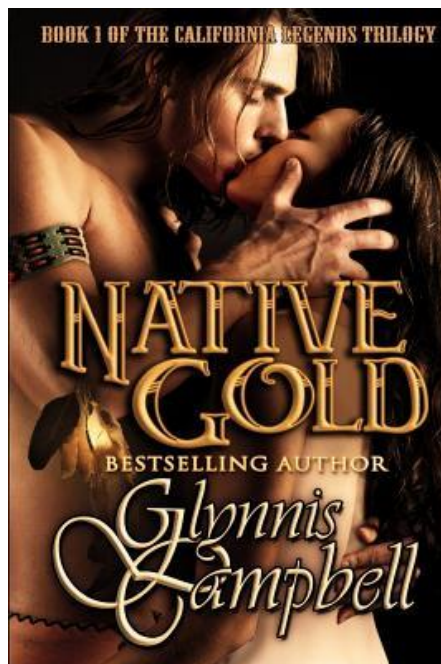




Native Gold

Glynnis Campbell , Richard Campbell (Illustrations)

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Mathilda Hardwicke, a rebellious artist rejected by her family and New York society, heads west to Gold Rush California to make a new life for herself as a mail-order bride. When fate leaves her at the altar in Paradise Bar--a ramshackle gold camp full of ragtag miners--she's sure she's leaped out of the frying pan and into the fire. But unbeknownst to Mattie, she has a protector.

Sakote, a fierce Konkow warrior, is bound by honor to watch over the white woman. And though his tribe is threatened by the encroaching miners, he's strangely drawn to Mattie, who delights in making pictures of him and whose destiny seems entwined with his.

When a tragedy at the camp forces Sakote to steal Mattie away, she finds herself in an unfamiliar Paradise of savage wonder, and she soon discovers a forbidden love more precious than gold.

Native Gold Details

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From Reader Review Native Gold for online ebook

AnnMarie says

This was an amazing story, comical in places, sad in others, and with some wonderfully romantic and passionate scenes as well. It made the perfect read and I am looking forward very much to the next book in the series.

Elodie says

This book was my second read by Glynnis Campbell, I have read some time ago a novella Reivers sets in medieval era, I loved it but I didn't tried to read more from this author.

Why?

I do not really know, maybe as a non English people, I already sometime struggle to comprehend all the complicated and unknown words and terms that are not always translated as from the past so less used. Why I often stay in Regency and around this era historical stories.

But the blurb totally won me, and I can only say it was a wonderful read, which really needs time to fully appreciate it. First it is an unknown word to me, from the gold diggers to the American natives. The main characters are so lovable, each in its own way. And the additional ones are a sweet bunch of men, all so kind to the lost bride-to-be-not-really-a-widow.

Glynnis Campbell did an amazing job by introducing the characters and their different worlds, as for how they will interact when they will collide against the unknown is the other.

Mattie is so very courageous, I'm amazed by all the risks she took to try to make her dreams come true, she left everything to travel to an obscure place, to meet a stranger leaving all she has always known behind. And when her hopes are crushed, she doesn't give up and rolled up her sleeves, making ends meet with her unique talent.

Sakote is a forerunner, he feels his world is changing and not in the good way, their time is counted but will the Kowtow accept to evolve and will he follow them when he dreams of his other half who is not from his world.

Nothing is their encounter was rushed, they slowly, step after step learn to hear, understand and trust another but it is a long way and not without many dents and harsh time.

By the way, I saw how they come from two very different planets, I loved my incursion in the Kowtow's way of life and to see that all the white men were not monsters just men trying to survive in an hostile stranger country.

I adored the ragtag bunch of men the Paradise Bar miners were, they make mistake but stand together to protect their unsuspected ray of sunshine.

It was a wondrous story of two people, who despite they tried to fit will discover that home is not always what you thought.

"As far as Mattie was concerned, home wasn't a place. It was wherever Sakote and her children were."

Nicole Laverdure says

Breathtaking

OMG I just finished reading a breathtaking American historical adventure!

I needed something different to read and discovered NATIVE GOLD, #1 of the California Legends Trilogy, written by Glynnis Campbell. This is the first book that I read by this author, and it won't be the last one. I really liked, this story, because it was set in the Gold Rush period; I loved her two main characters Mattie, a sketch artist and Sakote, a brave Konkow warrior who found love where two worlds collided. It's pace paced, very well written, beautiful sensual chemistry between her characters, lots of powerful emotions! Ms. Campbell is a very talented storyteller, I could not put the book down. She is also a very descriptive writer, her words flow! I highly recommend this book, if you love an historical romance filled with passion and adventure. I am looking forward to read her next book NATIVE WOLF #2 of the California Legends Trilogy. You need to add this book to your TBR list!

Wendy says

I wanted to love this book because I love stories with Native Americans but I just couldn't. First, he spoke English far too well especially since the only white person he had been in contact with was Noa and he was from Hawaii; second, "man-sword," really?? That just did me in every time I read it. Never heard it called that and I hope I never do again; third, nine men were shot and/or beaten with the butt of a gun and almost all of them survived without a doctor around or medical supplies for such serious injuries??; and finally, I never felt like I was experiencing the story but rather being told about the story and characters. I appreciate the beautiful descriptions of surroundings and animals that Mattie saw but even that was a bit too much at times. It makes me sad to have to give a book 2 stars but unfortunately, in this case, I didn't feel that it really ranked higher than 2.5 at the absolute max. :-(

Zoe says

Read 35% only, no rating.

