**Frog: Protector of the Earth**

Once there was a frog. Well, there are still quite a few frogs but the story was told to me about this one…So, Little Frog who lived in-between the pond and the great forest, loving both equally. A little frog she was and life was new for her. Everything attracted her great attention and made her golden eyes stare in awe.

“Wow!” was the most commonly used word of hers.

But there was one thing that blew her over…

It was an early summer night, the sun just laid down to rest behind the great treetops of pine trees. The stars sat on them, like birds on the branches and shone magically on the forest while the air was fresh from the night; whispering her fairytales to the forest.

“Wow! Wow!” was heard from out of the darkness.

“Mamma, this is magic!”

And a gentle mamma frog said back:

“Yes my love, the world is full of magic!”

And they kept going, all the way to the pond where all the frogs from the forest were gathered. Little frog had no knowledge of what was to come next but obeyed when her momma told her to wait on the bank of the pond. Then in a split second, all the frogs disappeared deep into the pond.

“Wow!” was heard from amid the slender tall wetland grass.

And when they came back, the little frog felt as if time had stood still. Fireflies hung in motion and the wind waited in anticipation.

“Wow…!”

And then the frog choir started to sing. So touched was the Little frog that her eyes grew to the size of walnuts, glowing stronger than the stars in the sky. She felt as if her heart was going to burst…and it did. Out of sheer admiration she started to cry. She was enchanted.. And just then she felt the warm raindrops falling on her soft skin.

“Wow…The sky is crying too. For sure there is no greater magic than frogs’ song,” she whispered into the ears of the Night. When her mom came back all she heard were questions about when would she be able to join the choir.

“Momma, momma, when will I sing with you?” she kept asking.

“ When you will learn to listen to the needs of our dear Earth, then my little love,” she said gently and took her home.

Just before she fell asleep Little frog said, “Teach me to listen to the Earth, will you Momma?”

And in the days that followed Little frog got her lessons.

First, she was taught about her senses and the power of noticing even the slightest change in her environment.

“Wow!” said the Little frog after discovering the quality of the water through her skin.

“But…”

“Yes,” said her Momma.

“It is not easy for us, many toxins are being put in the soil, water and air. Waste is being thrown on the forest ground; not only looking nasty but poisoning groundwater.”

“And we are the most sensitive ones, sensing the slightest change in the soil, water and the air we breathe. We get sick fast, when our environment is sick. This is why we are fewer and fewer…”

“Momma…,” said Little frog, wiping the tear from her cheek.

“There is hope my Little love,” she explained.

“As long as there is our song, there is hope. Even though our homes are getting smaller and smaller still as we are not important to human beings. Even though we fight hard to survive. There is hope. You know the power and magic of frog song!”

Little frog listened with all her heart. And learned.

She learned about animals and plants in the forest and understood how everything is closely interconnected. She swam in the pond, learning about the life in the water. She was learning fast, making her Momma proud. One day she felt that it was time…

“Little frog,” she said. “Tonight you will join us in our Earth council.”

“Wow!” she said and jumped high with joy!

When she dove deep to the bottom of the pond with the other frogs, she was uncontrollably proud. She felt her Momma’s hand guiding her and felt safe. When they came to the bottom she understood her Momma signaling her to calm down and listened. Little frog saw how all the frogs came together, closing their eyes in perfect synchronicity. She looked and followed, closed her eyes in stillness…

Psst…

After a moment the echo filled the water, saying:

My soil is thirsty and my lungs are full of dust…Sing for the purifying rain…

And then they all swam back, again in perfect synchronicity. Little frog followed,, feeling like a Big frog now. Out on the pond’s bank the choir gathered. Without talking or touching, they sensed and caught the rhythm and started to sing. Their song shook the ground and touched the roots of the trees. It shook all the unbalanced energy from the air and spread through all the long, wide forest. And just before they were finished, the water came from the sky. Purifying water raining down like tears from the Sky.

The Earth grew greener and lusher still, refreshed by the waters called by the frogs' choir and their song. From that night on, the Little frog was a proud member of the Frog choir, tending to the Earth’s needs.

After that night, Little frog had the most fabulous idea!

“Momma, momma! What if we can get the people to listen? Maybe one of them will be inspired and learn to listen to the needs of the Earth; becoming her protector and help us sing our loving song of the green lush Earth? Is it possible?”

Well it was an ambitious idea but her Momma would never discourage her. With the help of other frogs they set up an event!

All dipping their toes into mud, they made posters on tree trunks inviting people to the evening show.

And so it happened that in the afternoon of that day, a group of children were playing in the forest with their mom and noticed the muddy invitations on the tree trunks.

“Let’s go!” they said.

And they went, bringing some other kids along.

“Wow!” they said when they saw the scene. All the forest was glowing with fireflies, just like the stars had come down from the sky. And when the frogs started to sing, they listened. Soon they felt it in their hearts and sooner still they got inspired! They joined the choir and sang their own song. They put their hearts and voices together that night- children and frogs- celebrating the beauty and magic of our beloved Earth. How happy was the Little frog! Jumping in puddles with joy!

Later on, Little frog continued with her choir. Sometimes the forest was upset from unkind intrusion and their song served as a lullaby that calmed all the forest down. Other times they put things in balance and on other occasions their song was a healing one, helping the wounds of the forest heal faster. But always, really always the frog choir chased negativity as far as possible away with their singing!

And the children set up their choir, too! So inspired they were that they started making their own songs, spreading the messages of the frogs but in their own language so more people could understand! They sang and taught of the importance to protect the wild environments, they sang and celebrated our connection with the living Earth. Sometimes they even brought rain with their song, many times for sure they brought tears to the eyes of their listeners who were touched by their singing.

Oh…was she proud, the Little frog. She came, secretly, to listen to them, the young protectors of the Earth! And the Earth grew greener and her heart beat happier.

**Message from The Frog:** Hey my Little friend, become my Big protector! Everyone can do it. Take an opportunity to listen to our song and get inspired. It is not necessary that you sing if this is not your strongest card in the set! Writers are invited and actors, cartoon makers or painters…

Just think, what kind of a group would you like to put together? What would you like to do to raise awareness of the needs of the Earth?

Be bold in dreaming, like the Little frog! Remember, nothing is impossible if you set your feet into the mud and start creating! Come, the Earth needs your art and your help. Join the frog choir with your art and sing along to a greener and friendlier world!