



The Frog House

By Mark Taylor

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Fresh as the first daffodil of spring, here is a story about finding a new home and new friends. A tiny tree frog sees a family put a special apple-shaped birdhouse in his tree. The frog has never seen a bird live in an apple, so he thinks it must be a house for a frog. On a whim, he moves in, then welcomes one curious new visitor after another. Never has life been so exciting! Stunning folk-art illustrations of the natural world by award-winning illustrator Barbara Garrison embellish this springtime charmer, giving it a look as cozy as the frog house itself.

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The Frog House By Mark Taylor Bibliography

- Rank: #3064004 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Dutton Juvenile
- Published on: 2004-03-08
- Released on: 2004-03-08
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 20.00" h x .1" w x 10.00" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 32 pages

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

When author Mark Taylor was a boy, a friend of his family built a birdhouse to look just like an apple, and thus, *The Frog House* was born. As the title suggests, this apple-shaped birdhouse becomes a frog house when a tree frog moves in: "The frog had seen birds move into birdhouses, but never into a wooden apple. The people must have put this apple here just for me, he thought. It must be a frog house." Indeed. Of course, the other animals are fooled. A robin mistakes the frog house for an actual apple and pecks at it in search of worms. A crow tries to steal it for his nest. A beautiful bluebird mistakes it for a birdhouse and a squirrel hurts its teeth trying to bite it. Imagine the cat's disappointment to find a froggy inhabitant instead of a crunchy bird lunch: "I was so hoping for a bird. I'm a cat, and cats eat birds." The frog had never had so many visitors in his life! In the end, as the frog is proudly singing spring peeping songs, he receives another visitor--this time a beautiful green tree frog: "'Do come in and look around,' the tree frog said to her. And she did. She admired *everything*.... And she stayed." Barbara Garrison's wonderful, textured folk-art illustrations, described in detail in the front matter as collagraphs (from "collage" and "graphic"), actually include dried leaves from apple trees! Children will adore the idea of a frog moving furniture into an apple house; the polite interactions with other animals that make for a pleasantly repetitive read-aloud; and of course, the happy ending. (Ages 3 to 6) --*Karin Snelson*

From School Library Journal

PreSchool-Grade 2--When a family places an apple-shaped birdhouse in a tree, a green tree frog quickly moves into it. The rest of the story consists of the frog's interactions with several animals that approach his new home, including a robin, a crow, a squirrel, and a cat. The tale concludes when a female tree frog wanders by and, impressed by the shiny, red apple-house, decides to stay. None of these encounters creates any excitement, danger, or amusement for the protagonist, aside from some mild swaying of his abode. The text consists of a series of flat hello-and-good-bye exchanges between the creatures. Fortunately, the illustrations have more interest and depth than the story line. Collages of paper, leaves, feathers, and other materials were glued to cardboard, coated with gesso and acrylic, and pressed with rag paper, and the resulting prints were then colored with watercolor washes. The pictures are folksy, warm, and intricately textured. Although the plot is slight, the striking artwork may spark young readers' imaginations and inspire them to create more dramatic conversations between the tree frog and his neighbors.--*Eve Ortega, Cypress Library, CA*

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From [Booklist](#)

PreS-Gr. 2. As a girl, boy, and father place a wooden birdhouse, shaped and painted like an apple, in a tree, a little green tree frog watches. The frog has seen birds move into birdhouses but never into a wooden apple, so he thinks the house has been put there for him. In he hops, but he must still convince a robin, a crow, a bluebird, and a squirrel that his new home is, indeed, perfect for a frog. That done, he settles in, and his spring peeping songs entice a female tree frog to join him. The story has a sweet twist, but it's the illustrations that beguile here. An illustrator's note describes the artwork as a series of textured collage (including organic materials) scenes printed by inking the surface and adding watercolor washes. The effect is a tactile-looking, nature-fresh, folk-art style that enhances the simple story, giving it plenty of distinctive charm. *Julie Cummins*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Gene Baker:

Book is to be different for each grade. Book for children until eventually adult are different content. To be sure that book is very important usually. The book The Frog House ended up being making you to know about other knowledge and of course you can take more information. It is extremely advantages for you. The e-book The Frog House is not only giving you considerably more new information but also for being your friend when you really feel bored. You can spend your current spend time to read your publication. Try to make relationship with the book The Frog House. You never sense lose out for everything in the event you read some books.

Lucille Daulton:

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Marylou Standley:

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Carla Helton:

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