

Educational Tales for Children  
From 8 to 10 years

# Princess 'Alia and the Bewitched Frog



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## *Preface*

These entertaining and educational tales are meant to meet the reading needs of 8 to 10 years old children. They also provide easy and enjoyable reading for children slightly order.

This series seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1. Suitability of the story subject to the addressed age group.
2. Choice of words that are within the range of this age-group's vocabulary.
3. Necessity of having a lively story language: a simulation of the child's world, thinking, and psychological life.
4. Language expressed easily and simply, with no complicated expressions or difficult structures.

To achieve these objectives, we made it a point to:

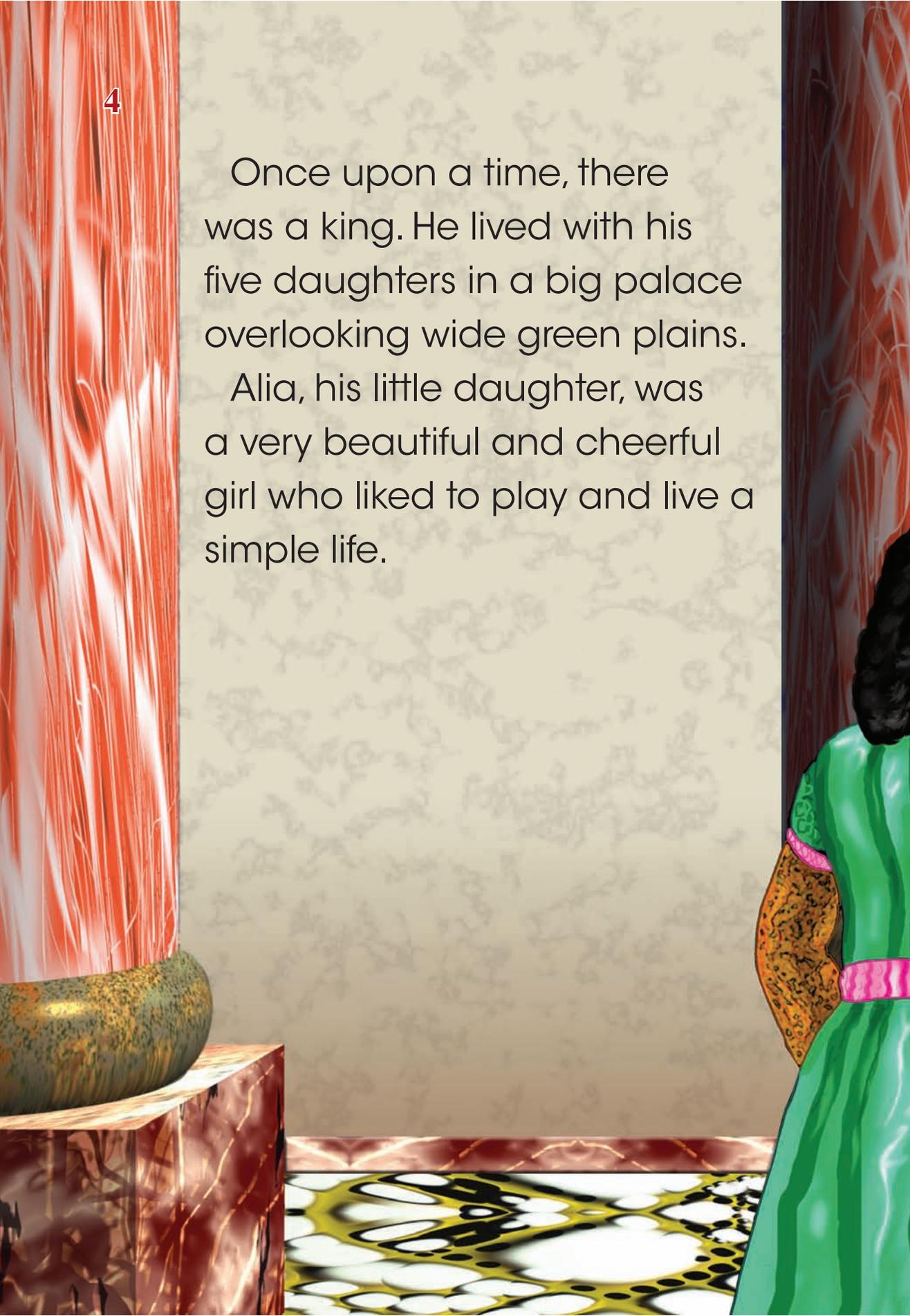
1. Enrich the story with bright and expressive visuals that fuel the child's imagination and speak to his senses and sentiments.
2. Match the visual with the reading text to help child understand the situation and relate to similar situations.
3. Use large, readable characters.

