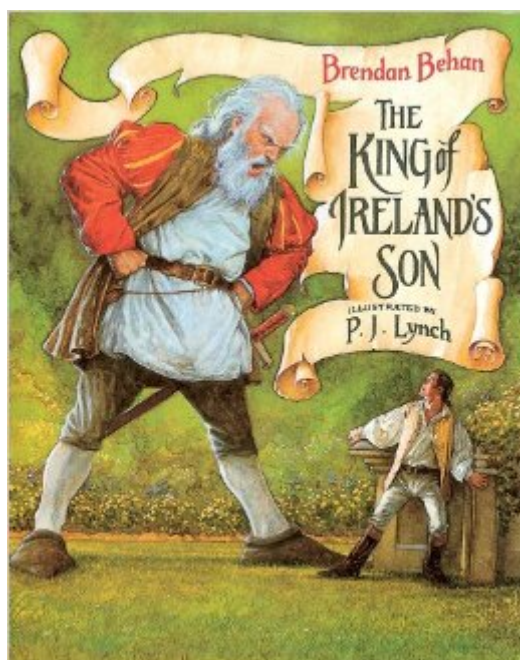


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# The King Of Ireland's Son



## Synopsis

The adventures of three king's sons, who are challenged to find the source of the heavenly music heard throughout the kingdom, include encounters with hospitable old men, a captured maiden, lots of food, and a fierce giant with an appetite for princes.

## Book Information

Age Range: 6 and up

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Scholastic; 1st American ed edition (March 1, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0531095495

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Product Dimensions: 11.3 x 8.9 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,696,382 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #142 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > European](#)

## Customer Reviews

"The King of Ireland's Son" is an original fairytale by Brendan Behan, but so immersed in the traditions and familiarities of Irish folk-lore that it could well be taken for a true tale from that huge mythological canon. Behan narrates in a jaunty-like prose that reminds one immensely of the language usually connected to stories from Ireland, and incorporates many of the usual fairytale components: a tricky giant, a damsel in distress, enigmatic guides upon the road, a helpful talking animal, a threefold trial and a triad of brothers: two malevolent ones to the virtuous youngest. The King of Ireland hears the sound of "heavenly music" in his kingdom, and promises half the land to whichever son manages to find its source. The two eldest, Neart and Ceart, take the opportunity to get rid of Art, the youngest, by lowering him down the hole from which the music appears to be coming from. Art however, is sincere in his wish to follow the music, and follows the tunnel connected to the dark hole, ushered on by three elderly men, each one older than the previous, each the son of the following one. Art follows their advice to a beautiful garden, where a beautiful, magical stallion carries him through an equally beautiful garden. There he finds the music's source: the daughter of the King of Greece is held captive there, under the power of a huge and evil giant. Captured by the giant, Art agrees to his challenge: for three days the giant will hide, and if Art does

not find him, he'll be killed. If by any change he does succeed, then it's Art's turn to hide whilst the giant seeks. Again, should Art fail, it will end in his death.

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