

# DON'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER



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In a sunny forest beside a wide river, the animals gathered. The old bridge had collapsed after last night's rain. Frodo, a little green frog, sat on a rock watching the flowing water while everyone worried about how to cross.



“How can we cross the river?” asked the deer.  
“I’m strong!” said Rex the bear proudly. “I’ll carry everyone across.” Frodo stayed quiet but smiled. He wanted to help, but no one noticed him.





Rex stepped bravely into the water. "Watch me!" he shouted. But the current was strong – SPLASH! Rex slipped and fell into the river. The animals gasped in shock as water splashed everywhere.






“This river is too dangerous!” cried Rex.  
All the animals stepped back in fear. Frodo looked at  
the rushing water, his heart was small, but his courage  
was big.





“I can help!” Frodo said with a gentle but firm voice. The animals turned to him in surprise. “You? You’re too small!” said the fox. Frodo smiled. “Just trust me.”





Without another word, Frodo jumped into the water. He swam between the rocks, gathering long strong vines. Underwater, he tied them together carefully, whispering, "Almost done..."





“Now pull these vines together!” shouted Frodo. Rex and the other animals followed his directions. Slowly, a small vine bridge began to form. Everyone watched in amazement at Frodo’s clever idea.



One by one, the animals crossed the river carefully using the vine bridge. The fox went first, then the deer, then the bear. Frodo waited proudly on the other side, smiling.



Rex patted Frodo gently. "You're stronger than I thought," he said. The fox nodded. "We were wrong to judge you." Frodo smiled kindly. "It's not how you look – it's what you do that matters."





That evening, Frodo sat by the calm river, watching the sunset. He felt happy and proud – not because he looked brave, but because he was. “Don’t judge a book by its cover,” he whispered to the stars.





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THE END