



The Journeys of Socrates: An Adventure

By Dan Millman

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The Way Begins . . .

Sergei was three when the soldiers took him. At fifteen he fled into the wilderness, with nothing to cling to but the memories of a grandfather who called him Socrates and the promise of a gift buried near St. Petersburg. Thus begins *The Journeys of Socrates* -- an odyssey that forged the character of Sergei Ivanov, whose story would one day change the lives of millions of readers worldwide. This saga of courage and faith, of love and loss, reveals the arts of war and the path to peace. Ultimately, it speaks to the quest we all share for a meaningful life in a challenging world.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In his landmark 1980 novel, *Way of the Peaceful Warrior*, Millman blended fact and fiction to tell the story of a young man whose life is transformed by his encounter with a mysterious sage named Socrates. In this intriguing follow-up, Socrates takes center stage. It's late 19th-century Russia, and young Sergei Ivanov has been drafted into training to become one of the czar's elite guards. When Sergei saves the life of a brutal fellow student, Dmitri Zakolyev, during a difficult training exercise, he knows this act has actually made him an enemy... Millman's narration clips along, and he does a fine job with period flourishes. But the extended training chapters suffer from clichés of character and narrative, and dampen the suspense. A shocking surprise about the fate of Sergei's unborn child and a ham-fisted meeting between Sergei and his rival strain credibility, but Millman's fluid storytelling makes this an easy read. *Agent, Candice Fuhrman. (Apr.)*

From [Booklist](#)

Millman's autobiographical *Way of the Peaceful Warrior* (1980) and 94-year-old gas-pump-jockey Socrates, the young Millman's guru in it, are fixtures in the canon of New Age self-actualization literature, thanks to 2.5 million copies sold. This prequel provides an adventurous backstory for Socrates. It begins in czarist Russia with orphaned Sergei fleeing the Nevskiy military academy. He survives in the mountainous wilderness by fashioning a lean-to against the face of a cave near a waterfall on a stream that hosts salmon, trout, and a beaver dam, and by hunting and drying food for the winter. By his second year as a mountain man (1890), he has turned 18 and become part of the wild, high country. A close call with a hungry bear in 1891 drives him to St. Petersburg, where he hopes to verify his grandfather's promise of buried treasure and use it to escape to America. Millman's smoothly written text recounts a spiritual journey while it tells a creditable survival--adventure-coming-of-age story. *Way-farers will want to join the journey. Whitney Scott*
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Review

"Millman's fluid storytelling makes this an easy read." (Publishers Weekly)

"Fans will be pleased. Satisfying both in its execution and in its attempt to add another piece to the puzzle." (Library Journal)

"Way-farers will want to join the journey." (Booklist)

Users Review

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Irene Vaughan:

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