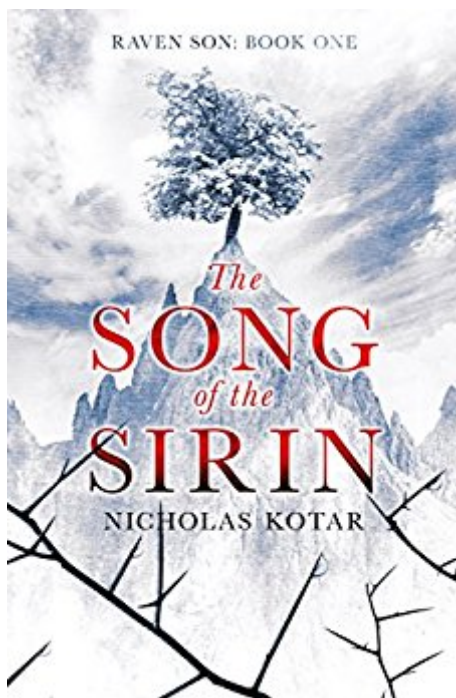


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# The Song Of The Sirin: Raven Son: Book One



## Synopsis

An evil omen clouds the sky. A song of lore returns. Can one man's quest save the world? Voran can't help but believe the rumors. As blight ravages the countryside and darkness covers the sun, the young warrior of Vasyllia hears of an ancient spirit that devours souls. He feels powerless to fight the oncoming devastation until a mythical creature entrusts him with a long-forgotten song. Legend has it that such a song can heal the masses, overthrow kingdoms, and raise humans to divine beings. Armed with the memory of the song, Voran must hunt down a dark spirit before it achieves its goal of immortality. His quest takes him through doorways to other worlds and puts him on a collision course with seductive nymphs and riddling giants. With each step of the journey, the strength of the villainous spirit grows, as does Voran's fear that the only way to save his world is to let it be destroyed. The Song of the Sirin is an epic fantasy retelling of the Russian fairy tale Prince Ivan and the Grey Wolf. If you like the hero's journey, creative twists on mythology, and classic fantasy, then you'll love Nicholas Kotar's sweeping tale. Buy The Song of the Sirin to begin the journey today!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I don't usually read epic fantasy, but I've always loved Russian folktales and I immensely enjoyed this novel! I cannot wait for the next book! The religious parallels are so expertly woven into young Voran's (and the 3 other main characters') experiences and I even felt a similar reflection on the current state of politics. If you're a fan of old Slavic folktales or epic fantasy, I urge you to read this!

The characters and plot are all good and well presented, but what I really love about this book is the mythology/cosmology that brings it alive. Thin places, spiritual harmonies, meaningful covenants, awesome (and awful... and even absurd!) creatures, the ontological consequences of sin and holiness, forgiveness and revenge; it's all there and so thoroughly integrated into the plot that you can really feel it. I'm an Orthodox Christian priest and seminary professor who preaches and teaches the real-life versions of these things and I recommend this book without reservation.

My immediate reaction to this book was to respond with such adjectives as "beautiful," "breathtaking," "brilliant." Indeed, "The Song of the Sirin" is a high fantasy in the grand tradition of "The Lord of the Rings. Like this celebrated book, it is a work of exalted seriousness and sublimity. And the sublime, we know, is both beautiful and terrible. The personae of the story are enmeshed in a conflict between good and evil, between a high moral good and beauty and a malignant and seductive evil. The good characters stumble and fall--and are sometimes exasperating in their weaknesses, but their striving towards the good prevails. Some readers will recognize the influence of Russian fairy tales and folklore, as well as the lore and liturgy of the Eastern Orthodox Church, but those who do not will find the book a compelling narrative and a work of haunting beauty. Apropos of this, I recall C.S. Lewis describing his boyhood reading of the Norse myths, and his subsequent fascination of the ethereal beauty of "Northernness." Well, here is another sort of "Northernness." The kingdom of Vasyllia is a landscape of forests, mountains, waterfalls and snow, of regions above the world, and the frightening aspect of a sky filled with ravens. A journey to Vasyllia is well worth it.

Can't wait to read Nicholas Kotar's next book in the series. The Song of the Sirin: Raven Son is a great read. I read it in less than 24 hours because I couldn't put it down except when reality

called--that says it all! Though new to the Russian fairy tale genre, it was easy to acclimate. The storyline flows seamlessly from one character to another in the different dimensions. The first chapters set the scene. You'll be glued to the book so to speak. Enjoy!

Wonderful fantasy based on Russian fairy tales. The ending leaves you impatient to hear the rest of the story. Can't wait for the sequel to find out what happens!

Excellent. What a great first shot in a series. I'd been looking for a new fantasy series, and my only regret is that the other books aren't out yet. The world is well built and amazing, and has an uplifting quality to it even though there are some dark tones and struggles. It is a complete story, but leaves you wanting more!

If you have a taste for epics and fantasy, check out *The Song of the Sirin*. This engaging first book of the tale of Raven Son is inspired by Russian history and folklore, with a good dose of Tolkien-esque magic. And like any good fantasy, it can be read on several levels which means that I'll be reading it at least twice more. Highly recommended!

Talented writer. Thanks.

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