



Highland Protector

Catherine Bybee

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No ordinary hero can save Amber from death... it will take a Highland Protector

Amber MacCoinnich survival depends on her traveling to the twenty first century, or so her mother's premonition told her. Death taunts Amber and offers peace in her endless pain. Without the mysterious savior her mother spoke of, Amber prepares for death only to wake with a handsome, dark stranger in her bed.

Gavin Kincaid spends his life shifting time in order to preserve and protect the MacCoinnich family and their line even though he's never met one living MacCoinnich. A haunting portrait of a beautiful woman captures his attention and he embarks on a quest to put a name to the picture. When a colleague vanishes, the time-stream forces Kincaid to the twenty first century where he finds his mystifying woman close to death. His Druid gift can save her, but at what price? And when they both find themselves emotionally linked, the truth behind Kincaid's heritage just might kill them both.

Highland Protector Details

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TJ says

Of all the great books Catherine Bybee writes, her Time Travel series are where her talent shines brightest. The short list of favorite authors in this genre has just gotten shorter - one!

Time travel stories are especially tricky to pull off. Writing in different centuries, each with their distinct speech patterns, customs and norms makes is a daunting task for most. Bybee not only attempts but succeeds in three separate ages! Whatever century the characters find themselves in is written pitch perfect. Each has a flawless voice that fits it's era, allowing the reader complete immersion and believability. The character's are also real, flawed, funny, and humanly normal- people with incredible gifts we all dream of, yet so natural they could be our best friends.

In this installment, we get to see Amber, the youngest of the MaCoinnich clan, as she fights the gift that is slowly killing her. We are also introduced to Gavin, a time traveler from the future whose duty it is to protect the druid line. Written so deftly we not only understand but feel Amber's depression and loss of hope, along with the urgency her loved one's experience in their search to save her.

As if juggling three different centuries masterfully isn't enough, a little added suspense, danger, murder and nail biting adventure is thrown in to sweeten the pot, making it an addictive delicacy to read! Unfortunately, it only leaves us impatiently itching for more!

Ian says

I guess the ultimate question is should a book that's a part of a series be rated in the context of the series or on its merits?

Full review later.

Denise says

I CANNOT wait for Cian's story. Quite the cliffhanger at the end of this book.

Edwina " I LoveBooks" "Deb" says

ENDS IN A BIG CLIFFHANGER!!

Highland Protector is the arch in the MacCoinnick Time Travel series. The story is of Amber MacCoinnick and her Empathic Druid gifts that have been slowly killing her since the battle with the powerful evil Druid Witch Grainna. Ambers's mother Lora has seen a vision of Amber 200 yrs in the future with someone who can heal her. So with heartfelt goodbyes to her family Amber is sent to 2012 to live with Mrs. Dawson, Simon and Helen at Dawson Manor.

Gavin Kincaid know as Kincaid lives in the the year 2231. He is on of the many Druid Warriors that shift time to protect all of the MacCoinnicks and Mrs. Dawson who are looked upon as Druid Royalty. While traveling back in time too MacCoinnick Keep he sees a portrait of Amber and falls in love or connected to her somehow. Kincaid must find her. When Kincaid returns to his time after the mission, he ask Giles the Historian Librarian who is the keeper of historical records, books, folklore. and all the history of the the Druids and anything pertaining to Druids, Witches,Shape Shifters and Sorcerers to find an locate were in time Amber is residing.

The story leads to new adventures, battles and new enemies. As usual Ms. Bybee's story and characters are very well written. I really enjoyed the secondary love story with Selma and Jake. It was a surprise and a great addition to the storyline as Jake and Selma have been in all previous books, but not as lovers or friends. The new enemy who ever they are; are powerful and determined to take over the world with there powers. I really enjoyed the book but I hate Cliffhangers and this is a real big Cliffhanger. Which leaves a lot unexplained!! There is not a new book in the series or plans for bk 6 which i could find. this is unfair of the author to leave an unfinished work for what looks like years. I wish I had stopped reading at bk 4 which has a good ending to the previous storyline. I like the story until the end!! Therefore 3 Stars for a bad ending to the story and a Big Cliffhanger!!

Ginger says

I just started this Highland series last month and I have been devouring if faster than a gallon of ice cream after a break up. I can't get enough. These time travels are about the MacCoinnich Clan and are set in Scotland and California. Highlander Protector is the story of their youngest daughter, Amber. The MacCoinnichs are Druids and each carries with them a unique gift. Unfortunately Amber's is on the verge of killing her. Being an empathy has her physically and emotionally drained and nearing the end of her life at an accelerated pace.

