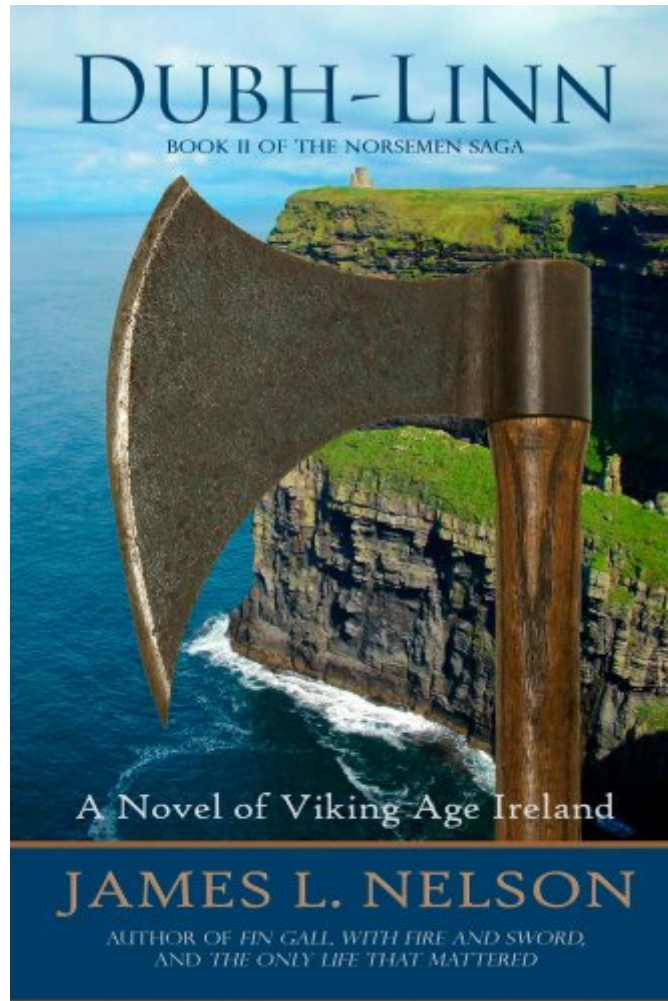


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Dubh-linn: A Novel Of Viking Age Ireland (The Norsemen Saga Book 2)



Synopsis

Book II of the ongoing Norsemen Saga. Coming in the wake of Fin Gall, Dubh-linn, continues the story of Thorgrim Night Wolf and his band of Viking warriors as they plunder the Irish coast. Eager to return to his native Norway, Thorgrim agrees to participate in one last raid under the command of a man he does not trust. But the Northmen, he finds, are no longer simply invaders on foreign soil. They have become a part of the Irish kings' ongoing struggle for power, and far from securing a means to return home, Thorgrim and his men are plunged into a battle for the throne of Tara, a battle that will test their strength and loyalty as none has before.

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Customer Reviews

It's 853 AD in Ireland, and everybody, or almost everybody, has edged weapons of some sort and knows how to use them. Bloodletting and carnage ensue. Having kicked out the Danes, the Norsemen have established a more or less permanent trading settlement in what becomes modern Dublin. Some, including Thorgrim Night Wolf, just want to get back to Norway. Others are either having too much fun, or are getting too wealthy, to be in any hurry to get back home. The Irish are hopelessly divided amongst themselves, with a plethora of Kings, large and small, all conspiring to

become the High King. Collectively they outnumber the Norse, but spend as much time fighting amongst themselves as having at the invaders. Dubh-Linn picks up where Fin Gall left off. Thorgrim and his none-too-bright son Harald are languishing in Dubh-Linn trying to catch a ride back home. Unbeknownst to everybody, Harald has fathered a child upon Brigit, an Irish princess, with an agenda of her own. The situation gets very convoluted, as Brigit's husband got killed off in Fin Gall, and she needs a suitable candidate with a legitimate claim to the High Kingship, in order to bring her plans to fruition. There are raids and counter-raids. Fights amongst the Irish, and the deep machinations of one Finnian, an Irish priest on a mission. It is not always clear amongst the various groups who is doing what to whom. This culminates in a three-way battle in which nobody has any idea what is going on. Nelson, most of whose writing has been nautical, shows a deft touch with the land battles that populate the book. Given that it is all hand to hand combat things can get very bloody, indeed.

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