

KRA

by Aguidon



Written and produced in the Netherlands



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* *Followed by an image:*

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Foreword

with this first edition of KRA

While my original intentions were to create an animated movie, the storyline of this novel already developed early in 2013. However, as the tale became more elaborate within my mind, I realized that my high demands, the atmosphere I required the imagery to breath out, many technical issues, and lack of experience and resources all would make it impossible for me to make such a film in my lifetime, on my own.

At that point I decided to write the script so that it is readable like a book. Although my native language is Dutch, I challenged myself to use the English language. When I finally started writing this book in the second half of 2014, it became one big, intense, life-altering rush until I finished it in the late spring of 2015. My humble ambitions beyond this first edition are that the book will find its way to a publisher who can publish it in many languages and distribute it all over the world. But a main objective is still to have a film created based on this novel, preferably with human actors.

I have chosen not to use any form of conversation in the book, and thus in a film, there would be yelling, whispering, crisp sound, magnificent music and such, but there would not be any dialogue in any language. Consequently, a film would not require any subtitling and could therefore be seen, heard and understood by a grandmother in South Africa just as well as a young child somewhere in north Alaska. It would be without any borders.

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*In remembrance of Karetjie,
the young, wild, blue-eyed rook
that visited me so many times
during the summer of 2005.*



Naming Etymology

In order of appearance

Kra

In old Akan spirituality, the Kra is the **soul** of a person. It is of divine origin, one gets their Kra from God.

What one chooses to do with this gift in life determines the meaning and value of one's Kra.

Kanoa (Male):

Native American name meaning **Free one**.

An-Zhi-Mu (Female):

Chinese meaning **Peace - Wisdom - Admired**

Keiji (Male):

Japanese name meaning **Lead cautiously**

Luzette (Female):

Spanish name meaning **Light**

Bo (Female/Male):

Chinese name meaning **Precious**

Zuberi (Male):

African name meaning **Strong**

Eadwin (Male):

English name meaning **Valued**

Baaqir (Male):

Arabic Name Meaning **Deeply learned**

Nabhitha (Female):

Indian name meaning **Fearless**

1. Dawn

It is the point of night when the dark quietness is slightly broken by the first sounds of a new day to come. There is a distant sound of flowing water and a far-off rustling noise of formerly green leaves softly crackling in a barely noticeable wind. A fly is buzzing, and a bird can be heard chirping faintly through the far-away groaning of old trees. Above the horizon in the dark western sky, only the lower right quarter of the moon is shining bright. But its immense appearance, surrounded by a vague aura of morning fog, seems just moments away from plunging into the forests and mountains beneath it. Far away on a treeless top of one of those mountains, the faint silhouette of a large castle appears.

A few rooks silently fly southwards through the moonlight. One rook sits on an upper branch of an old, dead weeping willow tree. This old willow hangs a bit askew over the stream, covered by a soft blanket of fog. The curved and weathered roots of the willow tree are barely visible, just a little bit uphill beyond the reeds and grasses. The ground under the tree is covered with fallen leaves. Piles of stones and a few boulders are scattered over the hillside.

The young rook has striking blue eyes which look around restlessly. A little fly arouses its curiosity and, as it tries to pick the fly out of the air, the young rook loses its balance. Almost stumbling off the branch, the rook spreads its wings and flies down in order to land on a rock at the edge of the stream. A little confused, the rook shakes its feathers and looks around. The fly it tried to catch seems to have vanished.

Glancing around, something else draws the attention of the rook. A large dragonfly is flying by and irregularly twisting itself through the air. As it flies along the reeds, it turns a few times around another rock along the bank and then flies away over the water. Close to that rock, beneath the water, a golden brown fish restlessly circles around and occasionally seems to nibble at the surface of the water, creating small, circular ripples. On a crooked reed, a little above that rock, moves a larva or maggot of some kind. That is obviously what the fish is looking at and craving.

All of a sudden, the big dragonfly returns and lands on the same crooked reed. Another dragonfly comes by and the big dragonfly jumps off the reed and flies after it. Subsequently, the crooked reed moves, which causes the maggot to fall. The maggot lands on the edge of the rock and barely manages to keep itself from falling into the water. The fish instantly begins swimming back and forth, waiting for breakfast to fall into its already open mouth. But just when the water's surface is disturbed by the fish's mouth, a curious bird lands in the tree above the rock. The rook looks up and notices the yellowish bird. The maggot is incapable of climbing the rock and starts falling, sluggishly rolling over the side of the steep rock, towards the water and the fish's open mouth above the surface.

Then, all of a sudden, the yellow bird flies to the edge of the rock and leans down to look at the maggot, which is just out of reach. It then spreads its wings, flies up and turns around, while its flapping wings disturb the water. It snatches the maggot with its beak, flies off and lands under the old, dead willow tree, out of which the rook just fell. The fish angrily swims to deeper waters. The bird places the maggot on another rock near the waterside, chirps a few times and then flies away.

The rook curiously hops to a different rock and sees a small, young and more brownish bird approaching the maggot as its mother flies off to look for more food for the youngster.

While the young bird hops toward the rock, the rook notices an owl sitting on a large tree stump further away. This owl is closely watching the little bird, which is now trying to half jump and half fly onto the rock. When the little bird finally manages to get onto the rock it hops toward the maggot with its wings dragging a little low. The rook sees the owl stretch out, stoop down and spread its wings. In a tree close by, a few startled birds noisily fly up to other trees. The rook anxiously looks at the young bird and shrieks loudly. But the young bird has finally reached its destination and starts pecking at the maggot.

As it turns to the owl, the young rook beholds the enormous wings of the predator closing in, without a sound, floating through the air, to grasp its prey. Again, the rook shrieks to the little bird and jumps closer to the rock where it is still tackling the maggot. The maggot seems too big for the little bird's beak and it keeps dragging it and pecking at it, unaware of the approaching danger. Seeing the owl closing in and opening its claws, the rook crows loudly, jumps up and spreads its wings. The young rook flies straight towards the rock and, just above the little bird, it lowers its head, folds its wings, and loudly shrieks while it dives straight toward the owl.

The rook hits the side of the owl, which is thrown off balance and needs to use all of its wings' force to prevent it from gliding into the water. One wing sweeps over the rock and knocks the little bird to the ground. Fluttering over the ground as well, the rook comes to a stop, hops onto a small boulder and crows softly. The owl flies back to the tree stump. It settles in, turns its head left, then right and finally closes its eyes. With the night almost over, it is time for the owl to sleep.