



## The Handfasting (The Knights of de Ware Book 0)

*Glynnis Campbell*

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**The Handfasting (The Knights of de Ware Book 0)** Glynnis Campbell

**"Rich wit, delicious characters, and heartwarming romance...a must read!"--Laurin Wittig, Bestselling author**

The long-awaited marriage between the Warrior Maids of Rivenloch and the Knights of de Ware!

## **THE HANDFASTING – Prequel novella to The Knights of de Ware**

When Sir No?l de Ware comes from France to claim his betrothed—the most beautiful heiress in the Highlands—he's sure he's been given the best holiday gift ever...until he discovers the spirited lass he's wedded and bedded is not the right sister. Ysenda of Rivenloch never intended to be a counterfeit bride, and when she begins to fall in love with her handsome husband, she becomes trapped in her own deception. Only true love and a Yuletide wish can set things straight and grant them a happily ever after.

**Book Details** *The novella connecting The Warrior Maids of Rivenloch series to the Knights of de Ware series Originally released as part of the collection, "Highland Wishes" This novella is a shorter book about one-third the size of a full-length novel R-rated for sensual passages* **More Historical Romances by Glynnis Campbell**

*The Knights of de Ware*

MY CHAMPION

MY WARRIOR

MY HERO

*The Warrior Maids of Rivenloch*

THE SHIPWRECK (a novella)

LADY DANGER

CAPTIVE HEART

KNIGHT'S PRIZE

*Medieval Outlaws*

DANGER'S KISS

PASSION'S EXILE

*Scottish Lasses*

THE OUTCAST (a novella)

MacFARLAND'S LASS

MacADAM'S LASS

*California Legends*

NATIVE GOLD

NATIVE WOLF

**About Glynnis Campbell**

Glynnis Campbell is a *USA Today* bestselling author of swashbuckling action-adventure historical romances set in Scotland, England, and the American West, with over a dozen books published in six languages. She has won awards in the Orange Rose, Hearts through History, and Book Buyers Best contests and was a double finalist in the Romance Writers of America RITA Awards. Her books appear in several multi-author boxed sets with such esteemed talents as Bella Andre, Marie Force, Tanya Anne Crosby, Lauren Royal, Kathryn Le Veque, Eliza Knight, and Claire Delacroix. Writing from her California home, she loves playing medieval matchmaker and transporting readers to a place where the bold heroes have endearing flaws, the women are stronger than they look, the land is lush and untamed, and chivalry is alive and well!

### **From Glynnis...**

I love writing "stories to keep you up all night"!

Keep in touch...

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### **The Handfasting (The Knights of de Ware Book 0) Details**

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## **From Reader Review The Handfasting (The Knights of de Ware Book 0) for online ebook**

### **Diana says**

The Handfasting (The Knights of De Ware Book 0) by Glynnis Campbell.

Who would have thought that life can be so complicated in the year of 1199 during Yuletide?

I am hooked on this story, captivated to read the whole series. I fell in love with the characters and can't wait to read more about them. This story is what true love can be, it can happen. There were no pictures back then, so when Sir Noel de Ware from France came looking for his betrothed, he assumed since he heard she was the most beautiful woman around and somehow he was mistaken the wrong sister. The father didn't want his first born daughter to marry this man, and so he let him assume his second daughter was the first. I loved how the story went up and down with the emotions.

The writing is awesome and I can't wait to read more in this series. I am so hooked on historical fiction; I wonder how our ancestors were back then. How did they manage to live? This is a wonderful story with the Highlanders and the Normans from France. Well not really wonderful (wonderful in how the author wrote this story), but interesting how the history worked back in the 12 century.

This is a quick read, and after you read this book if you're like me you will want to read more of their story. I was gifted a copy of this book by the author and want to thank her. This book is definitely worth 5 stars.

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### **Kristine says**

Original review can be found at [https://kristineandterri.blogspot.ca/...](https://kristineandterri.blogspot.ca/)

With this being such a short tale I won't re-tell the story and give away any of the plot. The synopsis gives you a good idea of what the story was about. I will say that it was filled with misunderstandings, confusion, deception, lust, lies and a whole lot of inta-love. Set during the holiday season this story had a hint of magic within the snow covered Highlands that added to the charm and festive atmosphere. Yes it was a little far fetched and unbelievable but it was cute and entertaining all the same. I think this genre is starting to grow on me.

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### **Gaele says**

Youngest daughter of Rivenloch, Ysenda has always been suborned by her beautiful and very spoiled sister, Cathalin: caretaker of her imperfectly perfect elder brother Caimbeul, and the sense of reason who sees her father, the Laird Gillie, as a hard, unforgiving and detestable being. The Yule celebrations are afoot, and celebrations have brought the clan together. Suddenly, strangers appear, and Ysenda is bound and determined to discover just who they are.

