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The Frog Princess



Synopsis

A humorous and modern retelling of a popular fairy tale classic features the loyal and royal water-splashing frog, who, at the end of the adventure, resumes the form of a princess instead of a prince.

Book Information

Age Range: 4 and up

Series: Frog Princess

Hardcover

Publisher: Greenwillow Books; 4th Print edition (March 1995)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 11.1 x 8.7 x 0.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.5 ounces

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #1,702,034 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #96 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > European](#)

Customer Reviews

Cecil and Clark, previously paired for *Listen to This* and *A Thousand Yards of Sea*, team up again for this chipper version of an oft-told tale. Fate has promised Prince Marco to a frog bride. Dutifully accepting his lot, Marco receives help from his small green fiancée in demonstrating her cleverness to the queen, who has set various tests for her three sons' brides. But when Marco's official proposal of marriage is accepted, the amphibian metamorphoses into a beautiful woman. Cecil's text is true to its origins, though her phrasing and vocabulary often stray hilariously from the traditional. "She can't come because she has a croak in her throat," is one of Marco's funnier excuses for the frog's absence from court; Marco's portly brother marries a baker's daughter who "looked good enough to eat," etc. Clark's typically kicky watercolors rely, appropriately, on greens and bluish hues here. The characterizations are dead-on, especially the wide-eyed innocence of Marco and the benevolent expressions on the frog bride's face. Ages 4-up. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

PreSchool-Grade 3?In this delightful retelling, the Queen orders her three sons to find wives. Bruno,

who loves to eat, finds the baker's daughter, and Lucca, who changes clothes every two hours, finds the tailor's daughter. But Marco, who is a dreamer, finds only a frog. The Queen gives the prospective brides three tasks—to bake bread, to weave cloth, and to train a puppy. Each time Marco despairs that the frog will not be able to succeed, but magically and cleverly she does. Marco agrees to marry her, and she leaves the pond on a lily pad drawn by two snails. Once in the forest, the enchantment is broken, and the amphibian turns back into a princess. Cecil's witty retelling is based on Italian versions and "The Frog" from Andrew Lang's Violet Fairy Book (Dover, 1966), though it is much more entertaining than Lang's version. The beginning is similar to J. Patrick Lewis's The Frog Princess (Dial, 1994), but that tale is based on a Russian "Vasilisa/Baba Yaga" story. The watercolor illustrations are a perfect accompaniment to the text. Clark's depiction of the princes and their brides aptly show their personalities and are full of humor. The bright palette enlivens the visual experience and will draw children into the story. Appropriate for independent reading or reading aloud, this tale will make quite a splash! Cheri Estes, Dorchester Road Regional Library, Charleston, Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

I've taught 3rd to 5th grade classes, and the students always love this book. The story is well told, and the pictures are wonderfully done. I've had to buy it three times now, because students who like it too much keep stealing it! I don't know why this isn't in print anymore; it drives me crazy, trying to find copies of it. Next time I'm going to put it in a safe...

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