The Adventures of Grandfather Frog

"The Bedtime Story-Books"

[ILLUSTRATED]



By

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ILLUSTRATED &

PUBLISHED BY

E-KİTAP PROJESİ & CHEAPEST BOOKS



www.cheapestboooks.com

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Istanbul

ISBN:

978-625-6310-24-7

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Contents

List of Illustrations _____ ***6***

Billy Mink Finds Little Joe Otter _____ ***7***

Longlegs The Blue Heron Receives Callers _____ ***10***

Longlegs Visits The Smiling Pool _____ ***14***

The Patience Of Longlegs The Blue Heron _____ ***17***

Grandfather Frog Jumps Just In Time _____ ***20***

Longlegs And Whitetail Quarrel _____ ***23***

Grandfather Frog's Big Mouth Gets Him In Trouble _____ ***26***

Spotty The Turtle Plays Doctor _____ ***29***

Old Mr. Toad Visits Grandfather Frog _____ ***33***

Grandfather Frog Starts Out To See The Great World ____ ***38***

Grandfather Frog Is Stubborn _____ ***41***

Grandfather Frog Keeps On _____ ***45***

Danny Meadow Mouse Feels Responsible _____ ***50***

Grandfather Frog Has A Strange Ride _____ ***53***

Grandfather Frog Gives Up Hope _____ ***57***

The Merry Little Breezes Work Hard _____ ***61***

Striped Chipmunk Cuts The String _____ ***65***

Grandfather Frog Hurries Away _____ ***70***

Grandfather Frog Jumps Into More Trouble _____ ***73***

Grandfather Frog Loses Heart _____ ***76***

The Merry Little Breezes Try To Comfort Grandfather Frog ***79***

Grandfather Frog's Troubles Grow _____ ***84***

The Dear Old Smiling Pool Once More _____ ***87***

THE ADVENTURES OF GRANDFATHER FROG

BY

THORNTON W. BURGESS

Author of *The Adventures of Reddy Fox*,
Old Mother West Wind, etc.

With Illustrations by HARRISON CADY

The Bedtime Story-Books



"Have a nice nap?" inquired Jerry, with a broad grin.

List of Illustrations

* "Have a nice nap?" inquired Jerry, with a broad grin

* "Thank you," said Longlegs. "I believe I have an errand up that way"

* As soon as they saw Grandfather Frog, they began to laugh, too

* "You won't see much of the Great World if you jump like that every time you get a scare," said Danny

* He seized the other end of the string and began to pull

* "That's just what i'm afraid of!" croaked Grandfather Frog

Billy Mink Finds Little Joe Otter

Billy Mink ran around the edge of the Smiling Pool and turned down by the Laughing Brook. His eyes twinkled with mischief, and he hurried as only Billy can. As he passed Jerry Muskrat's house, Jerry saw him.

"Hi, Billy Mink! Where are you going in such a hurry this fine morning?" he called.

"To find Little Joe Otter. Have you seen anything of him?" replied Billy.

"No," said Jerry. "He's probably down to the Big River fishing. I heard him say last night that he was going."

"Thanks," said Billy Mink, and without waiting to say more he was off like a little brown flash.

Jerry watched him out of sight. "Hump!" exclaimed Jerry. "Billy Mink is in a terrible hurry this morning. Now I wonder what he is so anxious to find Little Joe Otter for. When they get their heads together, it is usually for some mischief."

Jerry climbed to the top of his house and looked over the Smiling Pool in the direction from which Billy Mink had just come. Almost at once he saw Grandfather Frog fast asleep on his big green lily-pad. The legs of a foolish green fly were sticking out of one corner of his big mouth. Jerry couldn't help laughing, for Grandfather Frog certainly did look funny.

"He's had a good breakfast this morning, and his full stomach has made him sleepy," thought Jerry. "But he's getting careless in his old age. He certainly is getting careless. The idea of going to sleep right out in plain sight like that!"

Suddenly a new thought popped into his head. "Billy Mink saw him, and that is why he is so anxious to find Little Joe Otter. He is planning to play some trick on Grandfather Frog as sure as pollywogs have tails!" exclaimed Jerry. Then his eyes began to twinkle as he added: "I think I'll have some fun myself."

Without another word Jerry slipped down into the water and swam over to the big green lily-pad of Grandfather Frog. Then he hit the water a smart blow with his tail. Grandfather Frog's big goggly eyes flew open, and he was just about to make a frightened plunge into the Smiling Pool when he saw Jerry.

"Have a nice nap?" inquired Jerry, with a broad grin.

"I wasn't asleep!" protested Grandfather Frog indignantly. "I was just thinking."

"Don't you think it a rather dangerous plan to think so long with your eyes closed?" asked Jerry.

"Well, maybe I did just doze off," admitted Grandfather Frog sheepishly.

"Maybe you did," replied Jerry. "Now listen." Then Jerry whispered in Grandfather Frog's ear, and both chuckled as if they were enjoying some joke, for they are great friends, you

know. Afterward Jerry swam back to his house, and Grandfather Frog closed his eyes so as to look just as he did when he was asleep.

Meanwhile Billy Mink had hurried down the Laughing Brook. Half-way to the Big River he met Little Joe Otter bringing home a big fish, for you know Little Joe is a great fisherman. Billy Mink hastened to tell him how Grandfather Frog had fallen fast asleep on his big green lily-pad.

"It's a splendid chance to have some fun with Grandfather Frog and give him a great scare," concluded Billy.

Little Joe Otter put his fish down and grinned. He likes to play pranks almost as well as he likes to go fishing.

"What can we do?" said he.

"I've thought of a plan," replied Billy. "Do you happen to know where we can find Longlegs the Blue Heron?"

"Yes," said Little Joe. "I saw him fishing not five minutes ago."

Then Billy told Little Joe his plan, and laughing and giggling, the two little scamps hurried off to find Longlegs the Blue Heron.