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CHILDREN'S ROOM

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NEWBERY AWARD RECORDS

presents

A RECORDING OF THE
CALDECOTT HONOR BOOK
BY THE AUTHOR OF
FROG AND TOAD TOGETHER

Frog and Toad *Are Friends*

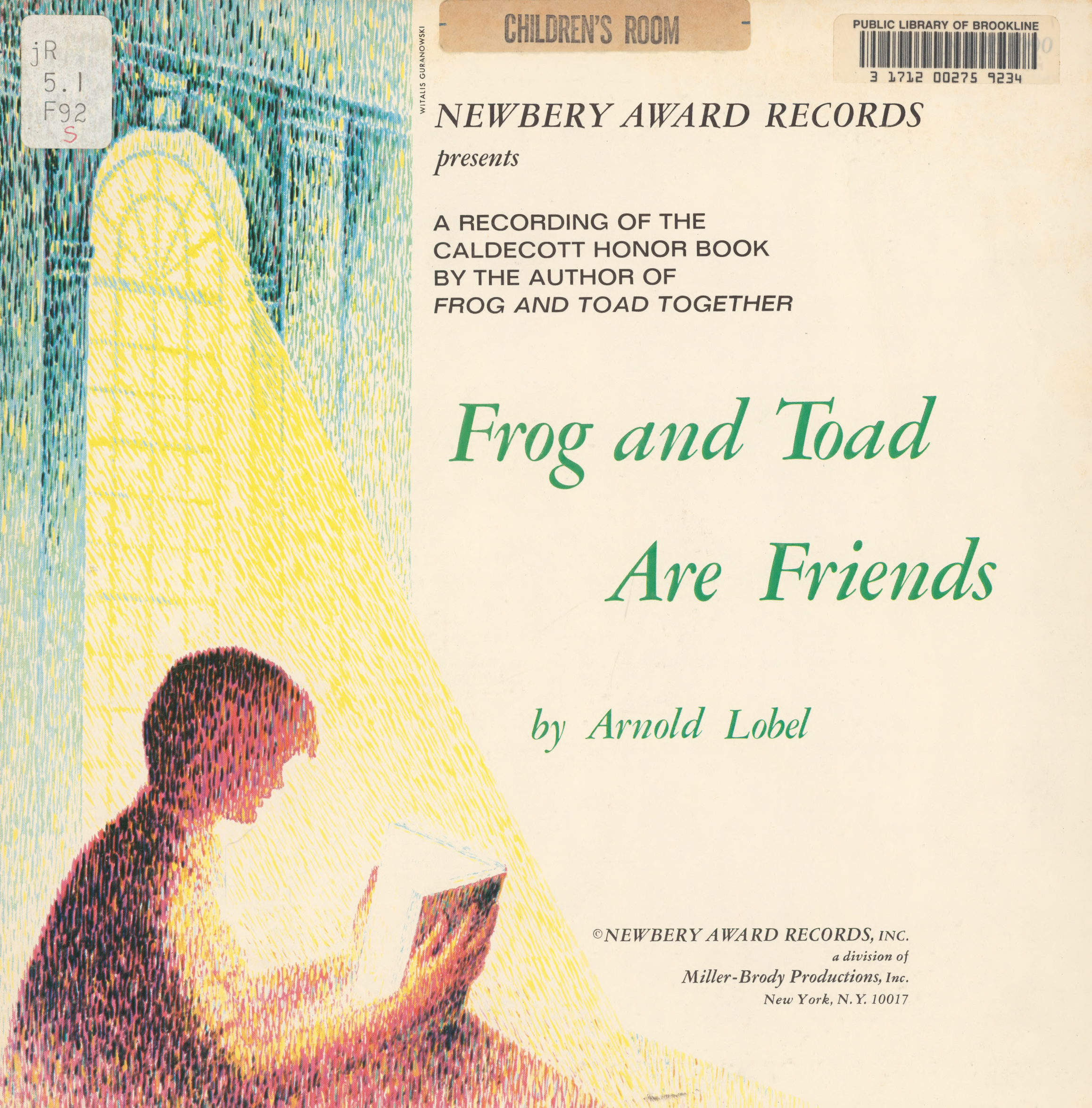
by Arnold Lobel

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New York, N. Y. 10017



Frog and Toad Are Friends

BASED ON THE CALDECOTT HONOR BOOK BY ARNOLD LOBEL

NAR 3090

THE STORIES

Frog and Toad are best friends. They are almost always together—and some of their adventures are told in five funny, delightful stories—

"Spring"—When spring comes, Frog goes to Toad's house to wake him. Tired Toad refuses to get up until "half past May," but Frog figures a way to trick his friend out of bed.

"The Story"—Frog is sick and asks Toad to tell him a story. But Toad has such trouble trying to think of one that finally it is Frog who tells a special tale.

"A Lost Button"—Toad loses a button, so the two friends hunt for it. They find some interesting things, but *where on earth is that button?*

"A Swim"—When Toad goes swimming, the other animals discover something very, very amusing.

"The Letter"—Toad is sad because he never gets any mail. Frog tries to help, and together they wait for a letter that is supposed to come.

GRADE LEVELS 4-8 years

SUBJECT AREAS Language Arts Social Studies
Literature Arts & Crafts
Science

OBJECTIVES

—To develop recognition of using, in literature, animal characters who talk and behave like human beings

—To encourage, through empathy with characters and situations, a concept of friendship that includes sharing experiences and feelings, as well as material things

ABOUT THE AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR



"It is a kind of pleasant omnipotence that I feel at the drawing board," ARNOLD LOBEL has observed. "There is a little world at the end of my pencil . . . when a character is not behaving as I wish him to, he can be quickly dismissed with a wave of my eraser. This is certainly part of the joy of making books for children."

