

For Barbara Dicks

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A List

One morning Toad sat in bed.

"I have many things to do," he said.

"I will write them

all down on a list

so that I can remember them."

Toad wrote on a piece of paper:

A list of things to do today

Then he wrote:

Wake up



"I have done that," said Toad,
and he crossed out:

~~Wake up~~

Then Toad wrote other things
on the paper.

A List
of things to do
today
~~Wake-up~~
Eat Breakfast
Get Dressed
Go to Frog's House
Take walk with Frog
Eat lunch
Take nap
Play games with Frog
Eat Supper
Go to Sleep

“There,” said Toad.
“Now my day
is all written down.”
He got out of bed
and had something to eat.
Then Toad crossed out:
~~Eat Breakfast~~



Toad took his clothes
out of the closet
and put them on.
Then he crossed out:

~~Get Dressed~~

Toad put the list in his pocket.



He opened the door
and walked out into the morning.
Soon Toad was at Frog's front door.
He took the list from his pocket
and crossed out:

~~Go to Frog's House~~



Toad knocked at the door.

“Hello,” said Frog.

“Look at my list
of things to do,”
said Toad.

“Oh,” said Frog,

“that is very nice.”

Toad said, “My list tells me
that we will go
for a walk.”

“All right,” said Frog.

“I am ready.”



Frog and Toad
went on a long walk.
Then Toad took the list
from his pocket again.
He crossed out:
~~Take walk with Frog~~
Just then there was a strong wind.
It blew the list
out of Toad's hand.
The list blew high up
into the air.

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“Help!” cried Toad.
“My list is blowing away.
What will I do without my list?”

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“Hurry!” said Frog.

“We will run and catch it!”

“No!” shouted Toad.

“I cannot do that.”

“Why not?” asked Frog.

“Because,” wailed Toad,

“running after my list

is not one of the things

that I wrote

on my list of things to do!”

Frog ran after the list.

He ran over hills and swamps,

but the list blew on and on.

At last Frog came back to Toad.

“I am sorry,” gasped Frog,

“but I could not catch

your list.”

“Blah,” said Toad.



"I cannot remember any of the things that were on my list of things to do, I will just have to sit here and do nothing," said Toad. Toad sat and did nothing. Frog sat with him.



After a long time Frog said, "Toad, it is getting dark. We should be going to sleep now."

"Go to sleep!" shouted Toad. "That was the last thing on my list!" Toad wrote on the ground with a stick: *Go to sleep* Then he crossed out:

~~*Go to sleep*~~

"There," said Toad. "Now my day is all crossed out!" "I am glad," said Frog. Then Frog and Toad went right to sleep.



The Garden

Frog was in his garden.

Toad came walking by.

“What a fine garden
you have, Frog,” he said.

“Yes,” said Frog. “It is very nice,
but it was hard work.”

“I wish I had a garden,” said Toad.

“Here are some flower seeds.

Plant them in the ground,” said Frog,



“and soon you will have a garden.”

“How soon?” asked Toad.

“Quite soon,” said Frog.



Toad ran home.

He planted the flower seeds.

“Now seeds,” said Toad,
“start growing.”

Toad walked up and down
a few times.

The seeds did not start to grow.

Toad put his head
close to the ground
and said loudly,
“Now seeds, start growing!”
Toad looked at the ground again.
The seeds did not start to grow.





Toad put his head

very close to the ground and shouted,
“NOW SEEDS, START GROWING!”

Frog came running up the path.

“What is all this noise?” he asked.

“My seeds will not grow,” said Toad.

“You are shouting too much,”

said Frog. “These poor seeds
are afraid to grow.”

“My seeds are afraid to grow?”
asked Toad.



“Of course,” said Frog.

“Leave them alone for a few days.

Let the sun shine on them,
let the rain fall on them.

Soon your seeds will start to grow.”

That night

Toad looked out of his window.

“Drat!” said Toad.

“My seeds have not started to grow.

They must be afraid of the dark.”

Toad went out to his garden with some candles.

“I will read the seeds a story,” said Toad.

“Then they will not be afraid.”



Toad read a long story to his seeds.

All the next day
Toad sang songs
to his seeds.



And all the next day
Toad read poems
to his seeds.



And all the next day
Toad played music
for his seeds.



Toad looked at the ground.
The seeds still did not
start to grow.
“What shall I do?” cried Toad.
“These must be
the most frightened seeds
in the whole world!”



Then Toad felt very tired
and he fell asleep.



“Toad, Toad, wake up,” said Frog.

“Look at your garden!”

Toad looked at his garden.

Little green plants were coming up
out of the ground.

“At last,” shouted Toad,
“my seeds have stopped
being afraid to grow!”
“And now you will have
a nice garden too,” said Frog.
“Yes,” said Toad,
“but you were right, Frog.
It was very hard work.”



