The Bunny Who Didn't Like Carrots

Once upon a time, there was a bunny named Jack. Jack liked playing with his siblings and playing fun games with his squirrel neighbor, Nutmeg. But there was something different about Jack. He didn't like carrots! Whenever he was given one, he frowned and said, "Blegh!" Instead, he ate potatoes, lettuce, tomatoes, and berries. His friends would always wonder why he wouldn't eat the delicious carrot. Nutmeg asked, "Why don't you like carrots? They're so delish!"

In the evening, Jack would wave good-bye to Nutmeg and start off for his family burrow. Because Jack and Nutmeg were best buddies, they had made a secret underground tunnel leading from Nutmeg's house all the way to Jack's bedroom. And sometimes when one of them was bored, they would go through the tunnel to do something to keep them occupied, such as playing tic-tac-toe or rock-paper-scissors (Jack was usually the one to go over). Then the friends would go home and keep lying in bed until they saw the light shine through their peeky-hole. After that, they would go to the bathroom to wash their face and to brush their teeth.

One morning, when Jack was still lying in bed, Nutmeg hurried through the underground tunnel and shook Jack awake. "Jack, Jack! I've got an amazing idea! You're gonna love it! So last night, I had this dream where you loved carrots like, so much!" Jack moaned, "oh, that's never going to happen." "What do you mean, never? C'mon! I'm gonna try to help you like carrots!" But Jack said, "Why? Eating berries and lettuce is just the same. Now just let me sleep." Nutmeg glanced at Jack's alarm clock. It was 9:00 in the morning! Nutmeg complained, "Oh, don't be lazy, Jack! It's nine o'clock!" Jack jerked awake. "Wait! What!? It's *nine*?" Nutmeg almost yelled, "Yeah! Meet you outside in ten minutes!" Jack quickly got dressed and went to the kitchen to eat breakfast. His parents and siblings were already at the table. "Sorry I'm late," said Jack. Jennifer, one of his older sisters, said, "What were you doing? We heard you talking to somebody." Jack said, "Um…no, I was… I was, uh, talking to my stuffed squirrel! Yeah!" Jack quickly brushed his teeth and ran over to Nutmeg's house and knocked on the front door. Out came Nutmeg, who was jumping up and down. "Jack! You're here!" squealed Nutmeg. "I mean, Welcome! Come in!" Jack went in and sat down at the kitchen table while Nutmeg prepared a blindfold, a few carrots, and a carver. Jack wondered what Nutmeg was going to do to him.

"Maybe you don't like carrots because of its shape," said Nutmeg. "Let's try this." Nutmeg put the blindfold on Jack's eyes, and took the carrot and the carver and started carving out an apple with the carver.

He took the blindfold off Jack's face and held out the carved apple. "Now try this. It doesn't look like a carrot anymore!" Jack looked at the "apple" and back at Nutmeg. "I know this is a carrot, Nutmeg," he said. "It's too orange." "Oh, then maybe it's the color!" Nutmeg took some edible paint and spread it across the carrot-apple. "There! This ought to trick him!" he thought. He held it out to Jack. "Nah, I saw you paint it. It's still a carrot." Nutmeg was disappointed that he couldn't convince his friend to try the carrot.

One day, when Nutmeg and Jack were doing relay races, Jack said, "Ugh! I lost again! Let's get something to drink. I'm dying of thirst!" They both ran into their houses. Jack, who was sweating, grabbed the closest drink near him. "Yes!" he said as he gulped in some of what he thought was orange juice. "Mmm! This is good! It's not orange juice but so…it's so… sweet and earthy and delicious!" He ran over to his mom, "Mom! Mom! What is in this?? It's so good!" His mom was confused. "It's carrot juice, you silly!" Jack replied, "So THIS is what carrot tastes like! It's so good! Make more! Please make more!"

So from that day on, Jack only drank carrot juice, carrot pie and of course, plain carrot. Nutmeg was so happy that he and Jack found a new boredom buster: crunch, crunch, crunching away on the carrot!