Sir Noel de Ware is an honorable man, and after months of being fobbed off after a treaty arrangement between France and Scotland's Kings, mandating he marry the "most beautiful lass" in Scotland, heir to her family's estate and clan, he's come to claim his bride. Ysenda is the one who caught his eye: beautiful, intriguing and unafraid to confront him, he's smitten.

With Ysenda's father clearly willing to risk the King's wrath and war by claiming that Ysenda, not the beautiful Cathalin, is the bride he seeks. Threatening Caimbeul's life with his dagger, Ysenda takes the safe option: agreeing if Noel will postpone the consummation for a day. She feels certain she can talk sense into her father, and Cathalin will be a more than acceptable substitute.

Things never quite go according to plan, and Ysenda finds herself guilt ridden and more than a bit in love with Noel: he's honorable, kind, appreciates her wit and seems to find her attractive. I loved their conversations and Noel's honest and open attempts to get to know her. He truly did epitomize a "knight" in all things he acted with honor, wracked with guilt when he felt her sadness, determined to aid Caimbeul and boost his confidence even risking Ysenda's wrath and displeasure as she had coddled and protected Caimbeul since her mother's death. Laird Gillie behaves as expected throughout, and with a huge secret that dwarfs even the fact that Ysenda is not, in fact, his intended bride, the story takes a leap into happy ever after. I'm now finding that I want to know more of these two, see the growth of Caimbeul that will highlight his strengths and will to overcome his disabilities, and most importantly, return to this world that Campbell has so beautifully described.

I received an eBook copy of the title from the author for purpose of honest review. I was not compensated for this review: all conclusions are my own responsibility. This review was originally posted on I am, Indeed

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### **Wild\_iris\_rose says**

I really enjoyed this book. The author gave us an enjoyable romance. I really loved Noel, Ysenda, Caimbeul, and booed when the villains made appearances. A fun read.

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### **Chasity says**

This is one of my favorite short story ever and it is one of my rereads when I need to escape from the normal world!!

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### **NRuffo says**

This was my first Glynnis Campbell book, and I look forward to reading more of this and other series. I loved the strength of these characters! The noble knight who clearly loved his heroine and her brother. He truly knows what family means. I also loved how he saw the beauty in Ysenda when it was clear she never saw it in herself. I was overjoyed with the bond between Ysenda and Caimbeul. The protectiveness on both sides and growth that both showed was wonderful.

I received a free review copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Cynthia says**

You will fall in love with Noel and Ysenda as their eyes met for the first time and both are taken back. He

sees her sister first and thinks oh yes she is beautiful and the fairest in the land that is until he sees Ysenda and knows she is his bride to be as she out shines her sister in every way. Ysenda tries her best to tell him he has the wrong sister as her father lets him believe he has the right one. What a mess this turns out to be as they are married right away and passion gets out of hand. There wasn't supposed to be a bedding he promised but passion takes over and before they know it that have one wild night to remember.

You are going to love her brother who is a broken man as you watch him grow into a strong loving man who can stand on his own. Noel is a true knight in shining armor that stands for the truth and doing the king's bidding. The truth must come out and lord help them all when he finds out he has the wrong bride. When the king finds out what has happened there will be hell to pay. These two love each other and must give the other up to keep peace with a nation. Can love win or will the evil father and younger sister be the winners?

This is a lovely delightful read I could not put down, I loved the plot and all the characters. I believe this is part of a series that might tell how things end when the father dies who will inherit the land and title. You will find lots of steamy passion along with a few twists that will keep you holding your breath waiting for the other shoe to drop. It is touch and go how this will end with two people who love each other but can find no way to be together. If you are looking for a wonderful historical read that will entertain you, hold your interest and not wanting to story to end you have found it. I hope you will give this series a try.

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## **Jane says**

I purchased *The Handfasting* as part of an anthology.

Ysenda of Rivenloch was the youngest daughter of the Laird; from the time of her warrior mother's death she kept her promise to her mother to protect her older brother, who was a cripple. She went to live with him in a cottage, protected him and found tutors to help him learn and stimulate his keen mind.

Sir No?l de Ware, French knight comes with orders from his King and an agreement with the King of Scotland to wed 'the most beautiful heiress in the Highlands' and in doing so he would inherit the lands and clan and deepen the alliance between Scotland and France. Upon entering the hall, Sir No?l mistakes Ysenda for her sister. He finds her sweet disposition, show or bravery and pretty stormy eyes much more attractive than her haughty sister with the perfect hair style and unpleasant manner. The Laird, sees an opportunity to force *The Handfasting* on the unsuspecting Frenchman.

The romance is sweet, the truth is revealed and with a touch of magic, the help of her brother and Sir No?l, the three of them all find a way to a happy ending.

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## **Sabrina (Soter) Sally says**

"La sua forza di volontà era più debole che mai. Non solo desiderava quel cavaliere normanno dal bel viso, i capelli neri ribelli e gli splendidi occhi blu. Lo adorava anche. Lui la faceva ridere. La faceva sentire bella. La faceva sentire amata."

