

The Pond  
"Frank goes Swimming"

by  
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Frank, a simple but educated green and black pond frog, is a humble professor of Entomology and the island authority on Dragonflies; he has recently been informed by his favorite mentor and mutated 4-eyed frog, Uncle Bob, that it is time to start thinking about finding a mate. Bob has been the father figure for Frank since his father was eaten by an alligator and has helped him cope with his fear of water via alligator that Frank developed shortly thereafter. Knowing that the time has come for Frank to get over his fear, Bob pushes Frank to find a mate, knowing that Frank will have to swim to the outer rim of the pond and past the alligator to do so.

Enlisting the help of his friend Ollie, a very alert dragonfly that Frank raised from an egg, they search the island looking for Frank's mate. Ollie is always alert for the trappings of Mortimer, the Praying Mantis, who has tried to eat Ollie since he was just learning to fly and broke one of his wings in the process. Ollie has gotten very good at avoiding the traps. After days of searching, Frank gives up only to find his mate has come to him in the guise of a beautiful light green pond frog named Felcia. Unfortunately, Felica is only visiting and must return to the outer bank of the pond. Frank tries to keep a long distance relationship going, but soon realizes that Felcia is losing interest.

In despair, Frank resorts to consulting the island Oracle "in training": a veil tail goldfish and close friend, Goldie. Ollie is sent ahead to signal Goldie and runs into and eludes another of Mortimer's traps, under much humiliation at not being able to catch a lame dragonfly; Mortimer finally leaves the island vowing revenge. Goldie has been expecting Frank and keeping with Bob's concerns, she advises him to face his fears and swim to the outer bank to reunite with Felica.

Frank swims toward the outer bank, encounters the alligator, realizes it is fake and that his fears were for nothing. He continues on to the outer bank, reunites with Felica and makes plans to marry her. On his return trip to the island he is attacked by a real alligator that was sent to the pond by Mortimer. Goldie and Ollie come to the rescue; and they all escape. The alligator is battled and defeated by the Kio Guard, a group of very large fish who protect the pond from predators.

Afterwards Frank confronts Goldie about the fake alligator and finally puts his fears to rest. Ollie is given an award for bravery, Mortimer ends up in a spider's web and Frank marries Felica.