

## **"It's Not That Easy Being Green"**

Written By: Harry Gribnitz

Everyone recognizes the phrase, "It's Not Easy Being Green" as a quotation from the entertainer and philosopher, Kermit the Frog. However did you know that Kermit is celebrating his 50th anniversary? He will soon be embarking on a world tour of 50 destinations as a part of the celebration. Before kicking off the tour in Kermit, TX on October 14th, Kermie (as his friends call him) has agreed to participate in a pretend interview.

Reporter: How did it all get started for you?

Kermit: I was born on May 9, 1955 in a swamp near the little town of Leland, Mississippi. I come from a family of 3924 children. My friend, Jim Henson, help to name me after his best friend, Theodore Kermit Scott.

R: I meant, how did you get started in show business?

K: My friend Rowlf and I first appeared on a show called Sam and Friends in 1955.

R: You went on to star on Sesame Street, The Muppet Show, and many movies. One of my favorite performances of yours was as guest host of the Tonight Show. We heard a rumor that you were offered the opportunity to replace Johnny Carson when he retired.

K: Yes, I enjoyed being a guest host, but the fulltime gig would have kept me away from the swamp too much. The fellow who got the job, Jay Leno, does a nice job for someone who is not an amphibian.

R: Let me ask you about being a frog. "It's not easy being green. Having to spend each day the color of the leaves.....not standing out like flashy sparkles in the water or stars in the sky"?

K: (Breaking into song) "But green's the color of Spring. And green can be cool and friendly like and green can be big like an ocean or important like a mountain or tall like a tree....I am green and it'll do fine. It's Beautiful and I think it's what I want to be."

R: In 1996 Southampton College awarded you an Honorary Doctorate of Amphibious Letters. I understand you thanked them for the honor and their future environmental efforts.

K: "On behalf of frogs, fish, pigs, bears and all of the other species who are lower than you on the food chain, thank you for dedicating your lives to saving our world and our homes. In the words of my cousin, Newt ---no, not that Newt, this is another Newt--- "We appreciate what you are doing more than you can even imagine." "

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*R: Do you have any final thoughts you would like to leave with your fans.*

*K: Enjoy life. Enjoy being who you are. For the children, "Take your time to grow up to be a big frog like me." To everyone, "Time's fun when you are having flies".*

*Thank You*

*Harry Gribnitz*

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