Avevo vari ebook di quest'autrice, mai letta prima, ma ho deciso di iniziare da questo principalmente perché

rappresenta un po' l'anello di congiunzione tra le sue due serie e anche perché essendo un racconto breve se non mi fosse piaciuto almeno lo strazio sarebbe durato poco XD Per fortuna non è stato questo il caso, anzi nonostante l'atmosfera natalizia non molto adatta al periodo di lettura (Agosto) sono riuscita comunque ad immergermi nella storia e mi sono piaciuti molto sia i due protagonisti (lei è dolce e combattiva ma senza esagerare e lui è un guerriero passionale e romantico \*ç\*) sia i personaggi secondari (un fra tutti il povero, ma neanche tanto, Caimbeul XD). Il metodo "magico" finale con cui l'autrice ha deciso di risolvere ogni problema non mi ha convinto molto, mi è sembrato più un "rimandiamo il problema a quando si presenterà" ma del resto in qualche modo questo happy ending doveva pur esserci XD Sono curiosa di leggere altro della Campbell, è raro trovare storici di qualità ultimamente! >.<

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### **Candy Laine says**

The sight of his beautiful bride had Sir Noel de Ware miffed. She really is the most beautiful woman he has ever seen. He can't wait to claim her and insists on the hand-fastening. There is little that Ysenda of Rivenloch fears for, and her brother's life is one such weakness. Her father the Laird threatens her into agreeing to go ahead with the charade fooling the French nobleman, but she falls in love with him all on her own. Can this twisted tale have a happy ending? Well it's a historical romance, so it must. Nice read.

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### **Tina says**

THE HANDFASTING by Glynnis Campbell

When her cruel father threatens her older, but disabled brother Caimbeul with death, Ysenda is forced to trick her sister's betrothed into marrying her instead. By the time her husband, Sir Noel de Ware, discovers he has wedded (and bedded) the wrong sister, they have developed deep feelings for one another, and it is up to the three of them to find a solution that will satisfy everyone, including the two kings who ordered the marriage. This is a lovely story, with enough twists and turns to keep you guessing as to how they will arrive at their HEA.

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### **Trudy Miner says**

Ysenda is the younger, and considered uglier and unmarriageable, daughter of Laird Gille. Her sister, Cathalin, is considered to be the most beautiful lassie in all the land and is betrothed to Sir Noel de Ware, a knight of King Henry in a political alliance. Cathalin has been putting him off with one excuse or another and now it's Yuletide with the whole family gathered to celebrate, even Caimbeul, their brother, the oldest child and heir. Unfortunately, Caimbeul has physical deformities and his father has banished him from the castle until tonight. When a stranger enters, it is Ysenda who approaches him and demands to know his business there. He's Cathalin's fiance who immediately mistakes Ysenda for her sister and she's forced to go along with the deception by her father. Forced into a marriage that she never expected, Ysenda soon found that she desired Sir Noel more than she thought possible and surely one night with the handsome knight wouldn't hurt? But what will Sir Noel do when he finds out the truth? Will he blame her for the deception? How does he feel about his new wife?

For a novella, the story was amazingly complete and I enjoyed it very much. It's the prequel to the de Ware saga and I've also read the next stories in that series.

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## **Eileen says**

Good Story!!

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## **Samantha says**

This charming little novella was a heartwarming and endearing way to set the holiday mood. It is a lighthearted, romantic tale that perfectly links the Warrior Maids of Rivenloch tales to the Knights of de Ware series, but it would be perfectly enjoyable all on its own. It has just the right mix of Highland spirit, Viking magic and Campbell signature charm. I am generally not a big fan of this format, but *The Handfasting*, while an extremely quick read, did feel like a complete, fully contained tale. Fans of historical fiction and lovers of the magic of the Christmas will want to usher in the Yuletide with this fun novella.

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## **Elodie says**

I read this novella in the *Once Upon A Bride* bundle.

As a non English person, Yuletide time is something rather foreign to me.

It was a lovely story of love at first sight, even with unspoken things and miscommunications, Ysenda and Noël were able in this holly time to go past them and find a way to be together when they must have been torn apart.

I do love the heroines Glynnis Campbell writes, they might be not the strongest ones but they are not weak, they do not let be cowed nor they do not hide, they use their wits and brain to try to extricate themselves from the bad situations they might encounter.

Ysenda is a nice caring woman, she has tried all her life to protect her crippled brother to fall under their father's fists. Why to protect him from her father's wrath, she accepted to take part to this masquerade of a marriage.

But soon she discovers her husband-not-for-long is more than she could have hope and dream in a man. Why she tries to grasp any fiber of happiness she can get from him before it is too late.

Noel has come to do his duty and follow his Kong's order. He never expected to be tricked and fooled with the one and only bride he would have dreamed. He is an amazing man, for this time period, he respects women and even any human being who is belittled by others.

I loved that Caimbeul was not shown as only a mean to an end but that he is also part of Ysenda and Noël's romance.

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