

The Rabbit and the Moon

A Mexican legend,
14th - 16th Century



Once upon a time, there was a tiny and brave rabbit. He lived in a cozy burrow in a wide, green field with his family.

One evening, a great and kind traveler named Quetzalcóatl was walking through the fields. He had traveled so far that he was very tired and hungry. He sat down on a stone to rest under the stars.

That's when the little rabbit sprang into action. He saw that the traveler had nothing to eat, so he reached into his bag and pulled out his last, most delicious carrot.

"You are giving me your last carrot?" said the traveler.

"Yes, no one should feel hungry," the rabbit said.

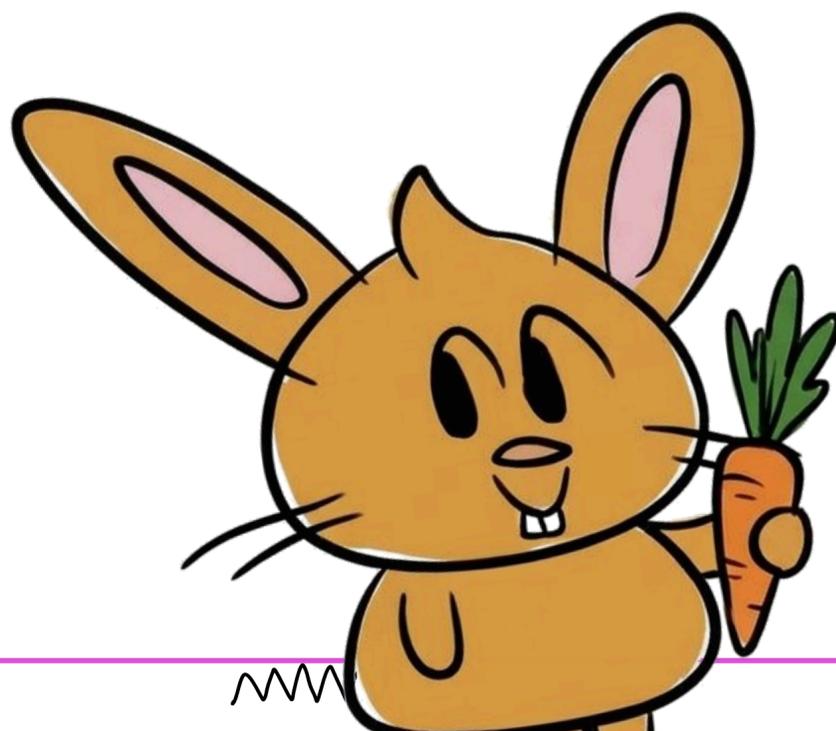
The traveler was moved by the rabbit's great heart. He picked up him up and lifted him high, high into the night sky!

He pressed the rabbit's shape against the bright light of the moon so that everyone in the world could see it.

"You may be small," the traveler whispered, "but your kindness is so big that it will shine forever."

Children love the rabbit because he makes the night sky look magical.

Every time they look at the full moon, they see the brave and kind rabbit looking back at them. He reminds everyone to be generous and to always believe in a little bit of magic.



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