

STEPHEN RADFORD

THREADS^{OF}FATE

BOOK I: THE GATHERING THREAD



An eternal search just came to an abrupt stop...

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SYNOPSIS

Prague, Winter, 1953.

After accompanying his father to yet another crime scene of yet another gruesome murder, Jiri Ivanov becomes the target of a psychopath who exploits the gifted twelve year old in the hopes to inlock knowledge to control life, longevity and the hereafter.

The killer's aimless search to find three sisters or "*the three threads*" has, after centuries, come to an abrupt stop. The killer now has a new focus. Gather the threads with Jiri as the bait.

Very few within Prague's secret police believe the wild theories that investigator Nikolai puts forward about this latest series of killings. As their inner circle of trust, safety and security gets smaller with each fresh kill, the Ivanov family must pull together to not only survive but to ensure that the clandestine truth that they hold so deep remains a secret; even if it means breaking rules that were set in motion centuries before they were even born.



THREE SISTERS...

The first gathers the thread and holds it to the light. The second will measure the length, and the third decides where to cut the tether that descends into darkness. When together the sisters hold all there is to know about the light of life, the passage of longevity and ultimately, death in all its darkness.

BEHIND THE STORY

2003: This story started out - if you would believe it – as a serial killer, cat and mouse fable set on a fantasy island paradise. A bounty hunter and his criminal prize wash up on shore and then the killings begin. On a rewrite of the first three chapters, the setting was changed to Ireland of an uncertain period setting.

2010: The story was soon shelved and eventually adapted loosely as a series of flash fiction stories introducing the character “Robert Riley” whom we meet in the second book. The short subject storylines within that series introduced – by accident - the mythos that I have built upon for Threads of Fate. The symbol I generated for the circle (origin) the curved line as the journey, and the cross marked a destination had no meaning what-so-ever back in 2011.



2017: It was not until my stumbling upon the “Sisters of Fate” within Green Mythology years later that the symbolism suddenly made sense. To think that this started out purely from imagination, and then by accident built on the basis of Greek Mythology changed everything.

Finally, the stories can now be told.



THE AUTHOR

Stephen is a highly motivated, passionate writer who carries a strong appetite for venues where storytelling can flourish, from short film, prose, flash fiction, music, dramatic and visual arts. He also finds time to draw inspiration from others in the form of podcasts: from interviews within “Headline This”, retrospective insight for “Podfling Radio” and humour and analysis of film and television for “Frame By Frame”.

He has the ability to vary his style to suit multiple "writing venues" from short stories, screenplays, radio scripts and even advertorials campaigns.

Stephen’s first love is science fiction (SF) to which he has lined up several follow-up project upon closing the lid on the Threads of Fate trilogy. Crime fiction, particularly within a historical or contemporary period setting with human beings and automobiles is something of a departure.

Stephen believes in using an out-of-the-box approach to finding nuance within a story that have not been explored before.



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