



# Nothing Gold Can Stay

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Shocked by a series of brutal, unexplainable murders, Alaska State Trooper Liam Campbell embarks on a desperate journey into the heart of the Alaskan Bush country -- in search of the terrible, earth-shattering truth...

## Nothing Gold Can Stay Details

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Author : Dana Stabenow

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## From Reader Review Nothing Gold Can Stay for online ebook

### M says

Liam and his new trooper partner Diana Prince are baffled by shootings and disappearances of women in a concentrated area of the bush. Wy is familiar with the area because of her mail route and flies Liam in to investigate. Moses, Bill, Tim and Amelia are headed to fish camp to get Amelia dried out and so Tim can avoid his birth mom who has managed to be sober a week running. A wilderness crazy man is looking for his next wife--he calls them all Elaine--and kills the husband and kidnaps the wife, Rebecca to be his new Elaine. Rebecca escapes with the Crazy Woodsman on her trail. She makes it to Moses' cabin. Liam and Wy fly back into the bush to make sure Moses and co are alright and all the forces in the story come to a head. (view spoiler)

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### Jeff Thorpe says

What was the point of this book. A lot of drama but not much mystery. I get it , sex is a part of life, but sex and drama seems to be all this people have. Is the author trying to bore us to death? Maybe that should be her next mystery, a bunch of people die of boredom from reading this book.

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### Lois Blanco says

Liam, Wy, Jo, Gary all have a tangled history. Gold bug is still affecting Alaskans etc

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### Mary Davis says

B&N Synopsis:

*"Alaska State Trooper Liam Campbell, newly promoted to corporal, is slowly making a home for himself in the remote town of Newenham. Between DUIs and domestic disputes, life is relatively tranquil, until Campbell's girlfriend, bush pilot Wy Janet Chouinard, delivers a shipment of mail to a remote post office, where she finds the postmistress murdered. The hunt is on for a killer who seems to have vanished into the Bush ... until another victim is found.*

*The third book in Stabenow's Liam Campbell series, Nothing Gold Can Stay is inspired in part by the true-life story of the Anchorage serial killer, Robert "Baker Bob" Hansen."*

I must say, every book in this series is excellent. This one I just couldn't put it down - although I had to because I was incredibly busy at the time I was trying to read this one! The fact that this story was inspired by a real-life serial killer made this story even more creepy and strange. As always, Alaska as the setting seems like an ever-present character itself. Absolutely fascinating to read about a state in the United States, because it just seems so exotic and mysterious in almost every way.

Dana's characters are so real to me, they just leap off the page, and I am intrigued and interested in their lives. Liam is flawed, but still an upstanding man. Wyanet confuses me sometimes, but I like her, she is a good match for Liam. Diana Prince is beginning to find her legs as Liam's partner, and she impressed me several times, so I can't wait to see how she continues to improve and develop as a character. Moses, and Bill. Those two are wild, and interesting, and make great lovers, and I continually want more of the two of them (although personally, I wouldn't react well to some of their quirks - but as characters, I love them!)

This is the first in this series to make me cry a bit at several places, and also the first to give me a real shiver or two at various points. Now, mind, this is the first mystery/suspense series I have really read, and the fact that I want to keep reading more is very noteworthy, and a testament to the writing and storytelling abilities of the author. She is definitely an author I now recommend with confidence. I look forward to reading more of her in the future.

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### **Barbara ★ says**

[ Liam ain't going nowhere without Wyanet (hide spoiler)]

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### **Christine says**

This book was amazing! So many twists & turns. Still a bit sad at the end for Tim. Way to many senseless killings. Just goes to show that society hasn't changed and this book could be true. I don't want to give away any storyline. So I highly recommend this book.

I am a fanatical reader which means I have to know the character before I read about him in a combined book. The Kate Shugak book, Restless in the Grave combines Kate & Liam Campbell together. So I have to stop & read this series before I can read the next Kate book. All to say is that I am glad I did. Wow! Liam is every bit a great character as Kate.

And yes in my opinion, Dana needs another Liam Campbell book , too.

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### **Susy says**

I'm not a huge mystery fan but when told about this author who sets her stories in Alaska & includes lots of description about the Alaskan lifestyle I had to read the story. Apparently I began with the 3rd book in this series (subtitle is A Liam Campbell Mystery) but as all good writers are able to do, Stabenow fills the reader in on just enough backstory to meet the characters. Liam Campbell is an Alaskan state trooper who has been "banished" to Newenbam a small community in the Bristol Bay area.

The story line of course is how Officer Campbell solves a series of murders with much back and forth traversing of Alaskan territory by plane (a routine mode of travel in the bush) and best of all description about life in both the small communities and in the bush. The characters are a mix of law enforcement types, push pilots, regular folks who live in the community & out in the bush, Natives, and the seedy rough side of life.

I loved reading about the residents who are all interesting characters and even the hunting because in Alaska

most hunting is actually done to feed families throughout the winter.

I didn't much like the mystery thread but for those of you who do love a good mystery, I encourage you to try this author. You might even want to visit Alaska. I know it's a favorite destination for our family.

