



**CATEGORY:**  
FICTION / FANTASY

**PUBLICATION DATE:**  
19TH SEPTEMBER 2023

**PAPERBACK:**  
978-1-7392348-3-6  
£12.99 / \$15.99

**E-BOOK:**  
978-1-7392348-4-3  
£2.99 / \$3.99

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# **DARK WOODS, DEEP WATER**

BY JELENA DUNATO

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## **BOOK DETAILS:**

In the depths of a remote forest, an enchanted castle preys on unwary travellers. The servants of the Goddess Morana sacrifice to their dark mistress every soul who crosses its threshold. One terrible night, three people who should never have met find themselves trapped there: a spoiled lady escaping an unwanted marriage, an aging warrior-prince on a deadly mission, and a resourceful rogue caught up in a botched heist. As their destinies entwine and the dawn approaches, the solution to the castle's riddle becomes clear: if they want to escape, one of them must die.

A dark fantasy tale inspired by Slavic folklore, *Dark Woods, Deep Water* is the debut novel by Croatian author Jelena Dunato. Set in an intricately imagined world that staggers the line between fairytale and brutality, this novel will appeal to fans of Katherine Arden and Naomi Novik, as well as lovers of classic Gothic fiction.

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## **PRAISE FOR *DARK WOODS, DEEP WATER*:**

"Dark Woods, Deep Water drew me into its spell, weaving its beautiful threads around me until I looked up and realized I'd been reading long past the time I should have been asleep. From the first page, I knew I'd follow these characters into whatever dangers lay in wait. A gorgeous, layered, compelling tale in a world both familiar and strange."

— **Kate Heartfield, bestselling author of *The Embroidered Book***

"An eerie, fascinating tale, which - like all great stories - retains its mystery even after the last page is turned. We meet characters of varying motives and complexity, each of whom is compelling and, above all, real. The liminal world Dunato has created, with its rich seams of Slavic folklore, makes *Dark Woods, Deep Water* an extraordinary novel and its author one to watch. I have a new favourite."

— **Lucy Holland, author of *Sistersong***

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