

Vasilisa the Beautiful

A Retelling of a Russian Folk Tale
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Long ago, there lived a maiden name Vasilisa. She was kind and compassionate and beautiful.

When she was young, Vasilisa's mother gave her a doll and told her to feed it and give it water whenever she was in trouble. Her mother died no long after that.

Vasilisa's father remarried to a terrible woman with two terrible daughters, Vasilisa's new step-sisters. Her step sisters made Vasilisa do all the housework while they reveled in their own laziness

But Vasilisa stayed true to herself and kept hope in her heart knowing she carried her mother's blessing.

One night, the house was dark and no light seemed to warm the house...



The step sisters sent Vasilisa out to Baba Yaga, the witch, to fetch a new light, knowing that she might kill her.





*While walking in the woods to the hut,
Vasilisa ran into three riders.*





Vasilisa begged Baba Yaga for a skull to light her home but Baba Yaga told her she must earn it.





Baba Yaga gave Vasilisa three tasks to complete before she returns the next night: Clean her house, wash the laundry, and make her a full meal.





Vasilisa tried but Baba Yaga made the tasks impossible to complete, feeling hope lost, she gave her doll a slice of cake and tea and asked for it's help in finishing the task before dusk.





When Baba Yaga returned, she found all the tasks completed. Astonished and accepting that Vasilisa completed her task, Baba Yaga took one of the skulls and sent Vasilisa on her way home.











When Vasilisa returned home, her home had become cold and hellish, twisting her step sisters to attack her with the skull disenter-grating them, a gift from Baba Yaga. Vasilisa later went on to marry the Tsar.