

AESOP'S FABLES

THE HARE AND THE TORTOISE



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The Hare and the Tortoise



An illustrated edition by Pewitos

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The hare raced across the meadow, boasting about her long legs. When she saw the tortoise passing by, she laughed. "At that pace, it will take you all day to reach the stream!"



The tortoise lifted her head. "I walk slowly, but I always move forward," she replied. "If you like, we can have a race." The hare burst out laughing and agreed at once.



They agreed to start at a round stone and finish at the old oak on the hill. "Ready?" asked the hare. "Ready," said the tortoise. And off they went.



The hare shot ahead like an arrow. She leaped among the flowers and soon left the tortoise behind. The tortoise followed the path without stopping: one step, another step, and one more.



Looking back, the hare could barely make out her companion's shell. "I have plenty of time," she thought. "I'll rest for a little while under that tree before I finish."



The shade was cool and the grass was very soft. The hare closed her eyes. Soon she fell asleep, while the leaves swayed gently above her long ears.



The tortoise reached the tree and saw the sleeping hare. She made no noise and did not stop. She looked toward the oak on the hill and kept moving along the path.



Step by step, the tortoise climbed the hill. Now she could see the oak's great roots. She was tired, but she kept going until one of her feet touched the finish line.



Then the hare woke up. She ran as fast as she could, but she was too late: the tortoise was already waiting beside the oak. The hare lowered her ears in surprise.



"You won," the hare admitted. "I was far too sure of myself." The tortoise smiled. "I just kept walking." From that day on, the hare knew that perseverance matters more than boasting.

About this edition

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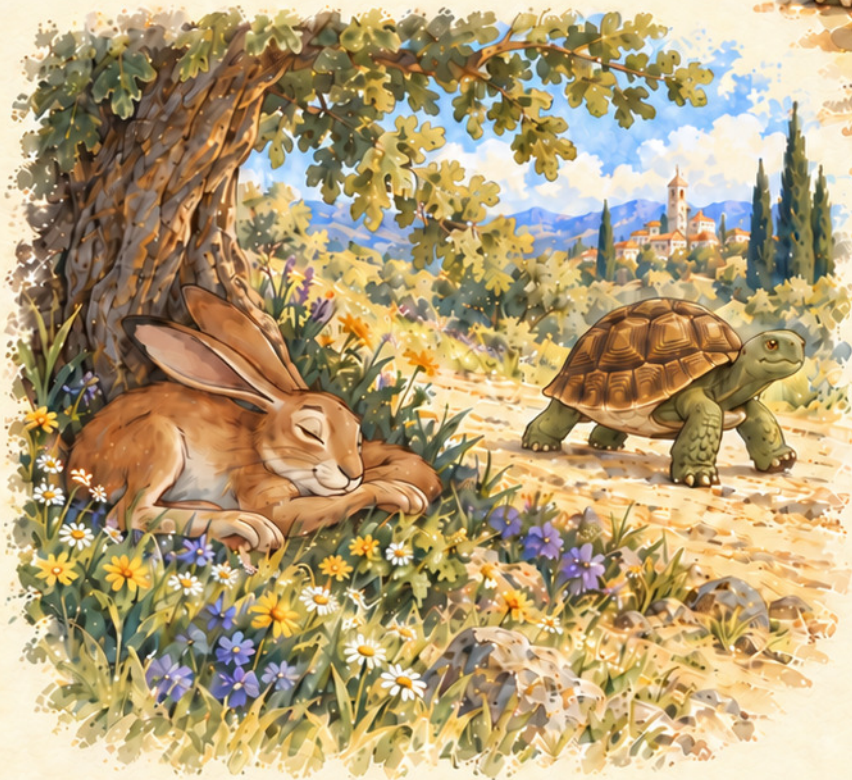
A fable from Greek tradition attributed to Aesop, an ancient storyteller. The race between the hare and the tortoise contrasts overconfidence with persistence. This is a Pewitos adaptation.



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A confident hare agrees to race a patient tortoise. An illustrated fable about perseverance and the value of keeping going.



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