

Марья Моревна / Marya Morevna



<https://audiobaby.net/diafilm?i=49338>

youtube.com/watch?v=WkNZbKjGU08

<https://russkaja-skazka.ru/marya-morevna/> https://allforchildren.ru/ft/sk_rus63.php (text)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cAJ1EOESA7c> (audio, "storyteller")

Themes: Good vs. Evil, Life vs. Death, Hero's Journey (Quest). Allegory=uses symbols. Marya Morevna = "Daughter of the Sea:" force of light/good; winter/spring.

Koschey Deathless = "Death" (underworld); Baba-Yaga = witch, borderland (life/death).

The Water of Life and the Water of Death are **magical waters** in Russian tales. The water of death can restore a **body** (for example, if it has been cut into pieces), and the water of life can resurrect the dead (or return the **soul** back into the body).

Chapter 12 – "EASTER WEEK (PASKHA)"

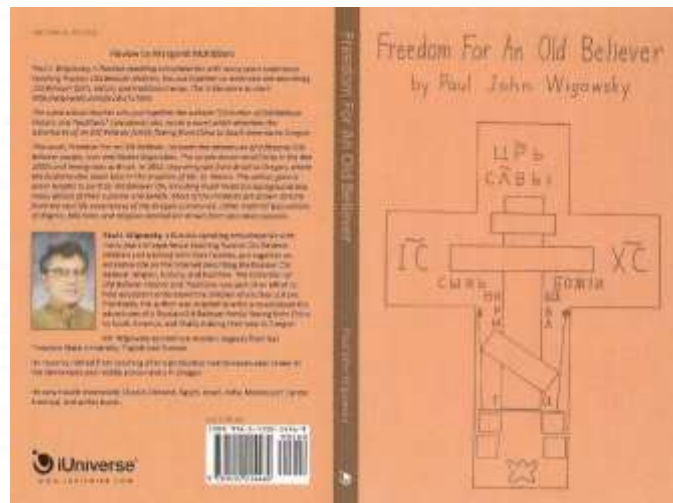
Nikolai spent most of his time now with his *spetsmal/krostoniy* (Godparent) Vasily and with his three cousins: Nadezhda, Anastasia and Irina. The Velikov family was given temporary living quarters in Ivan's house. Vasily worked with Ivan throughout the autumn and winter months trimming Douglas Fir and pine trees for the lumber industry. It was a very lucrative business, and by spring time Vasily had saved enough money to put a down payment on his own house and farm.

Whenever Vasily and Ivan would come home on holidays or on week-ends after several weeks in the woods, Nikolai would always run up to his Godparent Vasily and beg him to tell him another story. Vasily was a splendid story-teller, and he loved to captivate an entire audience with Russian tales that he had heard his father tell when he was a boy. Vasily had told many short stories about animals, like the favorite one about a fox and a wolf, and another one about a white duck. He had told them longer stories, like the one about the Goose-Swan, and another one about the Sea-King and Vasilisa the Wise. One night he spent a whole evening around the fireplace telling the long story about Ivan Tsarevich (the prince), the Firebird, and the Gray Wolf.

But on this particular evening in 1967, several days before *Verbnoye Voskreseniye* / *Verbnoye Voskreseniye* (Palm Sunday), Vasily decided to tell his favorite story about Marya Morevna (Marya of the Sea). Andrey's family had come to visit that evening, and there was a large group of listeners as Vasily began his story:

"In a certain kingdom lived Ivan Tsarevich (Prince), who had three sisters: Marya, Olga and Anna. The father and mother had died, but before they passed away they told Ivan: 'Whoever comes first to court your sisters, to him give her hand in marriage. Don't keep the sisters long without marriage!'

"After Ivan buried his parents he went with his sisters to play in a green garden. Suddenly, a dark cloud appeared in



<https://wigowsky.com/fob/FOBbook.pdf>