



May Day 五朔節

“Tra-La, it’s here! That lovely time of year!” Granny Beck was singing.

“Granny, what were you singing about?” asked Grandpa Mike.

“It’s May Day!” said Granny excitedly. “It’s time for planting flowers and planting our garden. The snow and frost are gone again for the year. It is a time to celebrate.”

「答～啦～來了、來了！美好的日子又來了！」

「奶奶啊！妳在唱什麼？」麥克爺爺問。

「是五朔節啊！」奶奶興奮地說，「在花園裡面種花的時候到了，一年的霜雪融了，慶祝的時刻到了。」





“I have not thought about May Day in a long time. Didn't we used to help our children make paper baskets and fill them with flowers?” remembered Grandpa Mike.

“We let our children and our students pick our crocuses and tulips, the first flowers to bloom in the spring. They put them into the baskets and gave them to elderly people in our neighborhood.”

Grandpa Mike said, “Uh oh, we are becoming elderly. Does that mean people will give us flowers this year?”

“I hope so,” said Granny Beck.

「我好久沒想到五朔節了。我們以前不是都會幫孩子製作紙籃，然後在裡面裝滿花朵？」麥克爺爺想起。

「我們會讓小孩跟學生摘下春天最早盛開的花，藏紅花及鬱金香。他們把花朵放進籃子裡，再送給社區內的老人家。」

麥克爺爺說，「糟糕，我們也變成老人家了。這表示今年大家也會送我們花嗎？」

「我希望會，」貝克奶奶說。





“That means they like and respect us. Also, flowers make me feel young. When I was a little girl, our teacher put a May pole in the schoolyard. Beautiful ribbons hung from it. Every student held the end of a long ribbon. Then we danced around the pole, winding the ribbons around and around until the pole was wrapped up. It looked like a colorful stick of candy. We sang songs and ate treats to celebrate May Day.”

“Why did you wrap a pole in ribbons?” asked Grandpa Mike.

“Our teacher showed us a book that talked about fairs and celebrations in England and other countries that took place years ago. After a cold winter, people look for a reason to get outside and play and celebrate. I got to wear a crown of flowers one year and was called Queen of the May.”

“I did not know that,” admitted Grandpa Mike.

「那表示他們喜歡並尊重我們。而且，花朵讓我覺得自己很年輕。我小的時候，我們老師會在校園操場立五朔節花柱。彩帶會垂下來，每位學生都抓住一條彩帶的尾端。我們就繞著花柱跳舞，彩帶不停纏繞直到完全包住花柱。看起來就像色彩繽紛的糖果棒。我們會唱歌吃糖果來慶祝五朔節。」

「爲什麼你們要用彩帶包住花柱？」麥克爺爺問。

「我們老師給我們看了一本書，描述英國及其他國家許久以前的市集與慶祝活動。寒冷的冬天過後，大家都想找機會去外面玩樂慶祝。有一年我戴上花冠，大家叫我五朔節女王。」

「這件事我可不知道，」麥克爺爺承認。

