



## The Summer Solstice: Celebrating the Journey of the Sun from May Day to Harvest

By John Matthews

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Wherever we are, we are under the sun. As it rises, we greet the new day; as it melts away at dusk, we return to hearth and home for rest. Its life-giving warmth undoubtedly inspired humanity's oldest rituals, especially at the winter and summer solstices in December and June, when the sun's strength begins to wax or wane as the seasons change again. Reclaiming these ancient traditions for contemporary use, this stunning new book completes the cycle John Matthews began in his 1998 award-winning *The Winter Solstice*. His subject is the mythic history of the sun as a source of fertility and fortune worldwide--from ancient sun gods and ceremonial dances, to the European customs of the Maypole and the love magic of Midsummer Night, to rituals for harvesting rice in the Far East. Today we can still come together at May Day, Midsummer, and Harvest-time, just as our ancestors did. Resplendent with full-color illustrations, this multicultural sourcebook helps us connect with the past and celebrate the present with stories and songs, crafts and games, and recipes for feasting to enjoy with family and friends.

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### **Editorial Review**

#### About the Author

John Matthews has been a professional writer since 1980 and has produced over forty books on the Arthurian legends, esoteric wisdom, and the Grail, as well as numerous short stories and a volume of poetry. He and his wife Caitlin co-authored a pioneering study of the western mystery tradition, which has revolutionized contemporary approaches to the ancient British Mysteres. Together, they created the best selling arthurian tarot, which has been translated into several languages. John also advises on film projects. Between 1989 and 1992 he co-organised the Merlin Conference. He is much in demand as a speaker in Europe and America.

### **Users Review**

#### **From reader reviews:**

##### **Heather Roberts:**

This The Summer Solstice: Celebrating the Journey of the Sun from May Day to Harvest book is not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you obtain by reading this book is actually information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. This kind of The Summer Solstice: Celebrating the Journey of the Sun from May Day to Harvest without we comprehend teach the one who looking at it become critical in pondering and analyzing. Don't possibly be worry The Summer Solstice: Celebrating the Journey of the Sun from May Day to Harvest can bring when you are and not make your case space or bookshelves' turn out to be full because you can have it within your lovely laptop even phone. This The Summer Solstice: Celebrating the Journey of the Sun from May Day to Harvest having fine arrangement in word as well as layout, so you will not truly feel uninterested in reading.

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