

## Why Do Cats Purr?

An etiological tale by Ayşenaz Saygun

Long ago, in the time when animals still spoke the language of the stars, cats were known as silent guardians of peace. They wandered through villages, forests, and temples, always calm, always wise — but they had no voice.

One winter, the Sky grew angry and sent a great storm to the Earth. The wind howled, the trees bent, and all the animals hid in fear. But in the middle of it all, a tiny baby was crying in the cold.

A cat, soft and silent, approached the child. She curled around the baby, keeping it warm. But warmth wasn't enough — the child needed comfort, a sound, a song.

So, the cat looked up at the stars and whispered, "Give me a voice that soothes." The stars, moved by her love, gifted her a gentle hum — a sound between a heartbeat and a lullaby.

From that night on, cats could purr. Not to speak — but to comfort. When they are close to those they love, their purrs remind the world of that ancient night, when warmth and sound saved a soul.