



## Taboo

*Susan Johnson*

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## **Taboo** Susan Johnson

Through eleven nationally bestselling books, award winner Susan Johnson has won a legion of fans for her lushly romantic historical novels. Now she delivers her most thrilling tale yet--a searing blend of rousing adventure and wild, forbidden love...

Married against her will to the brutal Russian general who conquered her people, Countess Teo Korsakova has never known what it means to want a man...until now. Trapped behind enemy lines, held captive by her husband's most formidable foe, she should fear for her life. But all Teo feels in General Andre Duras's shattering presence is breathless passion. France's most victorious commander, Andre knows that he should do the honorable thing, knows too that on the eve of battle he cannot afford so luscious a distraction. Yet something about Teo lures him to do the unthinkable: to seduce his enemy's wife, and to let himself love a woman who can never be his.

## **Taboo Details**

Date : Published November 3rd 1997 by Bantam (first published 1993)

ISBN : 9780553572155

Author : Susan Johnson

Format : Paperback 368 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical, Adult Fiction, Erotica, Fiction

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## From Reader Review Taboo for online ebook

SueBee★bring me an alpha!★ says

★★★★★! St. John-Duras series, book 3 of 5. General Andre Duras while fighting for Napoleon captures the wife of his enemy, Countess Teo Korsakova ensnaring his heart in his biggest battle yet!.

### *US EDITION SERIES INFO & REVIEW*

*St. John-Duras series*

*Book 3*

*Formats: Kindle & paperback for both US/UK*

*The St John-Duras series takes us all across Europe introducing us to the St. John and Duras families. Book 1 starts off with **Sinjin St. John, the Duke of Seth** one of the most provoking alpha heroes – ever!!! Book 3 in series then continues with the Duras family. **General Andre Duras** was a side character in book 2 and he is also a very strong, memorable hero.*

**Susan Johnson aka C.C. Gibbs**, is published by different publishers in the US and UK, hence the different titles and covers.

These are stand-alones, but most enjoyed if read in order:

Book 1: (Year 1787)

**Sinful** (US) / **Sinful Dreams** (UK)

Book 2: (Year 1800)

**Wicked** (US) / **Wicked Fascination** (UK)

Book 3: (Year 1799)

**Taboo** (US) / **The Sweetest Taboo** (UK)

Book 4: (Year 1825)

**A Touch of Sin** (US) / **Touch of Sin** (UK)

Book 5: (Year 1851)

**Legendary Lover** (US) / **Venus Laid Bare** (UK)

*We first met **General Andre (Massena) Duras** in book 2 (last name changed to Duras to allow literary license). This is his story.*

### **GENERAL ANDRE DURAS:**

*38 years/French/General/playboy/\$\$\$/black hair/navy eyes.*

**General Andre Duras** is a handsome, commanding, and sexy in control alpha and general in **Napoleon's army**. The war has been a success for him and has made him a very **powerful, respected and wealthy man**.

### **COUNTESS THEODORA "TEO"KORSAKOVA:**

*28 years/Russian/Countess/married/black hair/green eyes.*

**Countess Teo Korsakova** who was married under duress to a brutal Russian General finds herself behind

enemy lines and held captive by her husband's adversary General Duras.

**Andre and Teo's attraction** is instant and electric and they quickly fall in bed for some **mind-blowing sex!** But this is **year 1799** and they are on **opposing sides** of a war. Besides Teo's husband has no intentions of giving her up and **Duras does not need to be distracted**— he has a war to win. Their story is nothing short of a **whirlwind roller-coaster**.

**Captivating** plot! **Spellbinding** story-telling. A **larger-than-life** hero! A **strong** heroine! Andre and Teo's story is **enchanting** opening the door for an **epic saga following three generations** of the Duras family!