We have all through aimed at creating an exciting atmosphere in which the child recognizes the language, uses the story, and identifies him/herself with the main characters. In this sense, the child's sense of creation will develop, and his/her skills and abilities will grow in a balanced world that combines interest with fun.

The child may need some help at the beginning but later he/she should be left on his/her own for independent reading, starting from the second half of the eighth year.

Once upon a time, there was a king. He lived with his five daughters in a big palace overlooking wide green plains.

Alia, his little daughter, was a very beautiful and cheerful girl who liked to play and live a simple life.





# 6

The residents of the palace loved Alia. They hoped that one day she would marry a prince who would love her and care for her the way she loved them and cared for them.



Alia spent hours playing with her small golden ball and singing songs and reciting poetry.



She also whispered songs and beautiful poetry in the water well that was in the center of the garden.

One time, Alia threw her golden ball into the air. It flew up and then fell into the well.





She put her hand in the water to search for it but could not find it. Feeling sad, she sat on the edge of the well, blaming herself for not paying attention.

After a while, a good-looking frog appeared in the well. Approaching her, he asked with great concern, "What happened to you, Alia?"





The princess was astonished by the appearance of the talking frog. Then, she complained to him, "My golden ball fell into the well."

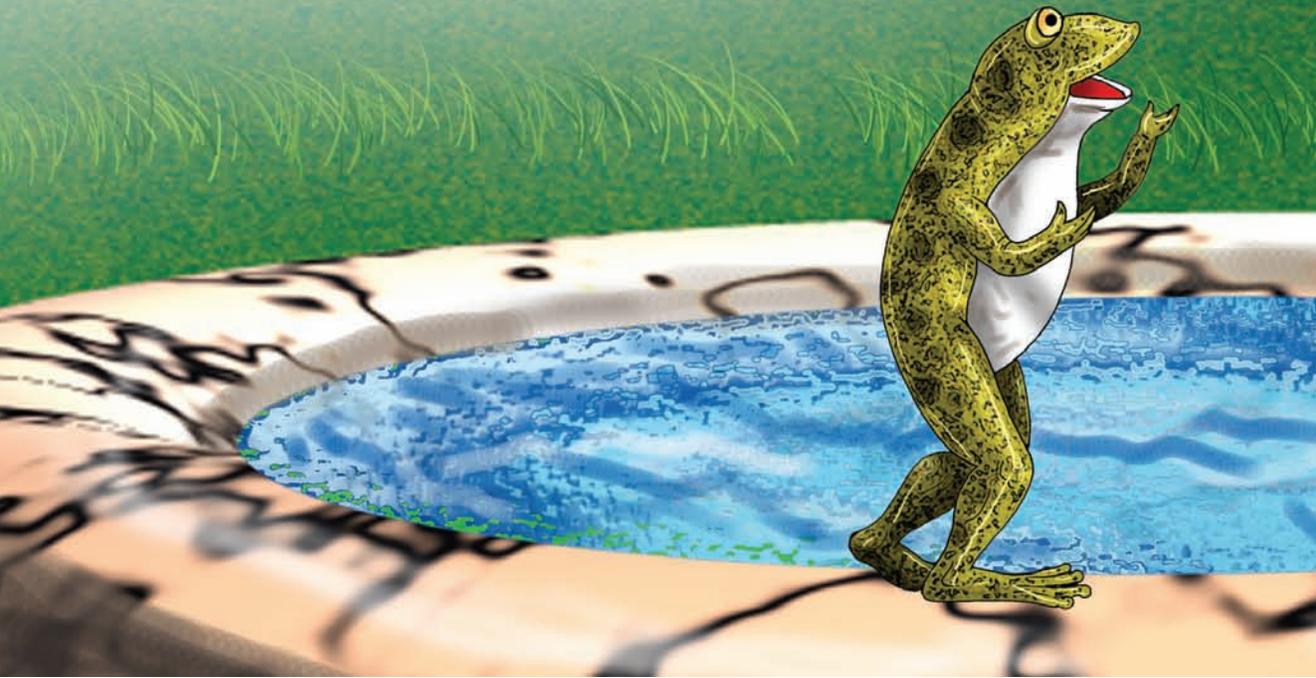


The frog asked her, "What will you give me if I find it?"