Gavin Kincaid is a Druid warrior whose duty in life is to serve and protect the family that he has never met, the MacCoinnichs. After one journey to the Clan's stronghold he becomes intrigued by a painting of a young woman. When he asks for help in finding out whom the woman is, he not only finds out who she is but is thrown through time to meet her. Will his special Druid gift be able to save her life or has he arrived too late? I really loved this book. It is a little different than the others as there are no wars going on but you can tell it is building up to another battle in the next book. I also enjoyed catching up with the other family members and characters that I equally loved from the previous books. I'm so glad I was able to read these books at the same time as now I will be impatiently awaiting the next edition. Catherine, you can take me back in time to meet sexy Highland hotties anytime!!

Kate's Corner says

I didn't like this book as much as the previous ones in the series. It's like the 5th Harry Potter book "The Order of the Phoenix" not a lot really happened but it's important to the overall plot of the series!

Amber is an empath and is slowly dying of her power: She is sent into the future as her mother Lora has seen that the cure will be in the future. Helen and Simon travel back with her and it keeps on getting worse.

Ms. Bybee writes a great story with a good plot and brings a lot of twists and turns into the story of how the

future develops and that when Helen and Mrs. Dawson seek for help they pull Giles from the future to present time.

Gavin Kincaid is also from the future and goes back in time to retrieve Giles but saw a picture of Amber when he previously went back in time of her and felt drawn to her.

He saves her in more ways in one and they find out that Grainna or descendants of Grainna have survived over the years. I hope that there is still hope for Cian and that we get to see more of Selma and Jake as well as the characters that are in the future.

Marlene says

Originally published at Reading Reality

Readers will be left hanging off of a huge cliff at the end of this book, so consider yourselves warned. But it is so worth it.

Now that the public services announcement is out of the way, what about the story?

Up until now the MacCoinnichs have confined all of their time traveling between their late-16th century origins and our 21st century. Fairly convenient, as we know what happens in the 21st century and we've romanticized the hell out of the kilt-wearing 16th.

But what about the far-flung future? Just because we haven't been there doesn't mean that the MacCoinnich penchant for traveling time won't go there. Once you've moved forward three centuries or so, what difference can a couple more make?

A lot if you're Amber MacCoinnich, the youngest daughter of Lora and Ian MacCoinnich. Amber's psychic gift of empathy has become so powerful that it is more like a curse. She feels the emotions of everyone in her parents castle; everyone in the vicinity. She's never alone in her own head or heart, and she can't shut the onslaught out. Other people's justifiable worry about her condition is part of what's killing her. Talk about a vicious cycle!

Her mother's gift of prescience tells them that Amber's life can only be saved if she goes into the future and lives with Simon and Helen (and the redoubtable Mrs. Dawson) in the 21st century. Not that they have the cure, but that the cure will be found in their time. So off she goes.

Amber's future comes to find her, in the person of Gavin Kincaid. A warrior from the even further future. In the year 2231, Gavin is one of a team of Druid warriors who has sworn to protect all the descents of (drumroll please) Ian and Lora MacCoinnich! Not just protect them, but travel through time to protect them whenever and however necessary.

Because even though the MacCoinnichs killed Grainna back in the late 16th century, there's this itty-bitty problem with evil and time travel.

Evil time travelers keep getting this awful but brilliant idea that if they wipe the MacCoinnichs off the face of the Earth, they'll be able to come back into power and work their wicked magic on the unsuspecting population of the planet.

They just have to go back and change history. Which is evil, but then, so are they.

Gavin and his time traveling order keep getting in their way. So when Helen uses her famous finding powers (see Highland Shifter for details) and drags Gavin and his friend Giles from the 23rd century to the 21st, evil follows in their wake.

It looks like Gavin may be the one who can save Amber, but the cost looks to be higher than anyone wants to pay.

Escape Rating B+: This series is just tremendously good fun. The books are also a lot like potato chips; I dare you to read just one!

There's a feeling at the end of this one that everyone is holding their collective breath, that the next story is going to be the big payoff for the whole series. I also got a sense of deja vu all over again; the setup for the confrontation between good and evil reminded me a lot of the confrontation brewing between Grainna and the MacCoinnichs in Silent Vows and Redeeming Vows. We'll see.

The future that Gavin comes from isn't terribly well defined. That's not all that surprising, this isn't a futuristic story. But it was cool that the idea of someone coming from the future finally got explored a bit. I also personally liked that his BFF is a librarian. (I always like it when we're heroes, or hero-ish)

Amber is an interesting choice for a heroine. Up until this story, she's been forced into the background by her "illness". Yet she doesn't grab at the first straw that gives her a chance for normalcy. She wants Gavin to love her for herself and not because he feels obligated. They still try a courtship, as much as possible. It's very sweet.

