

→ Introducing Rusalka: The Drowned Maiden of the Mire | A Transmedia Folklore Series

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Who is Rusalka?

In Slavic folklore, Rusalka is a spectral water maiden — the restless soul of a woman who died by drowning, often after betrayal, abandonment, or punishment for forbidden love. Bound to lakes, rivers, and wetlands, she is both mesmerising and malevolent — hair flowing, eyes gleaming, waiting at the water's edge.

- Her stories hold tension and transformation:
- She is the spirit of fertility and the omen of death.
- She embodies sorrow and seduction.
- She speaks for the silenced unmarried, betrayed, or punished women whose lives were cut short by societal shame or violence.
- Rusalka is not merely a ghost, but a mirror of collective memory where nature, femininity, and grief converge.
- Sometimes she blesses the land with rain and abundance.
- Sometimes she sings men to watery deaths beneath moonlit currents.
- She is a place-bound spirit, tied to the very waters that witnessed her last breath.

We have launched an open-source GitHub project to develop transmedia narrative prototype, inviting you to co-create, remix, and reimagine these stories across XR, games, and immersive storytelling.

Project Repository: https://lnkd.in/dYXzEvQQ

Follow us as we map the mythic and the spectral — tracing how feminine spirits of place echo across cultures, from Kerala's banyan groves to Eastern Europe's riverbanks. Let's reimagine folklore in code, story, and space.