Cookies

Toad baked some cookies.

“These cookies smell very good,”
said Toad.

He ate one.

“And they taste even better,” he said.
Toad ran to Frog’s house.

“Frog, Frog,” cried Toad,
“taste these cookies
that I have made.”



Frog ate one of the cookies.
“These are the best cookies
I have ever eaten!” said Frog.

Frog and Toad ate many cookies,
one after another.

“You know, Toad,” said Frog,
with his mouth full,

“I think we should stop eating.
We will soon be sick.”



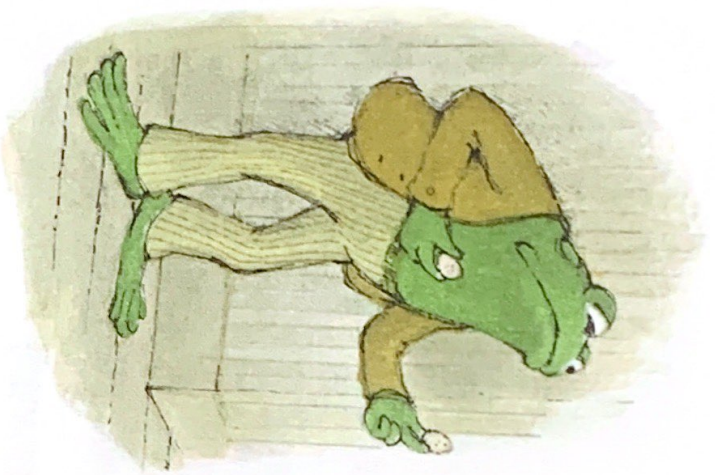
“You are right,” said Toad.
“Let us eat one last cookie,
and then we will stop.”

Frog and Toad ate
one last cookie.

There were many cookies
left in the bowl.

“Frog,” said Toad,
“let us eat one very last cookie,
and then we will stop.”

Frog and Toad
ate one very last cookie.



“We must stop eating!” cried Toad
as he ate another.

“Yes,” said Frog,
reaching for a cookie,
“we need will power.”
“What is will power?” asked Toad.



“Will power is trying hard
not to do something
that you really want to do,”
said Frog.

“You mean like trying *not*
to eat all of these cookies?”
asked Toad.
“Right,” said Frog.



Frog put the cookies in a box.

“There,” he said.

“Now we will not eat
any more cookies.”

“But we can open the box,”
said Toad.

“That is true,” said Frog.

Frog tied some string
around the box.

“There,” he said.

“Now we will not eat
any more cookies.”

“But we can cut the string
and open the box,” said Toad.

“That is true,” said Frog.





Frog got a ladder.

He put the box up on a high shelf.

"There," said Frog.

"Now we will not eat
any more cookies."

"But we can climb the ladder
and take the box
down from the shelf

and cut the string
and open the box,"

said Toad.

"That is true," said Frog.

Frog climbed the ladder
and took the box
down from the shelf.

He cut the string
and opened the box.

Frog took the box outside.

He shouted in a loud voice,

“HEY BIRDS,

HERE ARE COOKIES!”

Birds came from everywhere.

They picked up all the cookies

in their beaks and flew away.

“Now we have no more cookies to eat,”

said Toad sadly.

“Not even one.”



“Yes,” said Frog,

“but we have lots and lots
of will power.”

“You may keep it all, Frog,”
said Toad.

“I am going home now
to bake a cake.”



Dragons and Giants

Frog and Toad

were reading a book together.

“The people in this book are brave,” said Toad.

“They fight dragons and giants, and they are never afraid.”

“I wonder if we are brave,” said Frog.

Frog and Toad looked into a mirror.



“We look brave,” said Frog.

“Yes, but are we?”
asked Toad.



Frog and Toad went outside.

“We can try to climb this mountain,”
said Frog. “That should tell us
if we are brave.”

Frog went leaping over rocks,
and Toad came puffing up
behind him.

They came to a dark cave.
A big snake came out of the cave.
“Hello lunch,” said the snake
when he saw Frog and Toad.
He opened his wide mouth.
Frog and Toad jumped away.
Toad was shaking.
“I am not afraid!” he cried.





They climbed higher,
and they heard a loud noise.
Many large stones
were rolling down the mountain.
“It’s an avalanche!” cried Toad.

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Frog and Toad jumped away.
Frog was trembling.
“I am not afraid!” he shouted.

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They came to the top
of the mountain.
The shadow of a hawk
fell over them.
Frog and Toad
jumped under a rock.
The hawk flew away.

“We are not afraid!”
screamed Frog and Toad
at the same time.
Then they ran down the mountain
very fast.
They ran past the place
where they saw the avalanche.
They ran past the place
where they saw the snake.
They ran all the way
to Toad’s house.

