

## The Frog Prince

By Brothers Grimm

Once upon a time there lived a beautiful princess who had a golden ball. One day, while playing in the garden, the ball fell into a pond. She was very upset and did not know what to do. While she sat there crying helplessly, a frog hopped out of the pond and asked, "Why are you crying, little princess?" She told him about her golden ball. The ugly frog said, "I can help you get your ball but what will you give me in return?" "I will give you anything you want!" promised the princess. The frog immediately dived into the water and fetched the ball for her.

The princess was very happy. The frog reminded her, "Remember that you promised me anything. Well, I want to be your friend, eat from your plate, and sleep in your palace!" The princess hated the idea but she agreed and ran back to the palace.

The next morning, the princess found the frog waiting for her. He said, "I have come to live in your palace." Hearing this, the princess ran to her father, crying. When the kind king



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heard about the promise, he told her, "A promise is a promise and you must keep your word. You must let the frog stay here." The princess was very angry but she had no choice and let the frog stay. He ate from her plate during dinner and asked the princess to take him to her bed at night. But when the princess awoke on the following morning she was astonished to see, instead of the frog, a handsome prince, gazing on her with the most beautiful eyes she had ever seen and standing at the head of her bed.

**H**e told her that he had been enchanted by a spiteful fairy, who had changed him into a frog; and that he had been fated so to abide till some princess should take him out of the spring, and let him eat from her plate, and sleep upon her bed. "You," said the prince, "have broken his cruel charm, and now I have nothing to wish for but to marry you, and love you as long as you live." So they did, and they lived happily ever after.

