



NOSETOUCH PRESS

FANTASY CATALOG 2021-2023

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SAGAS *of* IRTH



ABOUT THE SAGAS

Dane Vale's Sagas of Irth series takes readers to a fantasy world where the balance of power has been thrown off by the invasion of the Manticore. The Manticore is a monstrous creature who is intent on conquest, and who has assembled an army of Wildland Unhumans to help him in this.

The Unhumans were created thousands of years before by the long-dead Sorians—a mysterious reptilian race whose blood magic allowed them to bend and shape much of the world to their dark desires.

The Sorian Empire was extinguished by a magical plague that killed off the Sorians long ago. In their wake were two tribes of humankind—the Firstmen, who were in the island nation of Stormfist, and, upon the mainland, the Mandrians, a theocratic monarchy ruled by the golden Dragon. The Secondmen were the other tribe of humanity, and they settled in Imperia, Conradia, and the cities of the Free League, as well as in the cities of Old Soria, amid the ruins of the Sorian Empire.

Far to the north are the Sylvanni, who rule two elusive realms—Solaria, on the mainland, and the Kingdom of Sylvannia, which is beyond the reach of everyday humankind through arcane protections.

Thrust into this tumultuous world of magic and mayhem is Farys, known as the Wolf Knight, a lost son of conquered Conradia, out to avenge the murder of his family by the Manticore. A Sylvan-trained swordsman, Farys has been waging his own private war on the Manticore for his whole life.

There is Sibyl, the runaway Mandrian witch—for, in Mandria, to be a witch is to carry a death sentence, or worse, by the edicts of the Dragon and his fanatical followers. Sibyl possesses a natural and powerful talent with magic, and, as she makes her way through the world of Irth, she grows ever stronger.

Farys and Sibyl cross paths in the frontier town of Barrow, where Farys saves her from the hangman's noose, and the two of them have worked together to thwart the Manticore and his minions at every turn.

They are aided in this effort by Fiss'Q, a swordswoman and senator of the ancient city-state Republic of Arokhnai. Fiss'Q is a Shadowlander, having become so by a secret ritual undertaken by her people, and given the gift of immortality, at the price of servitude to their dark patron, the Prince of Shadows, a god-demon whose enigmatic nature eludes even the wisest of sages.

The Sagas of Irth pursue the adventures of Farys, Sibyl, and Fiss'Q as they do their part to try to defeat the matchless Manticore, whose depraved desire to dominate threatens to bring about a return of the fearsome blood magic the Sorians used to pollute and poison the Irth.

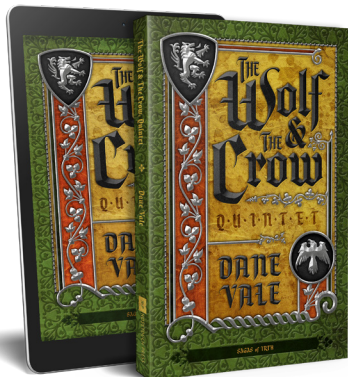


ABOUT DANE VALE

Dane Vale's Sagas of Irth series takes readers to a fantasy world where the balance of power has been thrown off by the Dane Vale lives in Chicagoland, where he conjures up Sword & Sorcery and Fantasy fiction when he's not relentlessly critiquing his twin brother's Science Fiction writing. He owns at least one spear, a war hammer, and a rapier, and is an avid reader and student of history. He dodges drunk texts from Dionysus, and believes that there should be far more megaliths in America. He cooks Italian food with verve, has a spirit-bond with wolves and crows. His favorite cities are Bronze Age Knossos, Iron Age Carthage, Medieval Constantinople, Renaissance Venice, and Paris at any time.

RealDaneVale.com   

THE WOLF & THE CROW: QUINTET | *Sagas of Irth 1—Novella*

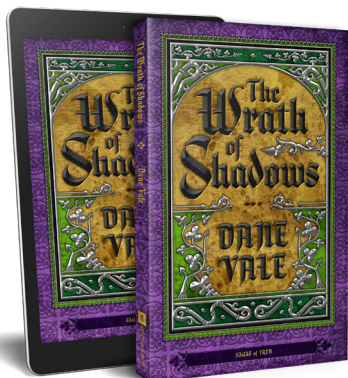


AN UNLIKELY PAIR. A WORLD FULL OF ENEMIES. THE WOLF & THE CROW: QUINTET features four short stories and one novella of Farys, the wandering, vengeful Wolf Knight, and Sibyl, the renegade witch-seer of Mandria. Following their first encounter (“The Wolf & The Crow”), to both of their origins (“Upon a Field of Ruin” and “The Whispering Trees”), the tales find them traveling through the mystical land of Irth to tangle with a demonic mercenary prince and his minions (“A Sordid Tale”), and across savage wastes against relentless Unhuman adversaries (“The Reckoner”). The QUINTET gives fans of Sword & Sorcery a glimpse into a larger realm, immersing them into Farys and Sibyl’s world, and their grand adventures awaiting beyond.

