

Two Frogs in Trouble

PASSION



Once, a big fat frog and a lively little frog were hopping along together when they had the misfortune of jumping into a pail of butter milk. They swam for hours hoping to get out somehow; but the sides of the pail were straight and slippery. Death seemed to be a certainty.

The big frog became exhausted and he lost courage. There seemed to be no hope of rescue. "Why keep struggling against the inevitable? I cannot swim any longer," he moaned.

"Keep on! Keep on!" urged the little fellow, who was still circling the pail. So they went on for a while. But the big frog decided it was no use. "Little brother, we may as well give up", he gasped. "I am going to quit struggling."

Now, only the little frog was left. He thought to himself. "Well, to give up is to be dead, so I will keep swimming."

Two more hours passed and the tiny legs of the determined little frog were almost paralysed with exhaustion. It seemed as if he could not keep moving for another minute. But he thought of his drowned friend, and said to himself, "To give up is to be meat for someone's table, so I'll keep paddling on till I die. If death is to come, it will. But I will not cease trying. While there is life, there is hope."

Intoxicated with determination, the little frog kept on swimming around and around the pail, chopping the butter milk into white waves. After a while, just as he felt completely numb and thought he was about to drown, he suddenly felt something solid under him. To his astonishment, he saw that he was resting on a lump of butter which he had churned by constant paddling! The delighted little frog leaped out of the pail to freedom.

The only time you must not fail is the last time you try.
– Charles F. Kettering