The "omnipotence" and the joy—and an outstanding talent for illustrations that appeal to children—all worked together so well in *Frog and Toad are Friends* that it became a Caldecott Honor Book in 1971. Its sequel, *Frog and Toad Together* won Newbery Honors two years later. (Available as a recording from Miller-Brody Productions, Inc. NAR 3084)

Born in Los Angeles, California, Arnold Lobel grew up in Schenectady, New York, and was graduated from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York, a Bachelor of Fine Arts. Mr. Lobel and his wife, Anita Lobel, who also writes and illustrates children's books, live in Brooklyn, New York. His first book for children, *A Zoo for Mister Muster* (Harper, 1962), was based on the many visits the Lobels made with their two children to the Prospect Park Zoo.

Arnold Lobel is author and/or illustrator of more than thirty picture books, acclaimed for their humor, tenderness, whimsical characters and creative detail. Among them are *The Bears of the Air* (1965), *The Great Blueness* (1968), *Martha the Movie Mouse* (1966), *On the Day Peter Stuyvesant Sailed into Town* (1971), all published by Harper & Row.

PRE-LISTENING DISCUSSION

1. We all feel lonely sometimes. What are some special times and places that you like to have someone with you?
2. What kind of person do you want to have as your good friend?
3. If you were sick in bed and feeling bored, what kind of story would you ask someone to tell or read to you?
4. Do you know the difference between a frog and a toad?
5. Where would you go to catch a real frog and a real toad?

WORD STUDY

shutters	raccoon	field mouse
blinked	sewing box	shiver
meadows	turtle	mailbox
"Oh, drat"	lizards	snail
sparrow	dragonflies	

POST-LISTENING DISCUSSION

1. What kind of personalities do Frog and Toad have? How are they alike? How are they different from each other? Does Frog or Toad remind you of any one you know?
2. How does Frog show his friendship for Toad? How does Toad show his friendship for Frog? In what ways do you show friendship?
3. Why do you suppose Toad couldn't think of a story to tell Frog? Could you have thought of one? What would it be?
4. Look at the picture of Toad on page 50 of the book. How do you think Toad feels when all the animals laugh at him in his bathing suit? Have you ever been laughed at for something you wore—or laughed at another person?

