

Fairy Outpost: Harvest Hollow

The Gathering & the Promise

(Magic Word: Promise)

✧✧ **Chapter One — The Fairy Origins**

Long ago, before humans walked this land, four great fairy clans journeyed across the world.

From the far eastern marshes came the **Marsh Fairies**, tiny riders on dragonflies, their silver wings glowing like moonlight on water. From the endless northern forests came the **Cottonwood Guardians**, tall and strong, their seed-wings floating on the wind. From the willow groves of ancient rivers came the **Wind-Whisper Fairies**, who carried voices and stories wherever breezes would take them. And from the meadows of distant plains came the **Meadow Fairies**, bringing color and laughter in the form of butterflies and wildflowers.

They wandered separately for ages — across seas, over mountains, through forests and deserts — until at last, they found one another here, in this quiet basin. The land itself hummed with life: grasses swayed, the stream trickled softly, and the air was fresh with promise.

Here they gathered and spoke a solemn vow — a **Promise** that bound them forever to this place:

“To this land we bind ourselves,
To care for water, tree, and creature,
To watch over every footstep that comes,
And to remember all who walked before us.”

This hollow became their meeting ground, their council chamber, and their home. It is known among fairies everywhere as **Harvest Hollow** — **the heart of the fairy realms.**

✧ Chapter Two — The Human History

Eldewyn, the High Guardian of the Fairies, remembers when the first people came — the **Potawatomi**, who fished the lakes, hunted the forests, and planted corn, beans, and squash. They moved gently through the land, naming waters and places with voices that still echo today:

- **Pee-wauk-ee (Pewaukee)** — “lake of shells.”
- **Coo-no-mo-wauk (Oconomowoc)** — “where the waters meet.”
- **Wau-tsha (Waukesha)** — the name of a Potawatomi leader, remembered in the city that grew nearby.

Almost two centuries ago, settlers arrived and built the first cabins and mills. They named their town **Prairieville**, but soon changed it to **Waukesha**, to honor Wau-tsha. Among them was **Asa Clark**, who built one of the first mills on Pewaukee Lake, turning water into power for his saws. Even today, children in Pewaukee learn at **Asa Clark Middle School**, carrying his name forward.

The fairies watched as wagons rolled, fields spread, and towns began to grow. Roads twisted and turned through the hills — not by careful planning, but by following old animal trails and paths made by the first peoples. That is why even today, the streets of downtown Waukesha wander and weave in playful ways, just like the fairy trails of Harvest Hollow.

And when **Good Harvest Market** arrived on this land about ten years ago, Eldewyn and his fairies celebrated. They saw a new kind of promise — people who cared for health, for nature, and for the earth itself. The cherries in the orchard nodded happily, and the willows whispered their approval.

✧✧ Chapter Three — The Promise to the Land

Through all of history, the fairies have kept their vow. They've seen prairies shrink, forests thin, and towns rise — yet the spirit of the land endures.

This little stream — no more than a few feet wide — carries the same purpose as the grandest river: it gives life, connects the waters, and keeps the world in balance. The willows and cottonwoods nearby drink from its soil, and the fairies dance in its quiet ripples.

Now you have crossed the small bridge and entered **Harvest Hollow**, the place where all fairy stories begin. Eldewyn watches as you stand here, a new traveler on an ancient path.

And so he asks you, as he has asked all who came before:

Will you walk gently?

Will you help us keep our promise —

to care for the waters, the trees, and the creatures —

so the stories of this land live on?

If so, continue your journey. Somewhere ahead, near the great willow trees, lies the next fairy outpost.

Watch the trails carefully... the fairies are waiting to share more of their tale. ✧✧