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### **IslandRiverScribe says**

This is the 3rd entry in the Liam Campbell series, following *So Sure Of Death*. The story begins approximately one month following the end of the previous novel.

As in the two previous novels, there are two storylines intertwined. One revolves around the murder that is discovered by Wy and the other revolves around the emotional growth of Liam, Wy and, this time, Moses.

And by "emotional growth," I mean just that; this book is not a romantic suspense. The romance was covered in the first two novels; now we are dealing more with Wy's backstory and how it relates to her choices as a person, as a woman and as a lover. We are also given much more information about Moses, just the beginning of a backstory but very important as to his choices and reactions also. And some of Prince's backstory is revealed also.

And, in fact, it is elements from Prince's background that the author uses to surreptitiously guide the murder investigation. Prince has a "because he could have done it, he did do it" attitude. Her professional ambition drives her to be more interested in closure rate than actual evidence or lack thereof.

With this established, the author drives the investigation in an oblique manner. She uses scenes during the investigation, rather than using internal dialogue, to carefully guide the reader to see Prince's true nature – her immorality, her hypocrisy with respect to the law and her singleness of purpose with respect to her career. And the author lets us know that Liam is only aware of that last motivation which seriously hampers his investigation and ultimately leads to other deaths and very nearly his own.

The author also uses a different writing style in this book compared to the previous ones in the series. The chapters are divided by day and place. The reader has an omniscient view so that we know what different characters are doing simultaneously and consecutively with respect to each other and the storyline. This causes the tension to build slowly as the reader follows the victims before and after they meet the killer.

Tension also builds as the reader sees that Liam seems to be just one step behind the situation. The author introduced Liam in the first book as a disgraced rising star in the Alaska State Trooper system. He did not get this "rising star" reputation as an administrator but as a crack field investigator. Yes, he is now in a Bush area, with an indigenous Native population that he does not truly understand, but he did not suffer brain damage in his "disgrace." Perhaps this "slowness" is a device to show how much Liam is changing personally and professionally. However, since we were presented with such an omniscient view of others during this book, it seems out of place not to have one for Liam. And this is the reason for my rating of 4, rather than 5.

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### **Shauna says**

Third in the Liam Campbell series; best in my opinion. Mystery: deaths on a trail through Alaska; a shaman

who hears voices. Familiar characters of Liam, Wy, Moses.

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## **Kathy says**

Wynet and Liam, Tim, Billie and Moses, Amanda, crazy bad guy, victim, John and ???

Wynet & Liam's relationship is moving forward... Liam is staying with Wy - in the camper when Tim is there, in her bed with Tim is away... Liam tells her over & over he loves her when he is afraid their plane is going to crash... and then Wy finally tells him the truth, that she had been married, had been pregnant, lost the baby, and cannot get pregnant... Liam withdraws for a bit, but he tells her because she did not trust him to tell him the truth before... and at the end, Wy tells Liam she loves him... ahhhh

Tim is doing better - he's been at Eskimo camp, returns, but his biological mother wants to see him - she has a camp order for supervised visits because she has been sober... Liam & Billie & Moses decide to take him to Moses' fishing camp until school starts - and they are fairly certain that she will start drinking soon. Billie & Moses also take Amanda to camp... she is 17, married 5 months to an abusive man, drinking and driving 3 times this week... Moses uses tough love - having them in tai chi type exercises of posing for an hour, then movements... and Moses shares with Billie how the voices are always with him, feared by his family... 2 stints in psychiatric programs (they didn't help)... joined the army, learned his version of tai chi overseas - the 1st that separated the voices out... as does being with Billie...

In the mean time, crazy man is looking for Emily/wife #20 - he has killed 19 Emilys and buried them... when he finds another woman, she becomes Emily, needing his protection and direction... he kidnaps them and terrorizes them to stay in his hidden cabin while he provides for them, and they cook & serve him - including in bed... he kills one of the postmaster on Wy's mail delivery... and then many miles away (so that it is hard for Liam to think it is the same man), he kidnaps the wife of a gold looker... the husband & wife have spent the summer in the cabin he bought (selling their home without telling her).. She is there because she loves her husband and wants him to be happy, but when he says he wants to stay there year round, she makes it clear she is returning home when Wy/pilot comes for them... but then the crazy man kills her husband, and takes her... they hide from the search planes that are looking for her - and there is no evidence that she had been taken forcibly - Liam and Prince (his partner, et al aren't sure what happened to her...

Wy & Liam return to the cabin a few days later looking for the wife, and their plane has trouble Wy gets them landed while Liam is telling her he loves her, over and over, not wanting to die before telling her... Liam is afraid of planes... Wy finally confides to him that she had been married, pregnant, lost the baby, told she couldn't have children, divorced...