She answered, "I will give you whatever you want."



The frog grew serious and said, "I only want to be friends with you. I want you to love me. I want to sit near you, eat from your dish, drink from your cup and sleep beside you in your room." Then he asked her, "Do you promise me?"

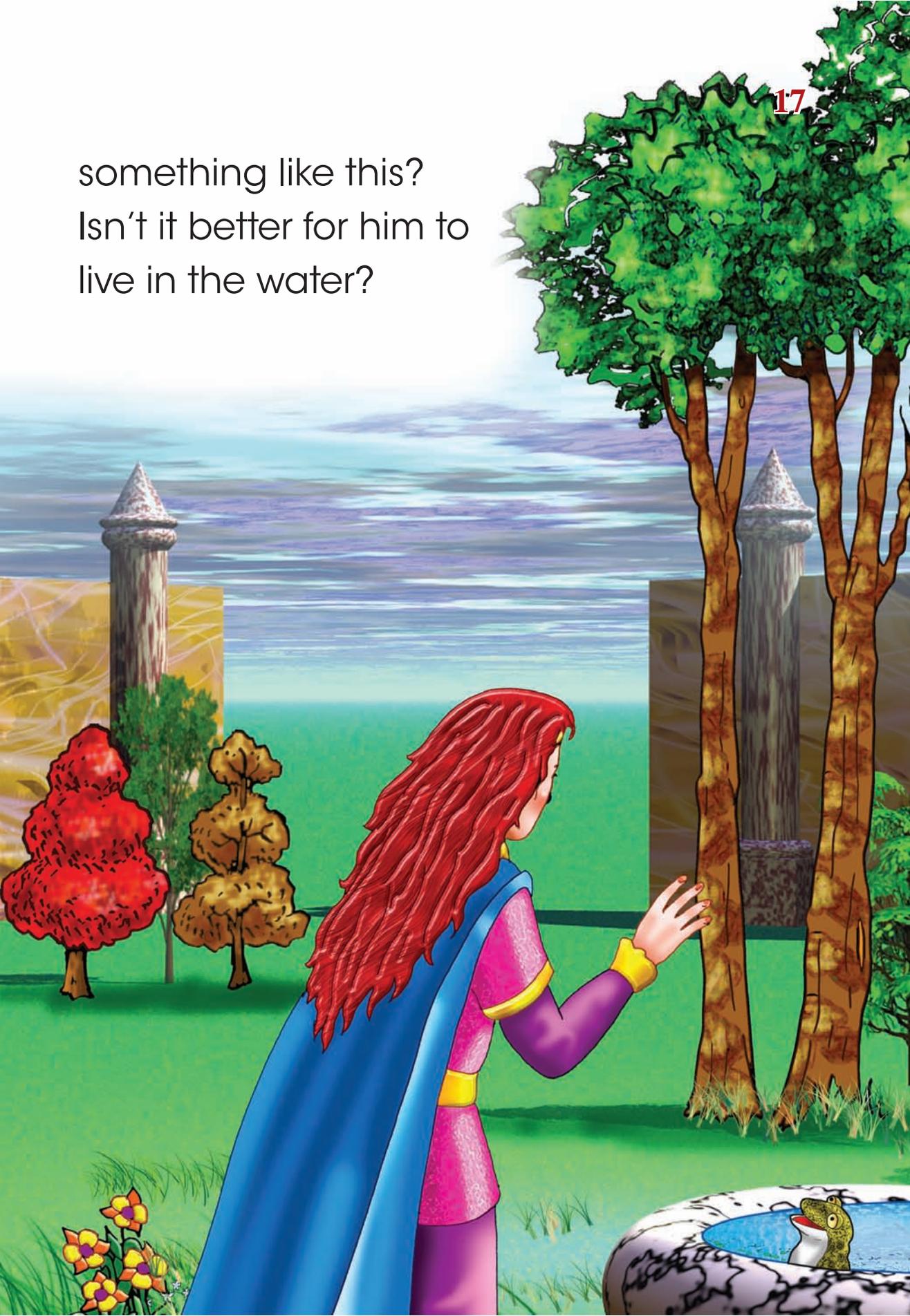




She replied without hesitation, "Yes." She didn't think that he really meant what he had said. Why would a frog ask for



something like this?  
Isn't it better for him to  
live in the water?



