



Gold

Talia Vance

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Descended from an Irish demigod, Brianna has fled to Ireland to escape destruction at the hands of her sworn enemies, the Sons of Killian. Taking refuge at the estate of her former nemesis, Austin Montgomery, Brianna discovers a rift in time that opens to an era before the feud began.

Wrestling with her newfound feelings for the more innocent Austin, Brianna begins to wonder if she can alter the past. But when Brianna and Austin learn that the Sons are raising an army of mythical beasts, the pair will need to use their magical strength in the present to avoid a tragic end.

Gold Details

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Author : Talia Vance

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From Reader Review Gold for online ebook

Jaime (Two Chicks on Books) says

Oh sweet dear gods! I beta'd this for Talia and it was everything I had hoped for and MOAR!!!! Gold was beautiful and heartbreaking and I loved every minute of it!!!!

Morgana.Book.Extravaganza says

Holy crap, batman! This sequel blew me away. It was hands down the better of the two books in this series. This book was far darker, and had such an edge to it the first one lacked. It was phenomenal!

And watch out... Spoiler....

Yes! Yes! Yes! Go Austin! I've been rooting for you all along! This book held me on edge the entire time. It's epic in its own right and gives so much more glory to the story line and this series. And because I've broken my own rule of no spoilers in reviews, I might as well continue to break this rule.... So again, watch out, HUGE spoiler alert....

How could you kill him, Talia?! How!?!

I'm beside myself. Austin better be coming back to life magically in the next book or I think I might have a book boyfriend melt down. How could you do it? Blake should have died. Not Austin. *Sigh*

I'm eagerly awaiting the next book to see just what Ms. Vance had up her sleeves for our beautiful bandia.

Marie says

Disclosure: read the uncorrected ARC for review; received from NetGalley

Talia Vance outdid herself with Gold! Everything that the reader enjoyed in Silver (Bandia #1) is amplified in this highly anticipated sequel. Brianna has grown some, matured, is mastering her powers, and is no longer bonded with Blake. (The book's title gives a hint to Brianna's new love interest!) Gold takes the reader from sunny Rancho Domingo, California to chilly and magical Cath, Ireland. And Talia takes the romance to a new, thrilling level in this novel!

In Gold, we see Brianna, the other bandia, gods, demigods, giolla, and fuath meet in Ireland at the gate to the underworld to settle the score once and for all. Alliances are drawn, friendships are put to the test, and new love is found. This book kept me on my toes; there is no predictability, all the way to the final page!

As I write this review I'm only left with two questions: first, is the "romance" that Brianna experiences halfway through the book a bit too heavy/detailed for a YA novel? At times I truly felt that I had slipped into an adult romance. Second, how quickly can Talia write Bandia #3 for her faithful readers? Gold definitely left me needing more!

Gray Cox says

I'm not even going to start on this book, just read my review for *Silver*, it basically sums it up.

Marie Clarisse says

I must admit that this sequel was a lot, lot better than the first book. It's almost unbelievable that both books were written by the same author, since this one was really written professionally.

The plot twist at the very beginning of the sequel was really effective. I was thankful that Talia Vance now knew what she was doing, replacing Blake with Austin as the leading man. I was actually able to connect with Austin and Brianna, never like I had with her and Blake. This new pairing, was amazing, it had so much chemistry, which is what instantly got me hooked.

As for the plot, the action, the conflicts, and the twists, I was impressed with them all.

Lastly, don't get me wrong—I definitely loved this book. The reason why I'm giving it four stars is because I was disappointed with the ending, the last page to be exact. Though it was heartbreaking, I was kinda expecting more. An assurance that there will still be a third book in the series, that it isn't over yet, might make me think twice about my rating and give it a full five stars.

Lauren says

NB: I received an ARC of this book via NetGalley.

I was so torn about this book...there were things about it I loved, and things that made me cringe a little. For example, I love Brianna's stubborn streak and determination. But the relationship between her and Austin left me thinking of Edward and Bella pretty often (this is not a good thing). However, I do think Brianna is a stronger character than Bella, even after losing her powers...which leads me to what I enjoyed most about this book:

Until she suddenly loses her powers, Brianna is an **equal** to the baddies, the Sons of Killian, and a near-equal to Austin. She's powerful in her own right, not just because a powerful dude loves her, and that rocks!

I realized shortly after starting this book that it was a sequel...I don't know how I missed that before, but I sure did! I definitely think reading *Silver* first would be a good thing. There were many, MANY instances where I thought to myself, "This would make more sense if I'd read the first one..." I get the feeling, though, that I would be cringing a lot more while reading *Silver*; when the narrative did give me enough to decipher what had happened in the first book, it usually left me cold.

Farrah says

Did you hear that? That was the sound of my mind being blown. This book was so amazing, just as good as the first! So unexpected and unpredictable. Loved it!

