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Chapter 1 MAY DAY FESTIVAL

3

It is a bright spring day. The river flows. Birds sing. Then they go quiet. People are coming. Who are they?

They put up a pole. Long ribbons hang from it. Then the people form a circle. They begin to sing. A drum thumps. The singing stops. Each person takes a ribbon. Some move right. Others move left. AVA ----

Thump. Thump. Thump. Faster and faster. People *weave* the ribbons. In and out. In and out. The pole is covered.





Then everyone stands still. A woman comes forward. She says some words. She touches the pole. She asks for good luck. Another comes forward. He asks for a *blessing*.

What is going on? Who are these people? They are witches. But few people know it.

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Do witches fly? What is a green witch? Can witches talk to ghosts? Was magic once a crime? Do you believe in magic?



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