Waiting until the final book in this series arrives is going to seem endless. I want it NOW!

Catherine says

Time for Amber's story.

Coming November 19, 2013

Mayme Hunter says

This review is assuming that you have read the previous 4 books in the series. While it is not exactly necessary to have read them before you read this one, you'd be missing out on a great epic story.

Wow! What can I say? I have been waiting for Amber's story since the teaser end of Highland Shifter and Catherine Bybee has hit this one out of the park. I have to be honest here and say that of all the MacCoinnich's, Amber had moved into the position of least favorite for me. This is not because of some flaw in her but because she has come to be so mysterious and withdrawn. Well, this is no longer the case. This story has me looking at Amber in a whole new light. Her story starts out so tragically that I was nearly in tears at the beginning. Her journey is a painful one to watch and by the end my jaw was in my lap. Gavin Kincaid is a wonderful hero and just what Amber needs. Mama MacCoinnich knew what she was doing when she sent her daughter away. I love the new characters, Gavin and Giles, we are introduced to and I'm glad to see the whole gang make a "cameo" appearance part way through.

One of my only complaints is how much of a cliffhanger this book is. The previous books, especially the first three, have had a connecting overall story but each one had its own battle with the villain and a climax and resolution. This one introduces a completely new villain and all we know so far is her name and she has it out for the MacCoinnichs. There is no major battle with her but she manages to create enough chaos in everyone's lives that I am eager to hear her story. I have a feeling though that the new "big bad" is going to be a whopper of a villain when we get to the next story

Laura the Highland Hussy says

I met Catherine Bybee this summer when each of us had a book up for the RONE award, and let me just say, she's hysterical. now I've read the first book in this series called Binding Vows and I liked it, so I definitely wanted to read this one. Plus, hello, time travel and Highlanders? That's my specialty ;)

Gavin Kincaid is fighting a battle in the 17th century, and his job is to protect the MacCoinnich line. He has druid powers to help him. While he's fighting, he notices a portrait of a woman and not only is he drawn to her, he's incredibly curious seeing as that painting isn't in the castle in his time (2231). Once back in his time he begins searching for that painting.

Amber MacCoinnich is living in the 21st century, but she's not from our time. Her druid gift of being able to feel what everyone is feeling and thinking is slowly killing her.

Gavin is thrown back to the 21st century and finds the woman from the painting on the verge of death. Can his powers heal her? And what would be the cost?

Catherine's signature sense of humor, and intense storytelling shine through in this latest installment of the MacCoinnich Time Travels.

Neisau *Loves Alpha Males in any form* says

From the North, to the South or in the East or in the West. Where you go I'll follow, your light will shine my way. It's my love I give you, past my dying day. Where two hearts beat there is now but one. This tie that binds us together shall never be undone

That get me everything. First Tara and Duncan now Kincaid and Amber.....

First off the fact that we're farther into the future where there's a brotherhood that's protecting the original family.....pure genius! The MacConnich clan are considered Druid royalty! I fucking LOVE IT!

Then there's the name Kincaid! Im thinking of naming my next baby Kincaid.

Like Simon, it's been amazing reading and watching Amber grow but her story has always had that element of uncertainty and sadness because of the health repercussions of her gift.

Can I just say they had the best intro of Kincaid from the last book.

CB really does a great job in weaving the stories of Mrs Dawson and more importantly Selma and Jake.....hawwt damn those two's sex scene had me swooning! I am looking forward a book of them.

But I always wondered about the purpose of Mrs Dawson....it all makes sense in the future! FABULOUS!

Kincaid's ancestry.....SHITBALLS.....you knew something was up cause Amber is bloody powerful so her joining with Kincaid was bound to set off something in this case that bloody prophecy.

Only when the powerful one bonds and complete their union with one of equal gift, will the cycle be broken....and then the gifts of the forefathers and mothers will come together. This bond will come from two opposing families....enemies.

A crossroad will follow where the path of good or evil will be chosen. Power in this time, will mean everything and the path of right will have been nearly forgotten.

From this day forward, the path will not be recorded to protect and preserve the future.

I LOVE DRUIDS! I WISH I WAS ONE!

Right in all of this my lingering questions who the frack is Raine and Mouse? And what the hell is Cian's problem?

Shirl says

I was lucky enough to read an ARC for this book.

This was a book that was well worth the wait! We have all been waiting for Ambers story to come alive and it did big time.

This story is so emotional and full of events that tug at your heart.