The strange frog jumped into the well. Then, he reappeared carrying the golden ball. Alia grabbed her ball, hurried toward the palace and disappeared.

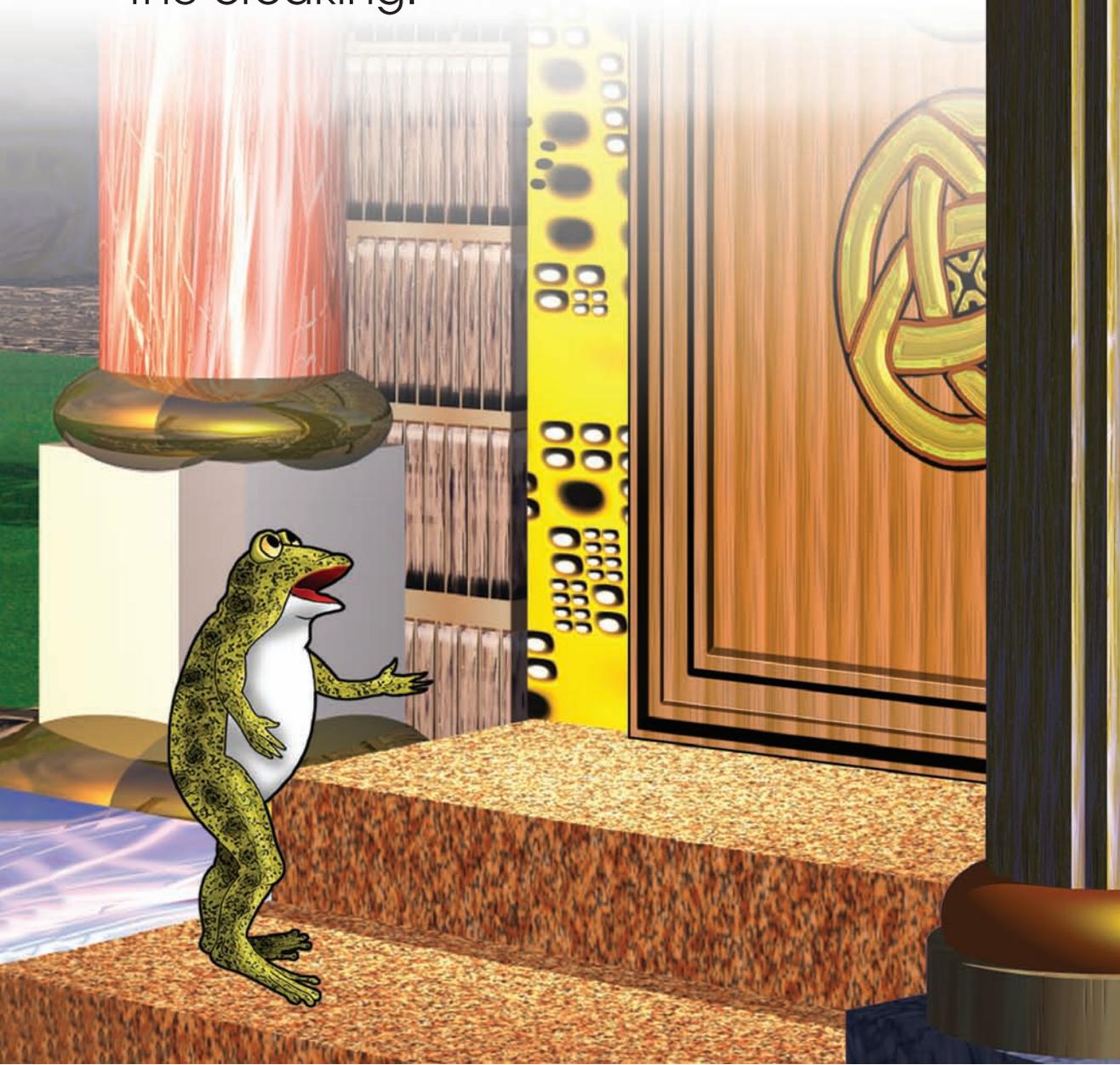


The frog yelled, "Where are you going?  
You have to keep your promise, Alia."



