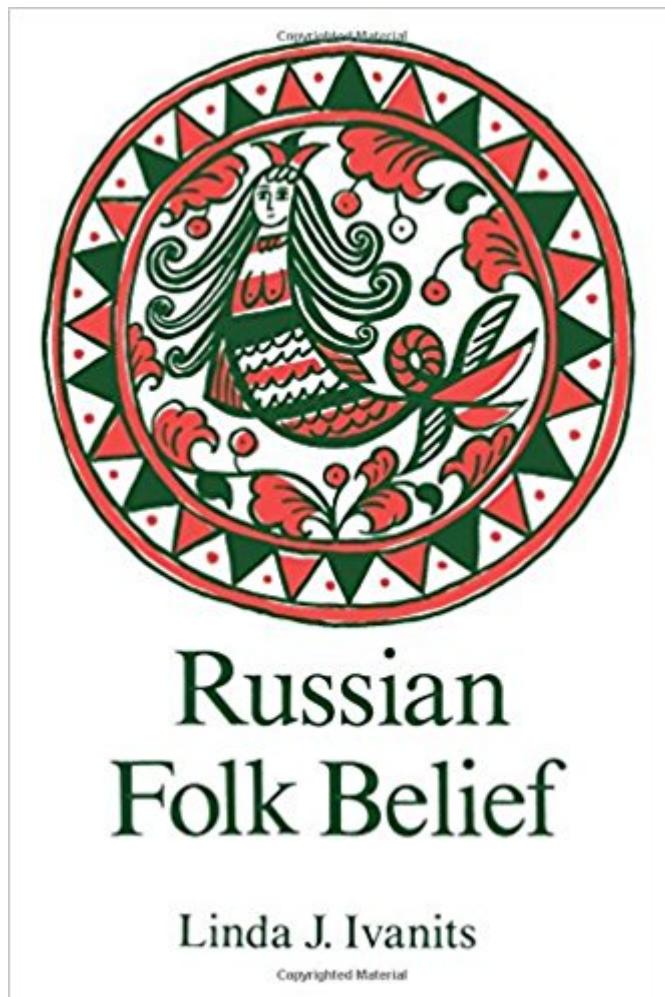


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# Russian Folk Belief



## **Synopsis**

A scholarly work that aims to be both broad enough in scope to satisfy upper-division undergraduates studying folk belief and narrative and detailed enough to meet the needs of graduate students in the field. Each of the seven chapters in Part 1 focuses on one aspect of Russian folk belief, such as the pagan background, Christian personages, devils and various other logical categories of the topic. The author's thesis - that Russian folk belief represents a "double faith" whereby Slavic pagan beliefs are overlaid with popular Christianity - is persuasive and has analogies in other cultures. The folk narratives constituting Part 2 are translated and include a wide range of tales, from the briefly anecdotal to the more fully developed narrative, covering the various folk personages and motifs explored in Part 1.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 276 pages

Publisher: Routledge; First Paperback Printing edition (1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0873328892

ISBN-13: 978-0873328890

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #37,370 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #25 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Mythology & Folk Tales > Fairy Tales #59 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Emigration & Immigration #84 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Folklore & Mythology

## **Customer Reviews**

This is a must have book in order to understand some of the nuances of nineteenth century Russian novels. Many of the spirits and demons described will appear in novels from this time period. I will keep it on my reference shelf.

Fabulous, well-written, well-researched. Great combination of history and folklore. Absolutely loved this book.

The best book written and published in the USA on Russian folklore beliefs, namely, on evil spirits.

I find the book to be very interesting and have enjoyed learning about a culture that isn't discussed much in America.

Ivanits' Russian Folk Belief is a very useful, straightforward, and engrossing book about the beliefs of the Russian people, specifically focused on the dvovorie (dual-faith) Russian Orthodoxy/paganism practiced throughout the culture's history in the last millennium. It is well-written, does not condescend, and yet, is very readable and informative. This is a good place to start, for those curious about Russian historical folklore and spiritual belief. Highly recommended!

I purchased this book for a college course, it was exactly as described and at a great value. Very happy with this purchase.

I bought this book for a college course I was taking, for a Russian Fairy Tale course but the book has been very interesting. Part 1 is about Russia's history and Russia's folklore history, then Part 2 has some fairytales and folklore. Ivanits does a great job in explaining Russia's past in 20 pages, then spends the rest of the time in part 1 talking about dveorie, Russian superstition, Russian gods, spirits, and the Devil.

This text was an additional purchase for a college class but well worth it. The text is easy to read and understand... thus easier to bridge information from one lecture to the next.

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