May 2018

Trade Paperback: 182 pages | ISBN-13: 978-1-944286-08-8 | Language: English | 5.5 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches | Also available as an Ebook

THE WRATH OF SHADOWS | *Sagas of Irth 2—Novella*

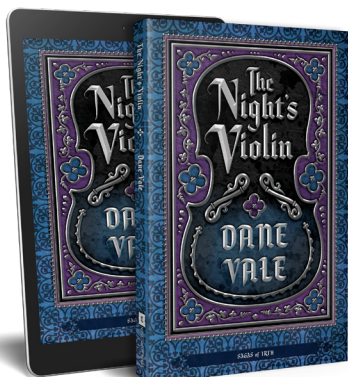


HONOR MUST OFTEN WORK IN THE SHADOWS. Fiss’Q, swordswoman and senator of the Republic of Arokhnai, finds herself mired in an assassination plot undertaken by the shadowy Smilers, intended to bring the city-state to the brink of war with one of its neighboring rivals. Will Fiss’Q uncover the conspirators in time to thwart the rush to a war that could be Arokhnai’s undoing?

July 2020

Trade Paperback: 130 pages | ISBN-13: 978-1-944286-12-5 | Language: English | 5.5 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches | Also available as an Ebook

THE KNIGHT’S VIOLIN | *Sagas of Irth 3—Novella*

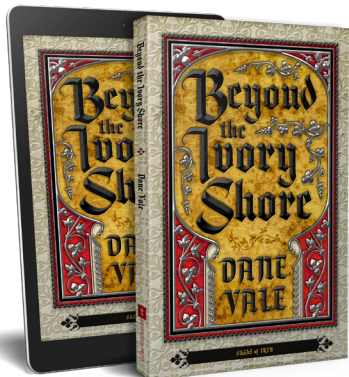


DARKNESS CALLS THE TUNE. Fiss’Q, swordswoman and senator of the Republic of Arokhnai, becomes embroiled in a plot to steal the fabled Night’s Violin, a magical Sylvanni musical instrument of great power. On the run since using it against the Manticore’s minions, the Black Bard of Valdikan turns to Fiss’Q for help. Little does she know that she’s being stalked by a sinister, silver-eyed Shadowmancer, a sorceress in the employ of the slavelords of the Obsidian Island. Will Fiss’Q be able to protect the troublesome troubadour, survive against the sorceress, and navigate the romantic and perilous path of heroism in the face of all but certain death?

February 2, 2021

Trade Paperback: 160 pages | ISBN-13: 978-1-944286-15-6 | Language: English | 5.5 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches | Also available as an Ebook

BEYOND THE IVORY SHORE | *Sagas of Irth 4—Novella*

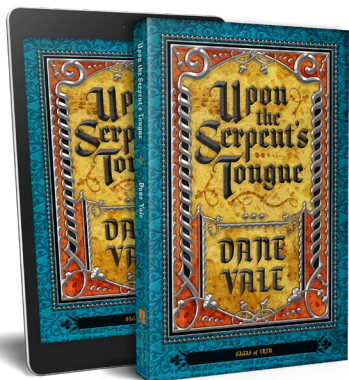


IN SORIA, WHERE LOST GODS AND MONSTERS WALK. On the run from the malevolent Manticore, Farys and Sibyl delve deep into the Black Jungle of Soria, in hope of reaching the free Republic of Arokhnai, to unlock the secrets of the Manticore's magic. But along the way, they are attacked by the wizard, Harkhon, and his feral Riverfolk, who seek to sacrifice them to their dark and monstrous god-monster. Sibyl finds the ancient magic of Old Soria intoxicating, as she and Farys fight for their lives out of the jungle. Can they possibly survive the malevolent attention of the god-kings of Irth?

