

## Rabbits Will Fly



Peter Rabbit was excited. He hadn't been in a written adventure for over a hundred years. Now he'd be in a new story. His best friend, Alana, who cuddled him in bed every night, said he should go with her Nanny Rie to New Zealand. He was sad to leave but he'd always dreamed of flying and visiting distant lands.

Nanny Rie packed Peter in her hand baggage, so he could travel in the plane cabin. From inside the bag, he heard lots of voices, a few minutes quietness, and then the roar of engines. It was a hundred times louder than Mr. McGregor's lawn mower. He wasn't so sure he wanted to fly now. If only he could sip some camomile tea to settle his nerves.

Eventually, the roar ended and he could hear voices again. Nanny Rie smiled at him as she put him in a pocket in front of her seat.

Peter could see through the window. The clouds were upside down and the plane floated above them. He wondered where the ground could be.

They hadn't been flying for long when he saw some flashing red letters above him - **Fasten Your Seat Belts**. Nannie Rie pulled a strap across herself but he didn't have a belt.

"Don't worry, Peter, the pocket will keep you safe," She said, stroking his ears.

But he wasn't sure. The plane swung from left to right and dropped like a stone. He thought they would hit the clouds. He heard a man say a word he didn't understand, Turbulence. Fortunately Peter was good at spelling and the first part of the word reminded him of turnips. So he kept calm by thinking about munching big ones until the plane stopped shaking.

A few hours later, night came and Peter saw the moon bigger than ever before. He wondered if they would go there on the way, he wondered if the carrots in New Zealand grew upside down and while he wondered if the Maori rabbits would show him their funny dance, he fell asleep.

Hours later, when Peter woke, they were off the plane. He saw a sign saying Singapore. It was so hot he wanted to take off his jacket. Many of the people around them were wearing facemasks. He had heard about the Corona virus. It was a dangerous infection for humans but rabbits were safe, though Alana had packed a mask for him anyway.

Nanny Rie was talking to a man called Brian as they waited in a queue for their next flight. Peter spotted a rabbit peeping out of Brian's bag,

"Hey what's your name?" He called.

"I'm Roger," the other rabbit replied, "We're on our way to Auckland."

"So are we," Peter screamed, "Why don't we all travel together?"



Everyone agreed. So the two rabbits shared a seat pocket on the next plane and Nannie Rie and Brian sat next to each other. They seemed very friendly, though Peter couldn't understand why they kept rubbing their hands with a clear gel.

He was so pleased to be sharing his adventure with a new friend and couldn't wait to send Alana a picture of Roger.