and the Unicorn By Tracy Chevalier ebook PDF download

The Lady and the Unicorn By Tracy Chevalier Doc

The Lady and the Unicorn By Tracy Chevalier Mobipocket

The Lady and the Unicorn By Tracy Chevalier EPub

IAHGN0F2ZKD: The Lady and the Unicorn By Tracy Chevalier