



Deathless

By Catherynne M. Valente

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Koschei the Deathless is to Russian folklore what giants or wicked witches are to European culture: the villain of countless stories which have been passed on through story and text for generations. Valente's take on the legend brings the action to modern times, spanning many of the great developments of Russian history in the twentieth century.

Deathless, however, is no dry, historical tome: it lights up like fire as the young Marya Morevna transforms from a clever peasant girl to Koschei's beautiful bride, to his eventual undoing. Along the way there are Stalinist house elves, magical quests, secrecy and bureaucracy, and games of lust and power. All told, *Deathless* is a collision of magical history and actual history, of revolution and mythology, of love and death, that will bring Russian myth to life in a stunning new incarnation.

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Deathless By Catherynne M. Valente Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Twentieth-century Russian history provides a background for Valente's lush reimagining of folkloric villain Koschei the Deathless and his dalliance with Marya Morevna, a clever but troubled young woman. After Koschei sweeps Marya away from her family's home in St. Petersburg-Petrograd-Leningrad, Baba Yaga assigns her three tasks that will make her worthy of marrying Koschei. As she spends more time in Koschei's Country of Life, Marya starts to become too much like her unearthly lover, until naïve Ivan Nikolayevich helps her regain her humanity (as well as the sympathy of the reader). Valente's lush language and imagery add to the magic and fundamentally Russian nature of the story, drawing pointed parallels between the Soviet Union's turmoil and the endless war between Koschei and his brother, Viy. Readers used to the Brothers Grimm and Charles Perrault will find this tale peculiar but enchanting. (Apr.)

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Review

“For fans of Neil Gaiman, Gregory Maguire, and the like, this is essential.” *?Library Journal, starred review*

“Romantic and blood-streaked, and infused with magic so real you can feel it on your fingertips?Deathless is beautiful.” *?Cory Doctorow, bestselling author of Little Brother*

“Stories, unlike people, don't stay dead forever, or not always. They can live again?but only under very special circumstances. They must be revived by the miraculous touch of a very rare class of being, a kind of multi-classed genius/scholar/saint, who can restore them to life. Catherynne Valente is such a being.” *?Lev Grossman, bestselling author of The Magicians, on Ventriloquism*

About the Author

Catherynne M. Valente's first book, *The Orphan's Tales*, was released when Cat was twenty-seven. *In the Night Garden* won the James Tiptree Jr. Award and was nominated for the World Fantasy Award. Her next novel, *Palimpsest*, was nominated for the Hugo Award and is a Locus Award finalist, and *The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making* is a *New York Times* bestseller that earned starred reviews from all three major review outlets. Valente lives on a small island off the coast of Maine with her partner, two dogs, and one cat.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Gary Johnson:

This Deathless book is not really ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book is definitely information inside this e-book incredible fresh, you will get data which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This Deathless without we realize teach the one who reading it become critical in pondering and analyzing. Don't possibly be worry Deathless can bring if you are and not make your bag space or bookshelves' turn into full because you can

have it inside your lovely laptop even cell phone. This Deathless having great arrangement in word in addition to layout, so you will not experience uninterested in reading.

Rex Oswald:

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Jeannette Villalobos:

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