July 6, 2021

Trade Paperback: 182 pages | ISBN-13: 978-1-944286-16-3 | Language: English | 5.5 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches | Also available as an Ebook

UPON THE SERPENT'S TONGUE | *Sagas of Irth 5—Novella*

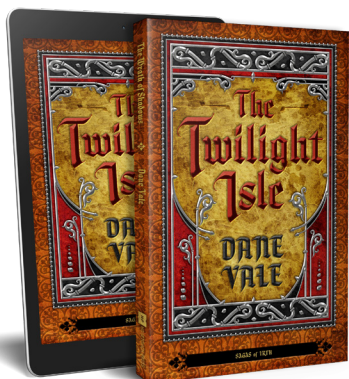


MAGIC AND MALICE TREAD UPON THE SERPENT'S TONGUE. In their bid to hinder the vicious Manticore's efforts to wage his ever-growing war of conquest, Farys and Sibyl sail to Nikos, an island ruled by the cruel sea witch, Ardiza. There, they enlist the aid of the besieged Dwarves of the Undercity, and hatch a bold scheme to retake the fortress-city of Nikos—but can they hope to win against the combined might of the Manticore's Unhuman legions and Ardiza's dark magic unleashed against them?

February 1, 2022

Trade Paperback: 190 pages | ISBN-13: 978-1-944286-81-7 | Language: English | 5.5 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches | Also available as an Ebook

THE TWILIGHT ISLE | *Sagas of Irth 6—Novel*



DARK DAYS BRING WRATHFUL SHADOWS. THE WOLF & THE CROW: QUINTET features four short stories and one novella of Farys, the wandering, vengeful Wolf Knight, and Sibyl, the renegade witch-seer of Mandria. Following their first encounter ("The Wolf & The Crow"), to both of their origins ("Upon a Field of Ruin" and "The Whispering Trees"), the tales find them traveling through the mystical land of Irth to tangle with a demonic mercenary prince and his minions ("A Sordid Tale"), and across savage wastes against relentless Unhuman adversaries ("The Reckoner"). The QUINTET gives fans of Sword & Sorcery a glimpse into a larger realm, immersing them into Farys and Sibyl's world, and their grand adventures awaiting beyond.

July 5, 2022

FORTHCOMING

LADY MIDNIGHT | *Sagas of Irth 7—Novel*

FORTHCOMING—January 2023

SONG OF THE SORIANS | *Sagas of Irth 8—Novel*

FORTHCOMING—July 2023

PRAISE FOR SAGAS OF IRTH

“This collection of related fantasy short stories has a lot going for it. From the unique application of classic monsters (a man-ticore leading an army of beastmen to conquer the world, or a dragon that uses its blood to make a hive-mind of its followers) to the quick beat of its action scenes and the classic feel of the story overall, there was a lot to like. **Daring knights, cunning wizards, and treacherous mercenaries, each helped to give this world a fleshed-out feel that made me all the more eager to learn more about it.**” —Francis, Goodreads review for *The Wolf & The Crow: Quintet*

“...the lore and world-building was richly developed and I thoroughly enjoyed finding all the little tidbits of history dropped throughout. I really liked reading about the origins of Farys and his legendary prowess, especially when he finally faces Sordid. I liked how unique and frightening each of the characters are. I really love named weaponry as well - the final chapters of the book were especially interesting to me. Lore and mysteries are one of my favourite fantasy tropes.

I felt like the action scenes kept me interested, with really clear descriptions so I could see what was happening really well in my mind. What I often struggle with is understanding what is happening in action-packed scenes, so I'm glad that I enjoyed these, too. I also really liked the variety of factions fighting and growing to become top (especially the mentions of the Dragon and Manticore in the same discussion).

The scale of the story makes me excited for the next ones in the series and I'm happy to know that another is being published this year. **This is one of my favourites for 2021.**” —Celine, Goodreads review for *The Wolf & The Crow: Quintet*

“A pocket gem...The first tale really drew the reader in and the pace didn't slacken in the subsequent stories. A regular injection of fresh characters facing new dangers kept my interest right to the end. I loved the effortlessness with which the five tales knitted together, too.” —John C. Adams, Goodreads review for *The Wolf & The Crow: Quintet*

“A worthy addition to the series, with a unique protagonist and enticing lore...I really liked Fiss'Q and her backstory, as well as the abilities granted to her...**I liked the addition of another god to the pantheon of this universe. I liked the weapons and the battle descriptions - exciting again!**” —Celine, Goodreads review for *The Wrath of Shadows*

“A fun novella with an amazing, compelling world! **The Wrath of Shadows is full of political intrigues and to die for (literally!) fight scenes.** I'm curious to see where Vale takes this world next.” —Ariana, Goodreads review for *The Wrath of Shadows*

“I did enjoy, again, learning more about the Sylvanni and having (yet another) named ‘weapon’, with a deep and interesting ability—the violin allows the user’s desires to come true in the form of magic, yet a single wrong note played leads to death.” —Celine, Goodreads review for *The Night's Violin*

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