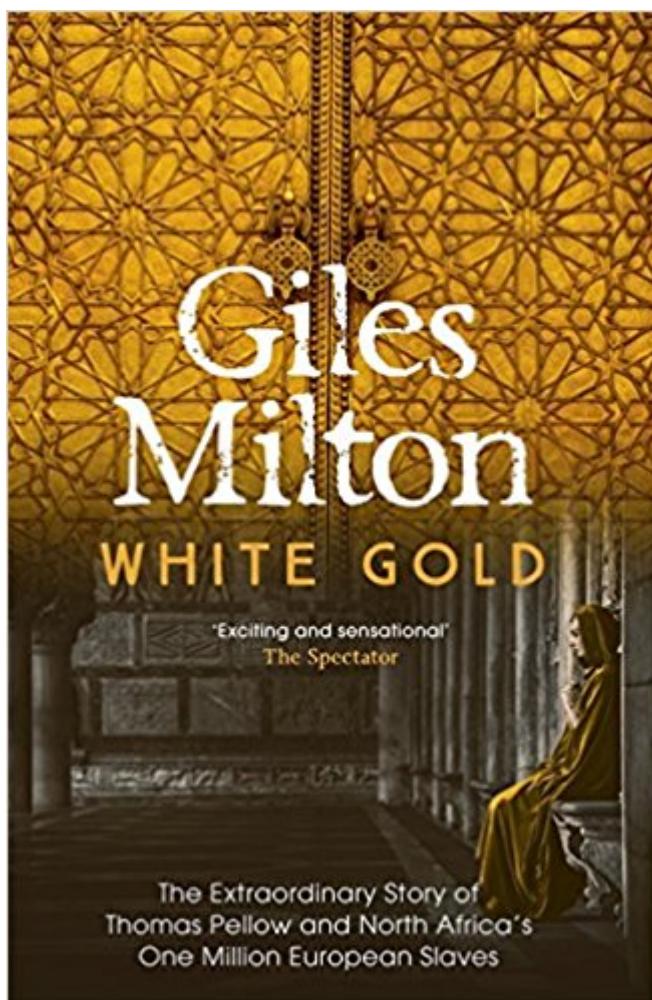


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# White Gold: The Extraordinary Story Of Thomas Pellow And North Africa's One Million European Slaves



## **Synopsis**

This is the forgotten story of the million white Europeans, snatched from their homes and taken in chains to the great slave markets of North Africa to be sold to the highest bidder. Ignored by their own governments, and forced to endure the harshest of conditions, very few lived to tell the tale. Using the firsthand testimony of a Cornish cabin boy named Thomas Pellow, Giles Milton vividly reconstructs a disturbing, little known chapter of history. Pellow was bought by the tyrannical sultan of Morocco who was constructing an imperial pleasure palace of enormous scale and grandeur, built entirely by Christian slave labour. As his personal slave, he would witness first-hand the barbaric splendour of the imperial court, as well as experience the daily terror of a cruel regime. Gripping, immaculately researched, and brilliantly realised, **WHITE GOLD** reveals an explosive chapter of popular history, told with all the pace and verve of one of our finest historians.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Giles Milton has a gift for searching out odd and forgotten corners of history and turning them into bestselling books... this is not a dry history, but a full-blooded narrative closer in style to a historical novel than to an academic study. William Palmer Literary Review Milton's story could scarcely be more action-packed, and its setting and subsidiary characters are as fantastic as its events. The Sunday Times An extraordinary story which few people will be at all familiar with... an exciting and sensational account of a really swash-buckling historical episode Philip Hensher, Spectator Giles Milton's narrative races along as he stitches together a story of heroism, sacrifice and misplaced zeal, painstakingly researched from contemporary writing and records Observer Giles Milton... has

crafted an inspiration for those of us who believe that history can be exciting and entertaining The Times

Giles Milton is a writer and historian. He is the internationally bestselling author of Nathaniel's Nutmeg, Big Chief Elizabeth, The Riddle and the Knight, White Gold, Samurai William, Paradise Lost, Wolfram and Russian Roulette. He has also written three novels and three children's books. His books have been translated into twenty languages. He lives in south London. Find out more about Giles and his books on his website, [www.gilesmilton.com](http://www.gilesmilton.com), and Wikipedia page, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giles\\_Milton](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giles_Milton), follow him on Twitter at [twitter.com/survivehistory](http://twitter.com/survivehistory) and like him on Facebook at [facebook.com/pages/Giles-Milton-Writer/121068034610842](http://facebook.com/pages/Giles-Milton-Writer/121068034610842).

Anything Giles Milton writes one can be sure is well worth reading, and surely well researched.. Incredible factual tale of the kidnappings of Europeans by Barbary Pirates. Over one million Europeans were kidnapped from boats (commercial sailboats with no guns, often), and from coastal towns. These people disappeared into the Islamic world forever. Those kidnapped who after deprivations and terrible mistreatment agreed to accept the Islamic religion fared better than those who didn't. Fascinating reading--I understand these kidnappings went on for a great many, many years, certainly for far more years than America's stint in slavery. Whites were sold at African slave markets, and suffered the indignities and mistreatment that many Africans experienced who were sold into slavery at the coast, often sold by tribesman other than their own. This book, WHITE GOLD, is, simply, mesmerizing reading, as is the author's, Giles Milton's, NATHANIEL'S NUTMEG. A great writer, with well documented research!

This is the third account of William Pellow, white slave in North Africa, and by far the one in most detail about others as well. Pellow's own account is also very good. I found this one gave good insight into the history of the slave depredations made by Muslim raiders all along every coast line in Europe for many decades. It also affords an interesting insight into the mind of the Muslim Pasha, or what we would call a warlord today. The fact is, absolutely nothing has changed, and their cruelty today is rooted in a long history of abuse of all who do not share their faith, and of one another as it pleases them. Worth the read for that alone. And yet, quite a number of them escaped, and lived to tell about it.

Gripping, shocking account of a young British sailor trapped in a terrifying, brutal country in the 18th

century. As well as being a story of individual courage and survival, the book gives fascinating insight into North Africa's white slave trade and the ineptness of Europe's rulers in staving off the incessant attacks by savage Moorish pirates on their coastal communities. Fast-paced, entertaining if at times harrowing, this book is very easy to read.

As usual Milton's data is minutely researched. The story is spellbinding and again confirms that truth strongly challenges fiction for entertainment value!

Should be Required Reading in every school !

This is a history book you are not likely to find in your library. The copy I received had been removed from a library.

I now have read about half of *White Gold: The Forgotten Story of North Africa's European Slaves* Hardcover by Giles Milton and find it very interesting and well delivered. The story is a study of letters and biographical information from those who's time as slaves was made known to others of the time in their own descriptions of how they were taken and treated by their captors and masters. If you think only America struggled with slavery, read how Europeans were captured from their own homeland and taken into slavery by Corsairs and the Pirates of the time funded and encouraged by the Sultan and leaders of Morocco. Worth the used price of \$4.65 with delivery included in this cost. A keeper in my library.

It was hard to put the book down. Just had to keep reading it. Part of history that's forgotten today.

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