Whatever I expected from this book, it was torn apart within the first chapter. This book takes us in a new direction. At the end of Silver, a tenuous peace existed between Brianna and the Sons. But, it was obvious that it wasn't going to last long. In Gold, Brianna has to run from the Sons' wrath after being blamed for something she didn't do. And, when she does, new revelation change the game and the stakes are upped. Everything that was great in book one was even better in book 2.

Brianna proved herself strong in Silver. In this book, she reaffirms that multiple times over. She faces terrifying odds, the threat of death from several fronts, and still manages to handle them all. I appreciated that, despite being in a sucky situation, she didn't mope about or bemoan her fate. She accepted her lot and dealt with it. She was utterly awesome. I loved her character in this book.

When I read the summary and saw that Austin was being brought back as a love interest, I was not surprised but I was wary. After how he acted in the first book, it was clear that he had feelings for Brianna, however twisted they might be. But, I was worried that a love triangle would turn out to be an annoyance. It turns out, I didn't need to worry.

Austin was charming in book one. Let's be honest, even if he was the antagonist, he was still able to win our hearts, at least a little. In this book, we see him without the taint of him being the antagonist. *Swoon* He was utterly amazing. He was so sweet and, though he had unconventional ways of showing it, he would do anything to protect the girl he loved. Does he get the girl? I won't tell. You'll have to read and find out for yourself :) But, I will say that after that ending that totally shattered my heart and I'm dying to read book 3 so that I can find out what happens with Austin.

Blake...

What were you thinking?!?!

I liked Blake in book 1, but I had reservation about him, considering how he was so harsh with Brianna for most of the book just because of her species. I don't want to say anything that will ruin the story, so I can't say very much. All I will say is that Blake, you need to get your shit together. I am very disappointed in you, mister :(

The plot was fast paced and totally unpredictable. I didn't see any of the events coming, which is quite a feat. I was riveted and completely unable to put this book down. And the ending was such a cliffhanger! I'm dying to find out what happens next!

Gold was perfect, amazing, magnificent! Any romance lover should read this book. Loved it!

*Thanks to Netgalley and Flux Books for a copy!

Stacy Sabala says

Book Review- Gold by Talia Vance

In this book, the story is continued from the previous book Silver. Brianna is a bandia or witch running from the sons of Killian, a group of demigods. She is a witch that can control the elements. She finds herself hiding in Ireland, staying at the estate of Austin Montgomery, the god of the Underworld. She has banished Austin back to the Underworld for a thousand years. So they are not friends, but this seems to be the safest

place for her.

Then Austin is pulled back through the gate down on the beach from where she is staying. Brianna is left with no choice but to flee. The sons will be drawn to the area by the pull from the magic created by the gate. Besides she refuses to be anywhere near Austin. He ruined everything.

Unfortunately Austin didn't open the gate and he is losing his powers. Liam, his second in command, has decided to take over. He has sent his calling for all to join him. He plans to release the gods who are trapped in the Underworld and rule over the humans. Austin and Brianna have to work together to defeat Liam. Of course, it proves to be a harder task when she loses her powers too.

As their feelings grow for each other, so does the possibility of war between Liam and the sons. She and Austin are expected to choose a side. They want peace but will protect each other at all costs.

This book was a great read. I did not read the first book but I was still able to follow the story and understand the plot as it unfolded. Brianna was still reeling from what happened to her in the first book and that set the tone for this book. Brianna changed through the book and dealt with major heartbreak. She fought with herself over what she should do and what was easier.

The story kept me engrossed where I couldn't put it down. I didn't know what direction each character was going to go. I was surprised as some decisions and I like it when I'm not sure what direction the story will go.

My favorite part of the story was the relationship between Brianna and Austin. It evolved throughout the story and you learn that they have more history than thought. So with the build up, I wanted to scream when I got to the end. There better be a third book in the works, because if this is where it ends, I'm sadly disappointed. I absolutely hated the ending and where everyone ended up. It was an emotional ending and I admit I did tear up. So I definitely recommend this book. It had a fabulous journey. I rate it a 4 out of 5. The ending got me.

Heather says

Please someone tell me there is a Platinum in the works, please!! I was just okay with Silver. The mythology of the bandia is hard to follow, the relationship between Brianna and Blake even harder. I never really understood it in Silver. It just never seemed to make sense. It didn't feel right and it was just too hard. They didn't even seem like they liked each other. Now, sexually, yeah, they were hot. But otherwise, meh. So I wanted to see where this novel went. I mean, IRELAND. I'll read about digging graves if it's set in Ireland! But I got a novel that I couldn't put down from the minute I started. Okay, so maybe the first couple of pages I couldn't understand what had happened, but Talia Vance digs right in and tells us in a flashback what happened.