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

1. Could frogs and toads be friends in their natural habitat? Find out all you can about them: where they live, how they behave, eat, reproduce, etc. *Ref:* Herbert Zim's *Frogs and Toads* (Morrow, 1950), Judy Hawes' *What I Like About Toads* (Crowell, 1969) and *Why Frogs Are Wet* (Crowell, 1968).
2. Make up your own Frog and Toad story to tell or tape. Draw some pictures to go with your story.
3. Toad's bathing suit is old-fashioned. Find out how people dressed in your grandparents' day, especially to go swimming. Check with older relatives and friends who may have memories and photographs. Check the library for books with pictures of that time. Do you think they dressed more attractively then, than people do today? More sensibly?
4. If a toad in a bathing suit is silly, so is an eagle in an airplane pilot's cap, or a fish with goggles. Think of some other silly clothing for animals and make up a "Concentration" type of game, matching clothing to animals.
5. How long does a letter take to travel from your house to a nearby friend? To a friend far away? How does the letter get there? (Visit your local post office and find out.)
6. Collect a large batch of buttons. Plan a design and sew them firmly onto a denim jacket or an old pair of jeans for a new look.

Other good books to read about characters who are frogs or toads—

The Frog in the Well by Alvin Tresselt (Lothrop, 1958)
Fra-ah by Eros Keith (Bradbury, 1969)
Frog Went A-Courtin' by John Langstaff (Harcourt, 1955)
Tale of Mister Jeremy Fisher by Beatrix Potter (Warne, 1906)
The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame (Dell, 1969. Available as a recording from Miller-Brody Productions, Inc.)

You Are My Kind of Friend

by
Lynn Ahrens

A friend's a person you
Tell a story to
Make a promise to
Then you keep it . . .

A friend's a person you
Take a walk with
Or have a talk with
Or tell a secret . . .

A friend is like a party
That just never ends
And that is why
You are my
Kind of friend
You're my friend

A friend's a person you
Give a present to
Write a letter to
Signed with kisses . . .

A friend's a person you
Tell a joke or two
When they're feeling blue
It never misses . . .

A friend is like a rainbow
That's just 'round the bend
And that is why
You are my
Kind of friend
You're my friend
And that is why
You are my
Kind of friend
You're my friend.

CREDITS

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Directed by Leslie Corn. Narrated by Bob McFadden. Sound engineer: George Brown. Notes: Eleanor Kulleseid. Newbery Award Records, Inc., New York, New York 10017



NEWBERY AWARD RECORDS, INC.
RANDOM HOUSE SCHOOL DIVISION

A Recorded Dramatization
of the
Caldecott Honor Book

FROG AND TOAD ARE FRIENDS

(1) Spring (2) The Story (3) A Lost Button

NAR-3090
33 1/3 RPM
64991-5A

Side 1
Times: (1) 3:46
(2) 3:12
(3) 3:00

Based on the book by Arnold Lobel
© MCMLXX by Arnold Lobel
Published by Harper & Row, Publishers
"My Kind of Friend" by Lynn Ahrens.
Sung by Lynn Ahrens.

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NEWBERY AWARD RECORDS, INC.
RANDOM HOUSE SCHOOL DIVISION

A Recorded Dramatization
of the
Caldecott Honor Book
FROG AND TOAD ARE FRIENDS
(1) Swim (2) The Letter

NAR-3090
33 1/3 RPM
64991-5B

Side 2
Times: (1) 3:45
(2) 4:40

Based on the book by Arnold Lobel
© MCMLXX by Arnold Lobel
Published by Harper & Row, Publishers
"My Kind of Friend" by Lynn Ahrens.
Sung by Lynn Ahrens.
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