

## The Legend of the Bamboo and the Moon

Long ago, in a quiet village surrounded by rice fields, there lived a kind farmer named Lakan. One night, as he was walking home under the bright full moon, he heard a soft cry coming from a bamboo grove. Curious, he followed the sound and found a glowing bamboo stalk. When he gently split it open, he discovered a tiny baby girl inside, wrapped in light. He took her home and raised her as his own, naming her Liwayway, meaning "dawn." As Liwayway grew, her beauty and kindness became known across the land. Many tried to win her heart, but she refused all suitors. One night, when the moon was at its fullest, Liwayway told her father that she was not of this world — she was a child of the Moon, sent to bring happiness to the lonely. Her time on Earth had ended. With tears in her eyes, she thanked her father and slowly rose into the sky, surrounded by silver light. From that night on, every full moon glowed brighter over the bamboo grove, and villagers said they could hear a soft song carried by the wind — the voice of Liwayway, watching over her beloved Earth.