

## WHY DO DEERS HAVE ANTLERS? THU HẰNG TRẦN MINH TÂM





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Long long ago, Deer was such a shy animal. He feared everything: darkness, beasts, even a strange noise could startle him.



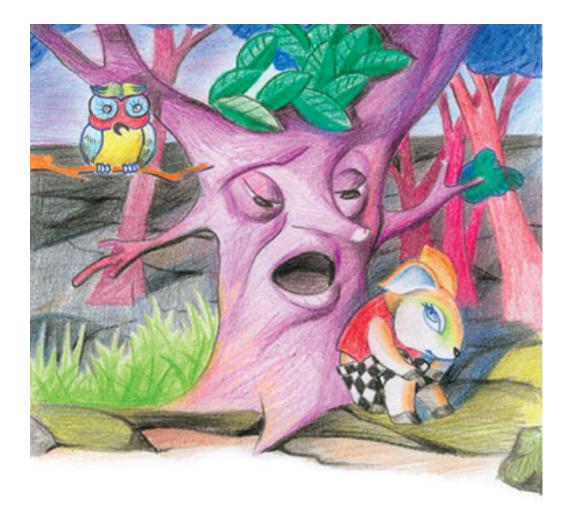
However, his friends loved him a lot for he was clever, hard-working and kind. One day, learning that the uncle Bear was badly ill, Deer told Mom that he would go visit him.



My disease is severe. Only the leaves of the Magic
Grass in the deep gorge can
cure it. – The uncle Bear
mutter tiredly. Deer replied
at once. - I can run as fast
as a flying arrow, I'll go find
the medical grass for you.



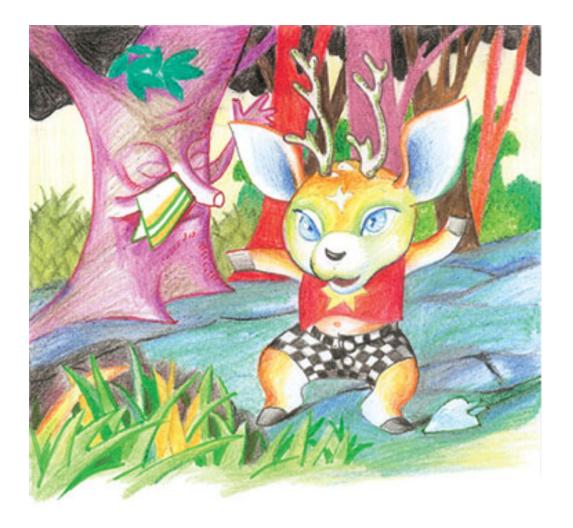
But the forest paths were so rough with so many wild fierce beasts. Deer felt a little scared. When the dark covered the mountain sides, Deer got even more frightened. He hid behind an old tree and cried.



The God of Trees arose and asked: - Why are you crying? Are you lost? - No, no. I'm searching for the Magic Grass to cure the disease for my uncle Bear. But there are so many scary beasts in this deep forest. I'm so scared.



- You can turn back home if you're scared. - But how about uncle Bear? He cannot get better without that Magic Grass.



The Tree God said gently. - You are such a warmhearted kid. Here, take my robust twigs. Put them on your head to make you stronger. Deer thanked the Tree God for the gift and then continued his journey.



Expectedly, now Deer could confidently cross deep streams and climb high mountains despite all wild beasts and darkness. When Deer brought the Magic Grass home for uncle Bear, the dawn also broke.



Magically, thanks to the grass leaves, uncle Bear got well soon.



Since then, Deer became more courageous and he always kept on his head the gift of the Tree God, which helped protect himself against all wild beasts. And the twigs on his head are called 'antlers'.

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