At fishing camp, Amanda is getting stronger, and says she will not return to her husband... after a tough physical work out with Moses, they are sent to the lake to cool down... where they peel down to their scivvies and play like children... when they return to the cabin they see Billie and Moses having sex on the porch and they sneak away... turned on, they turn to each other (a 13 year old and a 17 year old?) but perhaps that's what she needs... Amanda is amazed having seen Billie & Moses that sex is different than what she has had - it doesn't have to hurt... reinforced by having gentle sex with Tim twice... and she spends a bit of time talking with Billie later, strengthening her resolve to deserve better. Billie asks if Moses' voices see good things for them, but sadly he does not - though he tries to reassure her & himself that sometimes free will trumps his voices j- poor Tim... hmmm

and Wy's best friend, report \_\_\_\_\_ and Liam's best friend, John show up with their boy/girl friends... and by

the end of their uneasy visit (they do not like one another), they have puzzled together a list of dozen plus women in the last 20 years that have disappeared - their disappearance chalked up to the bush - and there is a spark between them started hmmm....

When a 3rd body is found in the area, and in the midst of a growing storm, they attribute it to the same man, and Wy flies herself & Liam to the fishing camp - fearful that the killer is in their neighborhood, and they need to protect tim... and the woman has left the cabin, found 19 graves of other Emilias, sprays windex in the bad guys eyes, and runs... 24 hours later, amidst the storm, she finds the fishing cabin and they take her in... Wy & Liam show up... and then the crazy guy shows up... Moses invites him in out of the cold (why didn't he listen to his voices this time?) before Liam can stop him... there is a struggle - Amanda is shot dead, Moses shot, but not badly, Liam choked, but the bad guy finally taken down...

One of the Emily's was a tutor of Tim when he was younger, the only sane person in his life that encouraged him and taught him how to learn, how to read, how to speak Eskimo... Wy listens when Tim shares his memories of him, and takes two weeks to track down her parents, get picture of her, and present it framed to Time, who then hugs her with tears... Liam observes and later tells her that she sees a problem, and takes action to address it - Wy appreciates that he knows her so well, though others seem to miss it... she reflects about Tim's mother, thinks about how her life would have been different if she knew her father, if her mother had been different, and how her adopted parents loved her.... and she invites Tim's mother over, when Tim is in school - and she opens the door to her... hmmm... The story ends with Prince being offered department PR position (after Liam sends her to dialog with reporters over the serial killer), she turns down... Liam is promoted to sergeant and asked to return to Anchorage (we don't know his answer), and Wy tells Liam she loves him...

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## **Bruce Humbert says**

I really like this series - the characters, and the setting. Not great literature but a worthwhile listen

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## **Douglas Cook says**

First paragraphs, "Newenham, September 1 A seven-foot Jayco popup camper perched unsteadily in the back of a Ford F250 truck is not the best of all possible beds for a six-foot-two-inch man. Even sleeping corner to corner, Liam's feet still stuck over the edge. There was no toilet, no shower and no place to hang his clothes, in particular his uniform, which, to uphold the dignity of the Alaska State Troopers, maintain the authority of the judicial system and invoke the might and majesty of the law, should at least begin the day unwrinkled. On the other hand, the Ford F250 was parked in the driveway of Wyant Chouinard. He had free access to Wy's kitchen, Wy's laundry room and Wy's bathroom. He had free access to Wy, when Tim wasn't home, as the door to Wy's bedroom was six feet down the hall from Wy's bathroom. Even if the bed in that bedroom was smaller than the one in the Jayco popup, Wy was in that bed, and he didn't really give a damn if his knees stuck out over one end of it and his head and shoulders the other."

Stabenow, Dana (2011-01-05). *Nothing Gold Can Stay (Liam Campbell #3)* (Kindle Locations 70-78). Gere Donovan Press. Kindle Edition.

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## **Elizabeth Noah Astle says**

I enjoyed this book.. it went into more background of the characters. Liam is living in a camper at Wy house unless Tim is gone then he sleeps in the house.

Another murder has been found. Then another body discovered with the victim wife missing. Eventually Liam bf and Wy bf realize there is a serial killer out there on the loose.

We also learn more about Prince and her background while she is set on closing cases regardless of who did the crime.

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## **Mom says**

I like Mysteries

I like Alaska

I do not care for gratuitous sex

I do not care for profanity

Will usually give an author two shots before they are struck from any to-read list

Stabenow will be the exception

not very believable

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## **Steve says**

Corporal Liam Campbell is the Alaska state trooper in charge in Newenham, Alaska, and in charge of a large isolated area nearby. He has young, gung-ho officer Prince assisting him, and they come to investigate a murder in a remote village's post office location. Campbell's romantic interest, Wy, is also a bush pilot, so they often go to such remote places together when there is a problem. The problems multiply and things get more complicated as the reader finds out about two young men who were hunting in the area, and another couple who had gone to an area nearby to try gold panning.

The setting is a big draw for me, Alaska and wilderness and small town, but as I get further into the series, the support cast of locals grows on me more and more, particularly including Magistrate/Bar owner Bill, her man Moses, and Wy's adopted son, Tim. This could probably stand alone, but the background of the first two books helps. A solid procedural with good pacing, good setting, nicely made characters developing more each book and a very easy to root for good guy main character.

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