After some time, the frog followed the princess to the palace.

In front of the gate, he began to croak loudly. The king who was having his dinner wondered about the croaking.



“What is happening outside? Who has allowed himself to annoy me like this? Bring him now!” The guards opened the palace gate quickly.



The frog jumped on the royal stairs until he reached the dining hall. Astonished, the king asked him, "What do you want?"

When the princess reached the room and sat down on her chair, the frog pointed to her and complained, "This little princess has broken her promise. Is this acceptable, your majesty?"





The frog told the king what had happened. The king was surprised by his daughter's behavior. He asked her to keep her promise, like all princesses do.

Alia obeyed her father. She seated the frog at the table, fed him from her plate and gave him water from her cup. He ate and drank happily.





Then the frog asked her to take him to her room so that he could sleep in her bed. The father told Alia to keep her promise.

He wanted his daughter to learn the importance of keeping a promise. In Alia's room, the frog jumped on the bed and lay down to sleep on a pillow.

Alia looked at the strange frog and muttered, "Oh! What does he want?"



She felt sympathetic and touched him with her finger.



Then he raised his head and jumped from the bed. He hurried to the mirror to look at himself. And what a surprise it was!



The frog turned into a kind youth with a handsome face. He approached her and bowed before her.



He explained, "I am a true prince. An evil magician turned me into a frog because I refused to marry her daughter.



She told me that the spell would not be removed unless a beautiful princess agreed to live with me.”

He told Alia that when he heard her singing and whispering her poetry into the well, he adored her. He retrieved the golden ball to stay near her.



The prince then smiled and asked Alia to marry him. She took him to her father, and they explained everything.

After a few days, the king celebrated the wedding of his daughter Alia to the prince in a large party.

Joy spread throughout the kingdom.



***I- Answer the following questions.***

1. What is the genre of the story? Explain.

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2. Describe Alia. Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

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3. What happened to the golden ball?

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4. Who got Alia the ball?

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5. The frog agreed to get the ball, but he wanted six things in return. What are they?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

e. \_\_\_\_\_

f. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Why do you think the king orders his daughter to keep the frog with her?

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7. Who changed the prince into a frog? Why?

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**II. Circle the correct answer.**

1. The king has \_\_\_\_\_ daughters.

- a. two                      b. three                      c. four                      d. five

2. Which of these activities Alia did not do?

- a. play with her small golden ball
- b. sing songs
- c. walk along the beach
- d. recite poetry

3. The princess was surprised because
- a. the ball jumped back to her.
  - b. the frog could talk.
  - c. the frog got her the ball.
  - d. the ball fell in the well.
4. The princess agreed to the frog's conditions because
- a. she fell in love with him.
  - b. she liked the idea of a having a talking frog.
  - c. she did not think he really meant what he had said.
  - d. she was badly in need for the ball.

**III. Fill in the blanks using words from the story or your own words.**

Alia grabbed the \_\_\_\_\_, hurried towards the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. The frog \_\_\_\_\_ her and started \_\_\_\_\_. The king was \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_ croaking and \_\_\_\_\_ who would be \_\_\_\_\_ him. The king ordered his \_\_\_\_\_ to open the \_\_\_\_\_. The frog \_\_\_\_\_ the king what had happened. The king told his daughter to \_\_\_\_\_ her promise.

**IV. Write a paragraph to explain how the frog changed into a charming prince. Rearrange the following sentences to write your paragraph.**

1. Alia fed the frog from her plate.
2. The frog slept on Alia's bed.
3. The frog turned into a handsome prince.
4. Alia seated the frog at the table.
5. She felt sympathetic and touched the frog.
6. Alia gave the frog water from her cup.

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