

- St John's Eve -

St John's Eve,/ also know as **Midsummer**,/ is a Christian festival on 23 June/ that is a pair with Christmas/ (which takes place in **midwinter**)// They are near the longest and shortest days/ of the year. //

In Russia,/ midsummer is like Halloween,/ and is **associated** with horror.// The English associate the night / with **faeries** and magic/ which is why Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* / is set on this date. // **Modern witches*** often claim / that the holiday is therefore not Christian,/ but this is untrue.// No European people celebrated Midsummer / before becoming Christian. //

The celebration is marked/ by great bonfires. // To jump over the flames / is to win good luck,/ though this is only **possible** near the **dawn**,/ when the fire is low.// People play all night, dance, drink, sing/ tell scary stories,/ and say prayers.// The ash from the fires is used / to bless the land, animals, and **individuals**; / and as **protection** from faeries.//

聖ヨハネ祭の前夜祭は/ 夏至祭としても知られている/ 6月23日に行われるキリスト教の祭りである/ (それは)クリスマスと対をなすものである/ (冬至に行われる) // これら(夏至と冬至)は、最も日が長い日と短い日付近にあたる / 一年で//

ロシアでは/ 夏至祭はハロウィンのようであり/ 恐怖と結びつけられている// イギリス人は、この夜を関連づけている/ 妖精と魔法に/ そのためシェイクスピアの『真夏の夜の夢』は/ この日に設定されている// 現代の魔女たちはしばしば主張する/ この祝祭がそれゆえにキリスト教のものではないと/ しかしこれは誤りである// ヨーロッパの人々が夏至祭を祝ったことはない/ キリスト教徒になる前に//

祝祭は特徴づけられる/ 大きな焚き火によって// 炎を飛び越えることは/ 幸運を得ることであるが/ これは夜明け近くのみ可能である/ 火が弱くなったとき// 人々は夜通し遊び、踊り、飲み、歌い/ 怖い話を語り/ 祈りを捧げる// 焚き火の灰は使われる/ 土地、動物、個人を祝福するために/ そして妖精からの防護として//

Vocabulary and Phrases

midsummer	真夏/夏至
midwinter	真冬/冬至
associate	関連付ける
faery (≡ fairy)	≡妖精/幽霊/土神
possible	可能
dawn	夜明け
individual	個人
protection	守り

*modern witches

現代の魔女という存在は、自然崇拝や古代の儀式を実践する宗教やライフスタイルの一つです。

これは歴史的な伝統の単なる継続ではなく、19世紀に新たに形作られたもので、古代の魔女伝説や習慣に触発されつつも、現代の視点や解釈で発展しています。

Total Number of words used

: 153 words

Time for 100 wpm

: 92 sec.

Time for 120 wpm

: 77 sec.

Your BEST TIME

: sec.



【Listen & Fill Blank】

St John's Eve, also known as _____, is a Christian festival on 23 June that is a pair with _____ (which takes place in midwinter). They are near the _____ and _____ days of the year.

In _____, midsummer is like Halloween, and is associated with horror. The English associate the night with _____, which is why Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is set on this date. Modern _____ often claim that the holiday is _____ not Christian, but this is untrue. No _____ people celebrated Midsummer before becoming Christian.

The _____ is marked by great bonfires. To jump over the _____ is to win good luck, though this is only _____ near the dawn, when the fire is low. People play all night, dance, drink, sing, tell scary stories, and say _____. The ash from the fires is used to bless the land, animals, individuals, and as protection from _____.

【Q&A / A&Q】

Question 1: When is St John's Eve?

Question 2: What do people use the ashes from Midsummer bonfires for?

Question 3: How do you play or pray on summer nights?

Ask 1: 答えが「Russia」である質問を英語で書いてください

Ask 2: Dance についての質問を英語で書いてください

Ask 3: 本文について知りたいことを英語で1つ書いてください

Sample Answer 1: 23 June, midsummer, near the longest day of the year.

Sample Answer 2: Blessing land, animals, people, and to protect from faeries.

Sample Answer 3: Scary stories / reading / tasty food / gaming / karaoke / meditation / sports / etc...

Sample Question 1: Where is Midsummer associated with horror?

Sample Question 2: Where do people dance on St John's Eve?
What dance is done around the fire?
Do the Faeries dance too?
etc...

Sample Question 3: What is a modern witch?
What are the faeries?
Why is summer scary?
etc...