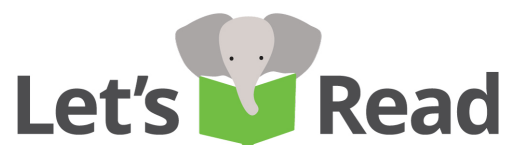




Saving the Moon
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 The Asia Foundation



Fox and Rabbit are best friends. After playing in the forest all day long, they realized they were far away from home. They also realized it was late in the evening and started to head back home.

As they walked through the dark forest, it seemed like mysterious eyes were watching them. Rabbit whispered, “Hey Fox, I’m scared. Whose green eyes are those?”

“Those are owl’s eyes,” answered Fox, trying not to scare Rabbit. In fact, he was frightened too.



Rabbit whispered, "I wish the moon was up."
They looked for the moon behind trees, in
beehives, and in anthills. But the moon was
nowhere to be found.



Hoot hoot.



The two friends continued their walk home. They came across a well and looked inside it to check for the moon one last time. The moon was lying at the bottom of the well. It looked sad.

The moon called out, “Can you help me? Ouch! Ouch!”

Rabbit cried, “Look, the moon is stuck in the well!”

Fox replied, “Yes. The moon seems hurt!”



“Let’s help the moon,” Fox said. The two friends thought about how to help the moon. “Aha! Let’s pull the moon out using a bucket!” said Rabbit. So they found a bucket near the well and tied a rope to it.



They threw the bucket into the well, and it clanged against the walls of the well as it fell. Fox said, "I think the moon's crying because it's cold."

"Or maybe the moon got hurt when it fell into the well," Rabbit replied.



The bucket reached the bottom of the well and filled with water. The two friends counted to three and began pulling.

“One, two, three. Pull, pull, pull!”



Fox and Rabbit were very tired from pulling for so long, but they didn't stop because they were determined to save the moon.

Suddenly, the bucket came out of the well and the two friends flew through the air and fell flat on their backs. Water was leaking through a hole in the bucket.



Rabbit looked up from where they landed and shouted excitedly, “Moon, moon, moooon! There you are!”

“We saved the moon,” Fox added.



Rabbit said, "But the moon didn't even thank us."

Fox replied, "The moon just went straight to the sky."

As they gazed at the quietly smiling moon, the two friends proclaimed, "Now that the moon has been saved the forest animals have nothing to be afraid of!"



The Moon lit the way home for its rescuers. Fox and Rabbit were proud of themselves for saving the moon and now they were fearless. They confidently walked on the familiar path all the way back home.

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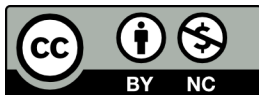
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Original Story

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