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IMAGINATION OVER KNOWLEDGE

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## The Moon Rabbit (Jade Rabbit)

Once upon a time, in a land bathed in the gentle glow of the moon, there lived a magical creature known as the Jade Rabbit. This rabbit wasn't just any ordinary rabbit—it shimmered with a soft, jade-colored light and had the kindest heart in all the lands, both near and far.

One bright night, when the moon was round and full, the Jade Rabbit was busy pounding away with a pestle. You see, in some places, it's said he was making the elixir of life, but in others, he was crafting the tastiest moon cakes you could ever imagine, with rice that glittered like tiny stars. Every year, on the brightest night, children from China to Japan, and even Korea, would gaze up, hoping to catch a glimpse of him at work.

But how did the Jade Rabbit come to live on the moon, you ask? Well, let me tell you a magical tale passed down through the ages.

Long, long ago, three old men, who were secretly fairies, wandered the earth disguised as poor wanderers. They asked different animals for help, and while many could help, the rabbit had nothing to offer. In a grand gesture of kindness—and because the rabbit's heart was as big as the moon itself—he offered himself to the old men to ensure they wouldn't go

hungry. Touched by this selfless act, the fairies revealed their true forms and, instead of accepting his sacrifice, they whisked him away to the moon to live forever, where he could be friend another lonely soul, the beautiful Hang Nga.

In another whisper of legend, told with hushed excitement and twinkling eyes, it was said that a pair of immortal rabbits lived happily together. They had four

little bunnies, each as fluffy and adorable as the next. One day, destiny called, and one of these tiny bunnies was chosen to accompany Hang Nga in the moon palace, to brighten her days and share in her moonlight adventures.

So, every night, when the sky is clear and the moon is full, if



you look very closely, you might see the silhouette of the Jade Rabbit. He's there, pounding away, making his cakes or mixing his elixir, dancing in the moon's soft light.

And as you drift off to sleep, remember the Jade Rabbit's lesson: kindness and bravery light up the darkest nights and can lift you all the way to the moon.