

THE  
TALE OF  
**TELSHARU**

BY VALERIE MECHLING  
& SAMUEL STUBBS

**TELSHARU, THE CURSED** has escaped from his hundred-year imprisonment with renewed determination to end the tyrannical rule of the emperor, the 'Divinely-Chosen One.' As Telsharu travels toward the Imperial City to assassinate the emperor, he leaves destruction in his wake.

Out of the ensuing chaos, three unlikely heroes emerge—

Daryun yearns for the peace of his remote village and his young wife, but is impelled to return to his life as an itinerant swordsman, to fight for that peace.

Xansul, young aristocrat, and leader of a secret insurrection against the despotic emperor, struggles for freedom and justice. But he may have to surrender both to confront a greater evil.

ShianMai, fiercely loyal to her father, the emperor, discovers his flaws too late as Telsharu's threat draws ever nearer to her family and her home.

These three extraordinary heroes must decide whether to fight their own adversaries, or together withstand the legendary forces—earthly and unearthly—that threaten to tear the very fabric of their world apart.

Set in the Seventh Empire, an imaginary Asian land rich with history, martial arts, and distinctive culture, the story culminates in an epic battle: with tyranny on one hand, and anarchy on the other.



THE  
TALE OF  
**TELSHARU**

BOOK ONE OF THE  
TALES OF THE SEVENTH EMPIRE

THE TALE OF TELSHARU

MECHLING  
& STUBBS

VALERIE  
MECHLING & SAMUEL  
STUBBS

FROM  
THE TALE OF  
**TELSHARU**

*'Telsharu the Cursed,' they call me now.*

None of his fellow prisoners had faced down the emperor himself, the 'chosen of the Guardians of the Divine Heavens,' as his title implied. None of those men had faced their former masters in a duel—the great hero Hanu Zan, who had ended the duel by Telsharu's blindness. Certainly, none of them bore a wound through their hearts—a cursed wound which both maintained Telsharu's life, and drained his strength.

Once Telsharu had restored his strength and his power, vengeance would be his. *I will face the Khudang-yun again,* he thought.

*And this time, I will triumph!*

"...The action is riveting...The descriptions and world-building are beautiful and imaginative. The characters are likable, hateable, and everything in between..."

—A. Henrie

"...a tale with many twists and turns."

—W.J.B. Biesinger

Inquisitive  
Books



9 780983 400608

Inquisitive  
Books



ABOUT THE AUTHORS

When she's not writing, **Valerie Mechling** is a full-time Taekwondo instructor. Her martial arts philosophies of mind, body, and spirit can often be found in her writing. Her first solo novel, *Traitor Defiant*, was a quarterfinalist for the 2009 Amazon *Breakthrough Novel Award*. Valerie is a resident of Utah.

**Samuel Stubbs** began storytelling at a young age with a circle of close friends. He developed a love of Asian culture and language during two years of volunteer service in Southeast Asia, and as a life-long student of Shotokan Karate. Sam lives in Utah with his beautiful wife and children.

In *The Tale of Telsharu*, they have combined their interests and experiences to create a unique blend of engaging characters, fast-paced action, and compelling storytelling.

To learn more, please visit:

[www.mechlingstubbs.com](http://www.mechlingstubbs.com)

Published by **Inquisitive**  
Books  
an imprint of InquisitiveDesign, LLC

THE  
**SCOURGE OF  
NARAK**  
BOOK TWO OF THE  
TALES OF THE SEVENTH EMPIRE

BY VALERIE MECHLING  
& SAMUEL STUBBS

**A TYRANT TOPPLED—ANARCHY REIGNS.**

The emperor, Kamgue, is dead; his seal, the world's protection from the demonic legions of *Narak*, is shattered. Now, they are free to rampage through the Seventh Empire, threatening the entire world. And the emperor's assassin, **Telsharu the Cursed**, is hailed as the demons' new sovereign.

**ShianMai**, the dead emperor's young daughter, has become just one refugee among many, fleeing the Imperial City for her life. Along the way, she encounters unforeseen foes, unexpected allies, unpredicted love—and an undreamt role to play in the future of the empire.

The hero **Hanu Zan** and his new apprentice **Xansul** journey across the empire seeking the help of ancient Guardians, the only force that might be able to stop the onslaught.

*The Scourge of Narak* weaves a riveting tale of courage and friendship, leadership and love, and valor and sacrifice—a stirring continuation of *The Tale of Telsharu*, *Book One of the Tales of the Seventh Empire*.



THE  
**SCOURGE OF  
NARAK**  
BOOK TWO OF THE  
TALES OF THE SEVENTH EMPIRE

THE SCOURGE OF NARAK

MECHLING  
& STUBBS

SEVENTH  
EMPIRE

VALERIE  
MECHLING & SAMUEL  
STUBBS

FROM  
THE  
**SCOURGE OF  
NARAK**

Telsharu took in a belabored breath. *Men would not do anything this grotesque, this perverted, to other men. No enemy would deserve this. No man could stomach this much inhuman violence...*

The demon within him spoke up in protest. *Every great triumph requires necessary sacrifices, as you well know! This is only a minor shadow cast upon our great vision for the empire...*

*A necessary sacrifice...* The thought rang again. Was it his own thought, or was it the demon's? Had it been the demon's thoughts all along? The uncertainty sent a chill down Telsharu's spine.

“...the way the characters were deftly woven into a complex mesh of conflict and divided loyalties was magnificent... reach[ing] deep to find those key motivations, the emotions and beliefs, that push them to make their best and worst decisions: jealousy, selfishness, hatred, zeal, dedication, love.”

—from a review of *The Tale of Telsharu* by R. Castleberg, UNCUSTOMARYBOOKREVIEW.COM

“...I find myself waiting impatiently for the next book to be published to see where Valerie Mechling and Samuel Stubbs take this vivid landscape they have created.”

—from a review of *The Tale of Telsharu* by C. Van Allen, WATCHPLAYREAD.COM



**ABOUT THE AUTHORS**

When she's not writing, **Valerie Mechling** is a full-time Taekwondo instructor. Her martial arts philosophies of mind, body, and spirit can often be found in her writing. Her first solo novel, *Traitor Defiant*, was a quarterfinalist for the 2009 Amazon *Breakthrough Novel Award*. Valerie and her husband live in Utah.

**Samuel Stubbs** began storytelling at a young age with a close circle of friends—including Valerie. He developed a love of Asian culture, language and people during two years of volunteer service in Southeast Asia, and as a life-long student of Shotokan Karate. Sam lives in Utah with his wife and children.

To learn more, please visit:

[www.SeventhEmpire.com](http://www.SeventhEmpire.com)

Published by:

**SEVENTH  
EMPIRE**  
an imprint of inquisitiveDesign, LLC