Amber's gift has turned into a deadly curse. Can Kincaid come to her rescue or will he be taken down also while trying to save Amber?

The suspense, excitement, romance will keep you turning the pages. The sub characters have suspense stories of their own that add to this wonderful intense story.

If you haven't read this series, I highly recommend you start with the first book, Binding Vows, Silent Vows, Redeeming Vows and Highland Shifter. You will get to know the MacConnich family and the whole story leading up to Amber's fantastic story.

Jessica's Totally Over The Top Book Obsession says

4.5 Life Saving Vows Stars

Spoilers

“My life is in as much turmoil as yours. We have both leapt into this bond, but I’d like to think there was something there before the leap. Your portrait on the wall drew my attention, and you’ve captured something deeper than just an attraction.”-Gavin to Amber

“That’s one seriously impressive concealed weapon you have there, officer.”- Selma to Jake

Highland Protector is the 5th book in the MacCoinnich Time Travels series. It's Amber's story and it was the one I couldn't wait to get to. Really Highland Protector was 2 love stories in one book. Amber and Gavin's and Jake and Selma. Which I was glad for because I had hoped to see more of Selma. This book was great just like I hoped. No big disappointment or anything, just a tad bit confusing at times with all the jumping around in time.

“I don’t care. I want to make love to my wife, to hear you moan when I bring you pleasure.” His words made her insides quiver, as did his hands as they circled her hips and pulled her back into his arms. “And I will bring you pleasure, Amber.” He kissed her briefly. “So much pleasure.”- Gavin to Amber

“You protected them, Selma. You and your cauldron crap.” The snark in his voice made her hiccup and smile. “You don’t believe in my cauldron crap.” “I don’t want to believe in it. Doesn’t mean I don’t. I’m all about facts, and I sure as hell can’t ignore any of you. Especially you.” - Jake and Selma

Amber and Gavin are very sweet together. They haven't known each other very long when they marry. Though you can tell they already have true feelings for each other. Gavin is very patient with Amber. He gives her the time she needs to feel comfortable with him. Their love was like a slow simmer til the end, where Jake and Selma are like a match catching fire. I liked Jake and Selma's story a little bit more than Amber and Gavin's. They just had more passion, plus they are totally there for each other. I feel like Amber turned her back on Gavin just because of something they found in a book. She quickly seen the error of her ways, but I feel after all he did to save her and all the kindness he showed her it was kinda a slap in the face to him. Omg Cian poor Cian he is in so much pain and it's changing him. I can't wait for Cian's book. I checked the Author's web page, but it just says coming soon. OMG I don't know how long I can wait. Patience is so not one of my virtues!!! Highland Protector was a great addition to this series. I will be stalking this author's web page til Cian's story comes out. I love this series!

“You’ve taken the words out of my mouth. I thought the knowledge I wasn’t to live in my parents’ time would bother me, but all I thought of was you. Of us. If this is love I don’t want the feeling to ever end.”- Amber to Gavin

<http://jessicasoverthetopbookobsessio...>

Jessica says

5 heart stopping love-conquers-all stars!!

Amazing.

its the only word to describe this incredible series.

Amber and Gavin have been given the most beautiful story and Ms. Bybee, you have done it again! Its after 2 in the morning and my heart is racing.

Your writing honestly blows my mind. I love feeling like I am right there watching everything unfold.

Amber has always been such a mystery to me and now, Gavin is my new favorite. His love for Amber outweighs everything and the way these two come together...

My mind is racing wondering what Cian's story will be and I can't wait to find out.

Read this series!!!

If you love highlanders, time travel, strong heroines, and magic, along with a love story that makes your heart beat faster, this is what you are looking for.

Elaine says

I began reading Catherine Bybee's books with this series. I read this in one setting, as I do with all of Catherine's books. This is the story of Amber. Amber is the youngest daughter of the original MacCoinnichs. After Amber's "gift" threatens to kill her her mother has a premonition that she wil be saved if she goes to the future to live.

Kincaid is a warrior from the future (2231) his job has been to protect the MacCoinnichs. On one of his trips back to make sure the keep is not taken he sees a picture on the wall of the keep of a beautiful woman. He is drawn to her and tries to find out about her.

This is a sweet love story. And I am happy to say that the ending of this story makes it apparent that the story will continue. I hate cliffhangers when the next book is not written and I have to wait. Catherine finishes the story but leaves us knowing we will have a future book we will want to read. No real angsty cliffhanger. Thank you, Catherine!

I was lucky enough to receive an ARC of the story. Catherine is an auto buy for me. Her books have wonderfully witty dialogue and I have never been disappointed with any of her books.
