



## Heart of Gold

*Evelyn MacQuaid*

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## **Heart of Gold** Evelyn MacQuaid

Free spirited Charlotte Mercer who prefers chaps to corsets and lassoes to needlepoint, is outraged at being forced to join polite Victorian society and learn the rules of etiquette she abhors, all in the name of redeeming her family's good name. But when she meets Luke Fanning, he stirs within her uncomfortable yet deliciously strange feelings she cannot understand and which she is determined to fight.

Devastatingly handsome Luke is a charming and notorious seducer. Tales of children out of wedlock and ruined women follow him closer than a shadow. He has sworn that no woman will ever entice him into marriage, but when his world collides with Charlotte's, his resolve weakens for the wild and dark-haired beauty he's determined to possess.

"Heart of Gold" is a standalone Victorian Western Historical Romance. It's the second book in the "Mercers of Montana Series"

## **Heart of Gold Details**

Date : Published November 23rd 2015 by Evelyn MacQuaid Publishing

ISBN :

Author : Evelyn MacQuaid

Format : Kindle Edition 189 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Westerns, Western Romance

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## From Reader Review Heart of Gold for online ebook

### Leslie says

Cute, lite read book. Charlotte Mercer Is a spunky young lady who needs to redeem her family's good name. She is dolled up and refined, when she would rather be in her brothers pants riding her horse and working the ranch. She tries her hardest to be a debutante and make her family proud tails she meets the handsome Luke Fanning.

With rumors flying can she find what she truly wants and needs? Is Luke worth it or is he just a rogue like she has heard? Charlotte needs to decide if it's Adam she wants or Luke, who sends her heart racing.

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### Cynthia says

What I loved about this book was Charlotte was not willing to change herself just to marry a man. She would have been perfectly happy to never marry if she could not find a man that would love her just as she is. Luke wanted a women who would love him for what he was on the inside not what he could give her money wise. Never has a man been more happy to learn he was a rogue and not worth the ladies time than this man. Maybe just maybe he might find the lady who will love him.

I loved these characters each wanting their hearts desire but not willing to bend to get it. Charlotte was a sweetheart who just wanted to be a tomboy heck that was the way she was raised. But no man wants a woman who can out ride or out shoot him. Her mother throws her into the first season hoping she will find the perfect man to bring their good name back to society. Charlotte just wants to be left alone that is until she sees the handsome mysterious Luke. He takes her breath away from the start even the rumors don't stop her from wanting to get to know him better.

Luke is the handsome newcomer every women wants that is until one lady is out for revenge and spreads rumors of his low down ways. Now no mother wants him courting her daughter and fathers are willing to lock up theirs if only to protect them. All of this plays right into his hands now maybe all those ladies will leave him alone that is until he sees Charlotte and all bets are off as he gets to know the wild half women/child he knows he must have her. She is the only one that sees him as he is or does she.

Duels have been fault over less and might be fault before the night is over. Can Luke prove he is innocent or almost innocent of all charges before temper raise and people are pushed into marrying other they do not love?

The author gives a wonderful plot filled with a little mystery. I really enjoyed the characters the main ones will steal your heart. I found myself laughing and smile most of the way through this read. This book is full of rumors, lies, gossip and one man and women determined to have it all or nothing at all. This is the first I have read of this author and it won't be the last. She really held my interesting with a book I couldn't put down. I cannot wait to read more from her. I hope you will give her books a try I know you will enjoy them as much as I have.

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### **Patsy says**

In the era when most girls were being schooled in the drawing rooms thinking about fancy needlework, marriages and families. Charlotte Mercer was different she dreamed of running the ranch and riding horses. She liked the rough and tumble of the outdoors. She wore her brother's pants, riding straddled on horses and riding fast.

Charlotte's mother, brother, Jackson and his wife, Olivia saw her as a wife with a wonderful family. Her family began planning a Ball for the debutante. Charlotte went to the Ball only to please her family. She danced with the most handsome man in Virginia City, Luke from London. Luke had no place to stay so Jackson offered him their cabin in the woods while he was taking care of business in Virginia City. Charlotte and Luke were fast becoming friends. Luke has a private life he was trying to hide and Charlotte did not care to share her dreams with him.

