

The Unicorn Who Married a Frog

This adventure was inspired by a little girl at Kidz Kabin who provided the title for this story.

A unicorn is a mythical creature and has the body of a horse, the head of a stag, the feet of an elephant, the tail of a boar, and a single black horn three feet long in the middle of its forehead. Its cry is a deep bellow.

Kimber was a lonely unicorn who found himself living in Athens, the oldest capital in Europe on the Greek mainland.



He had not flown there as unicorns cannot fly and it was too far to walk to Athens from where he came from, so he found his way to there, via a boat that had been transporting fruit and vegetables from other parts of Europe. He definitely did not get hungry on his boat ride as he enjoyed a wide variety of fruit including oranges, apples and juicy tomatoes.



He was hoping to meet another unicorn as he missed his family who lived deep in the Bavarian Forest.



When he finally arrived in Athens, it was dusty and extremely hot, and Kimber was very thirsty. He wasn't sure where he was, but he was sure he was not far from the Parthenon, a very famous area in Ancient Greece.



As he galloped along the dusty road, he heard a little croak, and as he approached the Ilisos River the noise became louder and more frantic. It was a female bullfrog desperately looking for some shade as she was becoming too hot in the midday sun.



Kimber looked down at the little frog and saw that she needed help. Come here, little frog he said, come and shelter in my mane. The little frog looked up gratefully and with one big hop, she landed on Kimber's flowing mane. Thank you she said. I was so worried I would get heat stroke. Thank goodness you came along. "Are you hungry?", she asked Kimber.



Yes, I am said Kimber, and I have magical powers, I can conjure up any food that you want to eat. What would you like, little frog? "I would like some baby mice and some worms, please.



What are you going to eat Unicorn?" The unicorn said his favourite food was fish and chips and asked the frog if she would like to try some. Ok she said, that sounds delicious. Kimber introduced himself and told the little bullfrog about his journey from the Bavarian Forest and how he stowed away on a boat and found himself in Athens.



The bull frog introduced herself and said her name was Zena. I wasn't always a bullfrog she said, I used to be a unicorn too, but a horrible witch tried to capture me to ride to Mount Olympus.



She was trying to escape from the kind wizard who wanted to turn her into a statue because she had turned all the animals in the forest into stone. The wizard caught up with her and as he lassoed her off my back, she cast a spell on me and turned me into a bullfrog. She said the spell can only be broken if I meet another unicorn who wants to marry me.



Kimber stretched his long legs and waved his beautiful mane from right to left. Zena had to hold on with all her might to avoid being thrown off.

“How do I know you are not just making this story up?” said Kimber. You don't resemble a unicorn in any way. You will have to prove to me that you really are a unicorn”.

As Kimber spoke a strange thing happened. All of a sudden, a small horn appeared from between Zena's frog eyes.



Zena explained that if another unicorn did 5 good turns to help her, she would turn back into the beautiful white unicorn she used to be. “You have already done one good turn, she said. You gave me shelter and now you have offered me food.” But I must eat the food you offered me before another part of my body changes into a unicorn. “Where is the fish and chips that you offered me please?”

Kimber looked worried. I cannot remember the magic I need to conjure up the food, he said sadly. I know there is a magic chant. Let me see –

“Rumble grumble tumble fun

Find a meal to fill my tum

I..... I can’t remember the rest”,he sighed

“I need to eat to keep me strong

Please make the food come along”, chanted Zena.

Kimber stared at her. “That’s it”, he cried – “how did you know the words?”

“I told you”, Zena said, “I was a unicorn, and now you need to help me reverse the horrid spell the witch put on me”.

In an instant some steaming fish and chips appeared on the dusty road, and the unlikely pair began eating the delicious food.



As Zena finished nibbling at her small portion, she felt something moving behind her little frog tail. Kimber gasped as a beautiful white mane appeared.

They laughed as now Zena looked very strange, part unicorn and part frog.