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Hero rating: 5+ stars

Heroine rating: 5 stars

Sex scenes rating: 5 stars

Sex scenes frequency: 5 stars

Storyline concept rating: 5 stars

Storytelling skills rating: 5 stars

Story ending rating: 5 stars

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**Overall rating: 5+ stars**

**Would I recommend this series: Yes.**

**Would I re-read this series: Yes.**

**Would I read future books by this author: Yes.**

Be sure to **join CCGibbsFANS** here on GR for the latest news:

**<https://www.goodreads.com/group/show/...>**

*(Public group for members 18 years and older)*

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**Lynn says**

Don't be scared off by other reviews claiming this is too historical! I almost skipped this book in the series and I'm glad I didn't. I just skimmed through the war-heavy parts, pausing when I saw Duras or Korsakov's names. The love story is very sweet and the sex is hot. Overall a good read.

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### **Nessa says**

THIS WAS THE MOST DULLEST INSTALLMENT FROM JOHNSON

Truly this story puts love at first sight to shame when I don't even know what hit me when the characters met, chatting so politely and suddenly the heroine is begging for SEX with the hero and he too falls in lust....WTF?!

Normally I would do a breakdown of characters but this story truly doesn't need it. Throughout the entire story they were IN LOVE and had a baby together. As much as our hero claims he loves Teo, he wasn't even the least bit faithful while he was gone.

Perhaps it was the norm of the time, and they made no promises to one another. Boy, was it complicated during the wartime. There is no such thing as loyalty unless you are fighting for your country.

JUST SKIP THIS AND MOVE ON!

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### **Liz Demoisey says**

Hands down one of my all time favorite bodice rippers. Best enjoyed with a glass of wine and chocolates.

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### **Christine says**

A great love story, but I think it was bogged down in too much detail about the French and Russian troops and their movements. Not her best book, but still a fabulous read.

## Jennifer says

This seemed like one of those overblown romances from the 80s. Did not like, DNF.

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## Nicola Davidson says

A bit uneven. Thought the story got bogged down by a lot of historical detail, and Andre & Teo do spend significant portions of the book apart. When they are together it is sweet and sexy, but the 'fall in love' felt like it happened super fast. The both-married-but-our-spouses-are-awful-so-it's-fine aspect seemed a bit lazy.

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## Kathy Golden says

Taboo <https://amzn.to/2Df8cHD> is one of my absolute favorite books. Many don't like it, but that's alright, too, because Andre Duras will always be a keeper for me. I read this novel twice last year, and I don't know how many times that makes. I have posted my review on Amazon: <https://amzn.to/2TXwAmG>.

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## PurplyCookie says

Countess Teo Korsakova is caught behind enemy lines and is captured by General Andre Duras, France's most victorious commander. For Teo, married at fifteen to the brutal Russian conqueror of her beloved Siberia, it is love at first sight when she meets General Duras. Andre is put off guard by Teo's openness and outright seduction of him. However, Andre becomes enamored of Teo's charms despite himself. Their love threatens disaster for the French army and promises to change the course of the war and history.

Realistically how can two people meet, have sex and fall madly in love in two days in 1799? She in one paragraph states her faithfulness to her husband and in the next is having sex with Andre and asking him to give her a child! The back of the book says she was "forced to marry the brutal Russian General who enslaved her people", but you never know more about her life before Khorsakov entered it. What was her life like before her people were conquered? What made Khorsakov so cruel? He was nothing more than a stock character-one with the word "villain" printed on his forehead.

"**Taboo**" is a somewhat disturbing book to read. Johnson seems to have been of two minds when she wrote this story. One part of the story is pure history, filled with facts and statistics, which makes it difficult for those who do not love historic fact to read. It seems like Johnson was so absorbed with the war details in this book that she forgot to develop her characters.

More of Purplycookie's Reviews @: <http://www.goodreads.com/purplycookie>

Book Details:

Title Taboo (Duras #1)

Author Susan Johnson

Reviewed By Purplycookie

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**Jenny says**

I love Susan Johnson -- that said, this was a pretty weak book. The beginning is totally unbelievable.

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**Koxecho says**

The plot in this book is ridiculous. They fall into bed with each other in the first 30 pages --after she talks about how faithful she is to her a-hole of a husband. She seems like a weak indecisive woman who lacks conviction and true passion. I couldn't finish this book. Glad I didn't waste more than 50 cents on this book. Maybe someone else will like it.

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