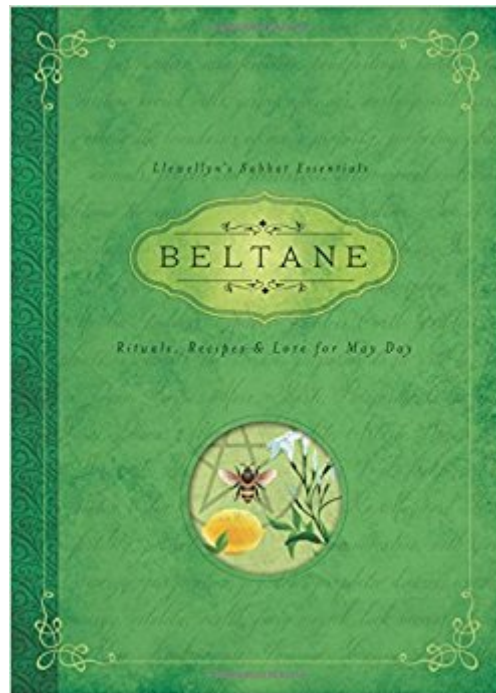


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Beltane: Rituals, Recipes & Lore For May Day (Llewellyn's Sabbat Essentials)



Synopsis

Light the fires of celebration with Beltane's invigorating energy! Beltane—also known as May Day—is a time of fertility and growth. As the start of the summer season, Beltane is the perfect time to put plans into action. This guide to the history and modern celebrations of Beltane shows you how to perform rituals and work magic for protection, abundance, and more.

• Rituals • Recipes • Lore • Spells • Divination • Crafts • Correspondences • Invocations • Prayers • Meditations

Llewellyn's Sabbat Essentials explore the old and new ways of celebrating the seasonal rites that are the cornerstones of the witch's year.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was provided to me by the publisher through NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. This is another book published by Llewellyn that I'll have to go back and make notes on. Everything was very clearly explained, and it'd be difficult to misunderstand the information. There's a lot of information on Beltane available, but the kind of clarity Ms. Marquis brings to it allows for a lot more detail, and there was obviously a lot of thought put into this book. It was great to finally know where some of the most common information actually originated from. I found a lot of the information refreshing, but it took an excessively long time to actually get to the information, plus there was not-so-common history bits that are still relevant today. As opposed to the included Tarot

information, which could be found in any introductory book on Tarot, or with a few clicks on Google. Oh, but the recipes. And the crafts! And the explanation of prayer from a Pagan perspectiveâ brilliant, and the best Iâve ever read. This book would probably be best for the solitary Witch who doesnât already have an established practice, or perhaps for the experienced Witch who wants to freshen up what they already do. I ended up skipping the section on modern Beltane celebrations. They got kind of repetitive, plus there wasnât anything included thatâs local to me so it wasnât very interesting. Speaking of repetitive, there was a summary of Beltane at the start of almost every chapter. I think after the second or third time it gets pretty well ingrained and we donât need to be reminded. The additional details on the astrological timing of Beltane was nice. Reading through this book Iâm reminded of some friends I had in high school.

The second book in Llewellyn's Sabbat Essentials series is Beltane by Melanie Marquis. Beltane is generally thought of as the first day of summer on the pagan calendar. Like the first book, this book is in a very easy navigate format, with just six simple chapters: Old Ways, New Ways, Spells & Divination, Recipes & Crafts, Prayers & Invocations, and Rituals of Celebration. In the first chapter, entitled "Old Ways", this book introduces and explores the history of the holiday of Beltane. It talks about May Day and things such as the Maypole that are even still used in modern spring and summer celebrations. The "New Ways" chapter explains modern rituals, and talks about how different paths of pagans, from Heathens to Wiccans, celebrate Beltane. It talks about where it's still celebrated and gives advice on how to celebrate in a modern day lifestyle. It also suggests some activities, such as ways to be creative and how to refresh your life for the new season. Then, there is a chapter called "Spells & Divination" that includes spells and other means to help achieve goals during this time of Beltane. These include the Sun and Citrine Spell for Energy and Purification and Fortunetelling with Eggs and Bannocks. There are good steps to follow to help you through it, which is good if you're a beginner to paganism. This chapter also includes a nice rundown of the basics of tarot cards. This chapter partners well with the chapter on prayer. The following chapter includes recipes and crafts, such as Blessed Lemon Custard, Supercharged Sun Cakes, and a Beltane Floral Crown. There are well detailed, step-by-step instructions for all of these, and there's a nice variety to the recipes. There is a final chapter for Rituals of Celebration.

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