“Where are you from Zena?” asked Kimber. I was born here, in Greece, she said. But I woke up one morning and my family had gone. The witch had put a spell on me to stop me following them, and now I don’t know where they are. I was hoping to find them as I think they may have gone to the mountains.

I will help you, said Kimber, but now that we are in Athens, I would like to see some of the ancient sites I have heard so much about.

“If I ride on your back” said Zena “I can show you the way”.

Their first stop was the Acropolis which is an ancient fortress above the city of Athens. There they found the remains of several ancient buildings.



“I have heard of the Parthenon,” said Kimber. “It was a beautiful temple where rich and powerful people used to visit to enjoy the amazing culture of ancient Greece. Did you know that the Ancient Greeks were very clever people and there were many scientists and doctors as well as people who wrote beautiful stories, plays and poetry?”

Suddenly there was a small thud. Kimber looked down and saw that Zena had fallen off his back as he had ascended the rocky climb to the Theatre of Dionysus.

“Help”, Zena croaked. Zena was stuck fast between 2 rocks and one her bullfrog legs were caught on some brambles. Very gently, Kimber nudged at the rocks with his powerful body and carefully picked Zena up in his mouth and licked her clean.



At that moment, her little frog body expanded and there stood a beautiful white unicorn body with a flowing tail. Zena’s face, however, still resembled a frog

with a horn jutting out, and her legs were far too small and frog like to be able to move freely.



She waddled on her frog like legs, along side Kimber, as they approached the ancient theatre.

“This is where people came to see plays”, said Zena. My mum told me that we had family who lived in Athens about two thousand years ago and they were free to wander the hills and cities in Ancient Greece. But I don’t think there are any unicorns here now”, she said quietly.



“Let’s see one more famous site”, said Kimber, who loved history and wanted to be a Unicorn teacher and build a school for young unicorns when he returned to the Bavarian Forest.

“I’d like to visit Hadrian’s Library”, said Zena. My Dad taught literature to school age unicorns and we always used to visit libraries after school. It reminds me of my childhood”



“The books in Hadrian’s library were made of papyrus,” said Kimber.
“Papyrus is a plant found in water and the Ancient Greeks used it instead of paper to make writing sheets.”



Papyrus plant



soaking the papyrus



sheets from book

Zena was very still. She had been listening to Kimber, but started making strange croaking noises, repeatedly. Her frog like face became even greener and Kimber realised she was not just croaking but choking. He picked her up again in his mouth and gently tapped her back several times, and out popped a fish bone that had caught in her throat.

“I must have swallowed it when I ate the fish and chips”, said Zena. “Thank you, Kimber”,

You are a truly kind unicorn.” At that same moment, Kimber saw he was no longer looking down at the frogcorn (as he had affectionately come to think of her as). She was standing tall and strong on 4 legs and could even gallop alongside Kimber. Now there was only one thing left for Zena to change back into a whole unicorn again.



“You have helped me so much”, she croaked, “but my face still looks like a frog.”

As she spoke, there was a flash of coloured light and the kind old wizard appeared from a cloud of dust.



“Kimber”, he said, “you are a kind and generous unicorn”. I will say a magical chant and wave my wand and you will see that Zena’s face will become the face of a unicorn again.”

And with that, the wizard chanted his magical chant:

“Face of frog now disappear

For there is nothing more to fear

Be proud and tall, and join your friend

For Kimber has the powers to mend

A broken heart and heal the pain

Now stay together as a pair

Of unicorns who love and care.”



Kimber stared at Zena and she looked at her reflection in the pool of fresh water which the wizard had also conjured up for them to drink.

Once again Zena was a beautiful unicorn and Kimber knew he had found a true friend.

The pair galloped away together into the Olympus mountains where Kimber asked Zena to marry him.

Kimber and Zena had many more wonderful adventures and eventually returned to the Bavarian Forest where they lived happily ever after with their 2 unicorn children.



The End

An original story by Linda Symons