35%, I'd think something should have happened by now. But the story seems to be going nowhere. I give up.

Sh3lly (grumpybookgrrrrl.com) says

\$0.99 on Kindle: December 13, 2016.

Historical western romance based on the Gold Rush and set in California? Leading man is a member of the Konkow tribe? I am intrigued.

AND DAT COVER.

Darrell G. Johnson says

Exciting story of a couple from vastly different cultures

Full disclosure: I have been friends with Glynnis since high school.

That said, I have to say how much I enjoyed this book. I grew up near where the Konkow lived, and I am impressed at the research into their customs.

And while the main characters - Mattie/Mati and Sakote are well-drawn, the members of their supporting cast are also presented fully and with respect.

A lot of fun to read - time for Book 2!

TJ says

While the characters could have had more depth and the set-up just isn't believable, the writing flows well and the storyline is engaging and enlightening in many ways. Overall, this story really is a very nice, enjoyable read.

RHONDA Huss says

Great new author for me!

Easy reading. Very interesting characters and historical setting. Some humor here and there. Light passionate sexual scenes. Very happy ending.A few places had some corny dialogue and or scenes but overall really enjoyable novel. Just shows that some free or 99 cent books can introduce you to wonderful authors. Give them a try. I've discovered several new and favorite storytellers!

Margaret Bale says

A good read

I have read a few of this author's books. She is a good storyteller and this would have been 5 stars but for some errors of English. For instance I had it drummed into me at school that "OFF OF is not English" - the "of" being quite unnecessary and jarring. Also the floor levels of a building are STOREYS not STORIES. And many other uses of the wrong word. The several obvious typos can be put down to poor editing - get a good editor!! However, I did enjoy the book and will continue to buy her books. ?

Diana says

This author grew up in Paradise, California where this book is set. The town was devastated by the wildfires,

so she is giving all of the proceeds from the sale of this book through the end of the year to help with the rebuilding. If you were planning on getting this, it could be a good time to pick it up.

Katrin Davidson says

This was beautiful.

Having never read Campbell before I went in on the recs from GR and Amazon. It was passionate, well-constructed plot and very romantic.

I loved our main characters and stayed up way to late last night to read into the wee hours to not give up.

Wonderful stuff.

4 stars

Ana says

I don't know. Something's missing. I couldn't get over the fact that he could speak straight English. It just wasn't believable for me.

Lisa Shea says

Let me say first that I adore Glynnis Campbell's writing style. I actively seek out her books because the way she describes scenes and characters is beyond compare. I looked forward to reading Native Gold, and, as usual, I was swept away by the results. She is a true poet.

The storyline involves our heroine, Mattie, who is orphaned into 1850s New York high society. Her parents had been wild spirits, and her straight-laced uncle just doesn't understand her or her artistic temperament. She runs away to the West, aiming for a fresh start in California. There she runs into Sakote, a member of the Konkow tribe. Much as with the many other depictions of this kind of interaction, there is first distrust and misunderstanding. Slowly, over time, they come to respect each other, then to love each other.

Part of what makes this story (and all stories by Glynnis) shine is her attention to detail. Clearly she didn't just glance at a webpage or two that talked about "Injuns of the Old West" and then toss in a reference to a tipi. There are all sorts of detailed descriptions of the bark-covered houses they lived in, their traditions, their food options, their music, and much more. It's smoothly integrated in a way that transports the reader to this beautiful time and location.

More than that, though, it's the poetry of her language which captivates me. Not only does she write beautifully, but she captures the soul of each person. It's not just that Sakote and Mattie both appreciate the natural world. They do so on their own way, through their own lens. Sakote has been raised to treasure the natural gifts of the landscape around him. When he looks at Mattie he thinks, "An escaped spiral of hair lay upon Mati's cheek. He longed to take away the pins and let all the curls tumble like a waterfall. And that wretched dress...it was like the thorny covering of the gooseberry, concealing all the sweetness."

Then we have Mattie's first real look at the new world around her. "This land truly was a paradise. The air smelled sweet and clean, of fir and young grass, bay and wild mustard, and the landscape was alive with color. Dewfall painted the earth brick red, and every shade of green from light apple to deep moss colored the vegetation. The iridescent wings of the jay echoed the sky's azure hue, and a full palette of yellows and whites, purples and oranges, dotted the clearing on the petals of wildflowers strewn across the emerald carpet."

It's a joy to read the story and satisfying to witness the blossoming relationship between the two characters.

Is the book perfect? Well, few are. There are a couple of minor issues I could quibble over. But they barely make a dent in how much I enjoy the language of the writing, the details of the world we visit, and the richness of the overall experience. I look forward to the next books in this series.

I purchased this book with my own funds.

Lidia says

I'm been deceived by the cover, I was expecting one spice story, not that Sakote isn't hot or that sex scenes with Mattie aren't exciting, naturally but the plot is so beautiful, the gold diggers time is fascinating, so are the descriptions of nature and bird and animal. I liked the character of Mattie, bold and sweet but I would prefered know that of Sakote better, a bit more romanticized and less realist. Very cute were the miners. In the end I have found the story beautiful and I look forward for the next book of trilogy.
