



Legend of Bear and Grass

Long ago before the earth was like it is now, things were still being created along with new things. Also, the bear didn't exist yet either, so the Creator asked all the beings and plants/plant spirits, "Who will come forward and help bring bear to life?"

The first to speak up was a small piece of grass that said, "I will help bring bear to life, to work with, and to walk with the people." So the grass gathered to work and as spring broke and the grass started growing, one special little grass seed started to poke out. From that grass seed came the very first bear.

This first bear crawled out of the seed and started walking around and this bear decided instead of living throughout the land it was going to offer himself to the people.

He decided he was going to head to the waters in the east and give himself to the water, and therefore put his spirit in the water, and the water in turn would give strength to all the people. So the bear went walking to the east and offered himself to the water to give the people strength.

Shortly after, another seed started to sprout and out came another bear. This second bear also decided to give itself to the people to give them strength by giving himself to the waters in the south, and in turn the water would give strength to the people. So the bear walked to the south and gave himself up to the water there.

The third bear to come from the grass seed also decided, like his brothers before him, he too would give himself to the people. He was going to give himself to the waters in the west and in turn the water would give strength to the people. So the third bear went to the west and gave himself to the waters to give strength to the people.

The fourth bear to come from the next grass seed, like his brothers before him, decided to also give himself to the people. He was going to the waters in the north to give himself to the water there, and in turn the water would give the people strength. And from then on, we are told each bear we see now came from a seed of grass.

We are told to this day, the grass and the bear are bound together because of how bear was created. So when winter comes and the grass goes to hide, so does the bear until the spring, and when the first blade of grass awakes, so does the first bear.

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