This is a good historical romance with a unique plot. The host of character were well described with colorful personalities. I enjoyed the fast paced story. This is book 2, The author wrote so well there as not a gap between book 1 and book 2. Well done Evelyn Macquaid.

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### **Linda says**

A quick, sweet novella with characters that I really liked.

Charlotte is my favourite kind of heroine. Brought up on her family's ranch, she can (and does) out ride any other male, had a wonderful affinity with horses and rides astride in her brother's trousers. No silly side saddles for her or cumbersome riding habits. She wants nothing else other than to stay and work her family's ranch.

When she and Luke meet, there is an instant attraction but Charlotte, no matter how much she abhors it, is nothing but dutiful & labours to meet her mother's expectation of redeeming her family's reputation and be the perfect debutante while Luke, the son and heir to his father's wealth wants to be loved for himself and not for his inheritance. After being named his father's heir when his older brother dies, he experienced nothing other than being pursued for his inheritance. But a grasping woman whom Luke spurns spreads vicious rumors besmirching his reputation and Luke has his work cut out for him to court Charlotte.

This was such an easy read. I finished it in one sitting in less than a few hours. There were a few inconsistencies in the writing but it didn't spoil my enjoyment. I'd not read this author before & this was a pleasant addition to my library.

Copy gifted in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Donna says**

Good book.

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### **Kathy Heare Watts says**

#### **LOVE COULD FIND A WAY**

I really enjoyed this story with its mystery, suspense and romance, a historical western with a touch of London society. Throw in lies, deceit, rumors, gossip, a man determined to have a woman fall in love with him for who he is rather than what he has, and a woman who wants to be herself and not change to appease others, and you have a wonderful story. The Mercer family is not without their issues, but they are loyal to one another. Luke Fanning was the second son, never intended to inherit and was content with life until the first son dies and by rights he became the heir. Charlotte Mercer can ride and work the ranch just as well as the ranch hands, she is more comfortable in trousers and on a horse than in a dress and acting like a lady of high society. Can two people who have chemistry accept each other for who they are rather than what society says? Will lies and nasty rumors come between them? I look forward to reading more stories by Ms. MacQuaid and the Mercers of Montana. Disclosure: I was provided an e-copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. All thoughts, opinions, and ratings are my own.

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### **Kathy says**

Charlotte is coming out, but she is much happier doing the ranch work she loves and riding her horse astride. Luke has just refused to marry a woman who only wants him for his money and now she has started all kinds of rumors about him. When Charlotte and Luke meet they are drawn to each other. Can they get past the lies, the family pressure and expectations and find happiness together?

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### **Jeannie Turner says**

#### **Sweet**

Enjoyable reading quick story line easy to read and follow would recommend it. Enjoy the time frame amazed that I can picture in my mind the family .

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### **Sandra G. Coffey says**

#### **Quite Good!**

This was a good quick read that I did enjoy. Really good pace that made it hard to put down.

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### **Susan says**

Definitely fits my romance-conquers-all, touch of mystery, fun west-meets-society book! Fast paced and a story line that grabs your attention! I love the stories where the heroine doesn't want to be a "proper" lady

and will the man accept her as she is? Enjoyable secondary characters round out the tale perfectly. Who wouldn't love Scuff? The Mercer family wants to protect their name, but does that mean Charlotte cannot have her true love? Luke is beyond swoon worthy and has you rooting for him. Fun little snippets of mystery and intrigue dot the pages and keep you glued to it. It is a light romance that is perfect for a weekend enjoyable read. I recommend it!

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### **Lisa C. says**

I had higher hopes for this story because it sounded a little different than the norm. Too bad there were so many errors. There's even a note from the author asking readers to send in errors. There's too many! Missing words, wrong tense, things that are distracting when trying to read the story. Honestly, the book was pretty forgettable. So much so, I couldn't even tell you much about it a week after reading it.

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### **Janet Archambault says**

#### **He's such a liar**

Cute story. I just goes to show how gossip can be blown out of proportion with a little bit of truth.

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