This makes the third book I've read by Talia Vance and this one feels like she has finally found where she's comfortable. The writing flows smoothly and there is no point where there is a jarring disconnect in the story. I thought Silver had those times, I'm thinking those might have been intentional, and perhaps the whole unbelievable relationship was intentional. You'll understand when you read Gold. And I highly recommend you read this one. Gold shines like it's name. There are "sexy times" which come so slow you practically want to reach through the book and help them along. But I'm not complaining. Everything comes at the right pace, the tension is done really well, that's why you're anxious for it to happen. My stomach was in knots so many times- those Sons of Killian are single minded in their desire to kill the bandia. And Brianna is always right there, ready to be killed.

The story in Gold is explained much better. There is time travel, more Gods, and an epic battle scene. Of course, there is loss, isn't that how it always goes? Someone always loses in battle. There are losses I really didn't count on. I confess, I read the ending before I finished the book. I cheat like that sometimes. It didn't

spoil the book for me though. I had to find out how they got from where they were to how it ended. And it was one hell of a read! Literally! As a second book, it far exceeds the first and is one of those books I was pulling my sweatshirt over my head juggling my e-reader in my hand so I could still read. When I finished it, there was nothing I could read that would satisfy me. You know when you've just read this great adventure and you come down off this high and you want to feel it again and you have no idea what is going to give you that high again? So I started it over again. I figure as fast as I read it, I'm bound to have missed something. And it's rare, right now that I'm rereading a book. Yes, it was that good. But there has to be a third book, right? Right??? Please! I'm begging! That can't be the end. It just can't.

I received a copy of this novel for review from the publisher through NetGalley. This did not influence my review. All opinions expressed are my own.

Jennifer McCoy, YA Sisterhood says

I was lucky enough to read this in manuscript form, and it was even better than Silver!

I can't wait for the finished copy to be released!!!!

Rachel says

This story was an amazing follow-up. Utterly gut-wrenching. Totally surprising. And with an absolutely killer ending. Will definitely be reading this one again and again. Loved it even more than SILVER. If I were to review this on the blog it would get my off-the-menu rating of 6 stars.

I do plan on reviewing this book when I read the finished copy when it releases next fall.

Mlpmom (Book Reviewer) says

This series is completely captivating, from the deliciously dark and dangerous character to the ever twisting and changing plot, it is completely addicting and utterly useless to say no to. I was hooked after the first book and even more eager than ever to get my hands on the second.

To say her second book was even better than the first would be such an understatement. Once again Vance managed to create a story so beautiful it is heartbreaking, so surprising that it will take your breath away. Vance is one hell of a writer.

Her take on Celtic mythology with the bandia, gods, demigods, giolla and the fuath will blow you away and leave you reeling with wanting more. Once again she makes the plot unpredictable and knowing who to trust, who to love, and who to root for harder than you ever thought imaginable.

Brianna is one kick butt strong, brave heroine that I dare anyone not to love. She is loyal and smart and willing to put herself out there to get what needs to be done, done. She doesn't take no for an answer and even though she has been burned before, she still knows how to be good and how to love and how to trust.

I wish I could go into more detail on just how great this is but the truth is that I can't without giving way too much of the plot and this is one book that you just have to experience for yourself. Lets just say that nothing is the same and everything is different. Brianna finds herself in Ireland where she meets not only some new friends but some old ones as well. Where she makes new enemies and some new, surprising, allies as well. Where she learns what loyalty and love really are and once again stands up for what is right regardless of what others try to convince her is the truth. Nothing comes easy and everything comes with a price.

Vance had me completely captivated and hanging on to every single word. I couldn't turn the pages fast enough. I thought I loved this series before and without a doubt I can say I love it even more now. Vance has a way of telling a story that is just magical. I will be on the edge of my seat in anticipation waiting for the next release.

A. says

It's quite hard to express how impressed I was with *Gold*. I have a vague memory of reading *Silver* a while back and I don't recall being as invested in it as I was in this one. It's rare that a sequel surpasses the first in a series, but it's easy to say that Vance succeeded with *Gold*.

The book starts off with Brianna on her way to Lorcan Hall, Ireland. Events occurring between the first and second book led to Brianna's exile in Ireland, which also led to the end of her relationship with Blake. And let me just say, I wasn't all too sad to see him go. (I'll explain in a minute.) Here, we meet some new characters and are reunited with some old ones. But more importantly, we are introduced to a new Brianna.

I don't remember Brianna of book 1 leaving a lasting impression on me. In fact, if anything, I remember her as being the flaky-damsel-but-i-looove-him type. But Brianna 2.0? This is someone whose earrings I'd hold when she'd go all Bandia on someone's ass. In the beginning, we see Brianna reeling from the fall out of her life in CA. Be warned, there are some (annoying) tears at the start. But as the story went on, she grew some iron into her bones and this was when I started falling in love with her. Gone was the naive, gullible girl who leaned on her so-called one true love. The new woman that evolved in book 2 was captivating, strong, and likable. And just so damn fierce! She wasn't afraid to be independent and kick some ass when called for. I really, really loved the route that Vance went with Brianna. And it should be said that Austin was a big part of her growth.

