

by Arnold Lobel

An I CAN READ Book

## The Surprise

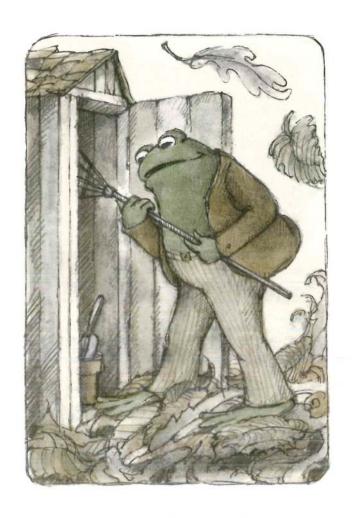
It was October.

The leaves had fallen off the trees.

They were lying on the ground.

"I will go to Toad's house," said Frog.

"I will rake all of the leaves that have fallen on his lawn. Toad will be surprised."



Frog took a rake out of the garden shed.



Toad looked out of his window.

"These messy leaves
have covered everything," said Toad.
He took a rake out of the closet.

"I will run over to Frog's house.
I will rake all of his leaves.
Frog will be very pleased."



Frog ran through the woods so that Toad would not see him.



Toad ran through the high grass so that Frog would not see him.



Frog came to Toad's house.

He looked in the window.

"Good," said Frog.

"Toad is out.

He will never know who raked his leaves."

Toad got to Frog's house.

He looked in the window.

"Good," said Toad.

"Frog is not home.

He will never guess

who raked his leaves."



Frog worked hard.

He raked the leaves into a pile.

Soon Toad's lawn was clean.

Frog picked up his rake

and started home.

Toad pushed and pulled on the rake.

He raked the leaves into a pile.

Soon there was not a single leaf

in Frog's front yard.

Toad took his rake

and started home.





A wind came.

It blew across the land.

The pile of leaves that Frog had raked for Toad blew everywhere.

The pile of leaves that Toad had raked for Frog blew everywhere.







When Frog got home,
he said, "Tomorrow I will
clean up the leaves
that are all over my own lawn.
How surprised Toad must be!"



When Toad got home,
he said, "Tomorrow I will
get to work and rake
all of my own leaves.
How surprised Frog must be!"

That night
Frog and Toad
were both happy
when they each
turned out the light
and went to bed.



