

Ride A Cockhorse - Raymond Kennedy

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A revolution is under way at a once sleepy New England bank. Forty-five-year-old Frances Fitzgibbons has gone from sweet-tempered loan officer to insatiable force of nature almost overnight. Suddenly she's brazenly seducing the high-school drum major, taking over her boss's office, firing anyone who crosses her, inspiring populist fervor, and publicly announcing plans to crush her local rivals en route to dominating the entire banking industry in the northeast. The terrifying new order instituted by Frankie and her offbeat goon squad (led by her devoted hairdresser and including her own son-in-law) is an awesome spectacle to behold. Brimming with snappy dialogue and gleeful obscenity, *Ride a Cockhorse* is a rollicking cautionary tale of small-town demagoguery that might be seen to prefigure both America's current financial woes and the rise of Sarah Palin. Frances is in any case a beautiful monster of an antiheroine; resist her at your peril!

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