Austin. Aaron. Arawn. He could have 10 names and I'd be sighing all of them. This guy was awesome. (Hello, alliteration.) He just really was! He was portrayed as the villain-esque character in book 1, but he totally stole the show in this one. He was supportive and encouraging, sweet and sexy, protective but independent. He never enforced his opinions onto Brianna, but let her be her own person. Which every guy should do. And I loved how he wasn't scared of her magic. (Albeit, I'm sure his godliness helped with that.) He wasn't intimidated of her power and never thought less of her because of it. He accepted her and that is all anyone can ask for. Unlike some people... (<-- I'm shouting this part.)

Onto Blake. I didn't like him in book 1, so I hated him in book 2. Actually, he's big part of why I didn't really love the first one. This guy. No words. Love is trust, faith, and loyalty. Of which he had none. I cannot formulate into words my frustration with this character.

Honestly. Someone get me a bazooka. If there is a book 3, he better as hell not be a romantic interest. Immacuttabitch. (view spoiler)

As for the story itself, it revolves around the rising of an unruly god hoping to reestablish his power and

position on earth. Said god is Pwil (Pwyll on Wiki), former right-hand of Arawn when he was god of the underworld. And so the story follows with the Gathering of mythical Celtic beings and creatures, including the Bandia, the Sons of Killian, Milesians, giolla, and fuath. These new characters were a delite. Especially the fuath! I kind of pictured them as killer My Little Ponies. However, I felt that the plot and secondary characters (mainly the "bad guys") fell secondary to the main cast. There were moments when the story was stilted and even had me scratching my head at some points. Aside from all that, I found myself unable to put the book down.

And then came the ending. You know how young babies follow things put in front of them and when you take it away they keep looking at the spot like it'll come back at any moment? That's me at the end of the book. Staring at my kindle, waiting for my world to become all sunshine and rainbows again. Expecting some sort of Deux Ex Machina to come prancing along.

And then it ended. Vance, you heartless ^&!@(*!@)(*&.

After my tantrum ended, I realized how attached I'd become to this book, and was immediately hungry for more. Although, I'm not sure if there will be one, the story ends with a hopeful note that should appease some fans.

Overall, a spectacular sequel that should definitely be added to your to-be-read list.

Beth says

I have to admit, within the first few chapters of this book all my expectations of the direction of this story were proven wrong. Yes, that turned out to be a great thing!

Brianna is running for her life being hunted by the Sons of Killian. She goes to Austin Montgomery's estate. They same Austin that she banished back to hell. Accidentally touching her bracelet charm to a rock on the estate, Brianna opens a portal in time to an early Austin and Austin before the god fued.

A new god player appears opening a new seat of power...drawing all the mystical beings and demi-gods to the area of Brianna's refuge. Sides will be drawn, the future of the world lies in her hands, can Brianna find the correct path before she looses everything?

Brianna is amazing, even when facing down gods she doesn't waiver in her resolve. Both Austin and Blake are back and the mess of Brianna's tormented love life plays out before us.

This story was amazing. I was unsure at first but found myself swept away in a world were gods are still vying for power, mystical creatures roam among us and a girl named Brianna will battle for the good of all even against insurmountable odds.

I loved this story. I was entirely emotionally invested and utter devastated by some of the plot twists Talia Vance threw our way.

Gold is a marvelously written contemporary fantasy interwoven with ancient Irish lore to create this fantastic must read story.

This ARC copy of *Gold* was given to me by Flux Book in exchange for a honest review. This book is set for

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Talia Vance's Website

Find this book on:

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Pili says

I was lucky enough to get an ARC from NetGalley of this book for an honest review, and I was very excited to get it. I give it 4 stars, but if I could, I'd give it 4 and a half!

Gold picks up a little after Silver ended, with Brianna going to Ireland for her own safety and trying to figure out herself.

This book has proven to be more deep and more engaging than Silver was, and even though I liked Silver, I've loved Gold much more.

Everything is more in depth here, the look at the characters, the complicated and changing relationships between the characters, the play on Irish myth and lore, and the plot that keeps unravelling and surprising you with every turn of the page.

Brianna grows as a character and because of that and how she handles all her emotional challenges and her moral choices, I kept on rooting for her through every page.

There's what might be considered a love triangle, and it is not exactly what you'd expect after Silver, but the hint itself is in the book titles, but it's done in a way that it never bothered me at all, and I really am not a fan of love triangles.

The ending is really heartwrenching, but also with a hint of hope, and I really can't wait to read what Talia Vance has in store for us in the next book!

