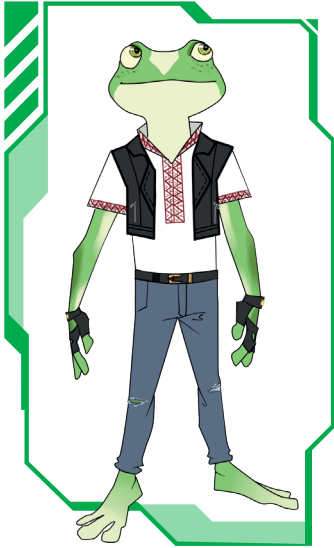


Chapter 1 *A frog named Dreamko*



Have you ever seen a frog staring for hours into the night sky? And if you have what would come to your mind? You might think that the amphibian has lost its mind. Or maybe it's not that drastic, and the frog just can't swallow the huge fly, stuck in his throat. That is why he sits with his head back, and his eyes are directed to the starry sky. And perhaps he dreams of a new life on other planets? But which guess from these and many others will

be true? This story is about such a frog.

There lived a young frog named Dreamko. Like all the frogs he knew, he lived in a small frog town near the swamp, in the middle of a dense forest. This is a very ordinary frog town and, well, not remarkable swamp at all. It is located in Ukraine, near the town of Prypyat.

So, everyone around, like decent frogs, was busy with something: croaking, jumping and eating flies. But our frog was a dreamer. Every night he climbed to the root of an old tree, which can be seen from the water. Looking at one bright and beautiful Star, the frog imagined that



she was also looking at him. Watching the Star, Dreamko dreamed of how wonderful it could be to be closer to her.

Other frogs, including his mother, brothers and sisters, dreamed only of delicious flies and the continuation of the frog family. None of them ever stopped during their daily activities and stared at the sky.

Yes, he was different from others, and for that he was disliked. One day the oldest frog in the swamp approached Dreamko and said:

— I've been watching you for a long time, Dreamko, and I see that you are different from others. But it's time for you to make a choice: what do you really want? You can croak, jump and catch flies all your life, like other frogs. And you can go a completely different way, because the life of a frog is short and only you can decide how you will live it...

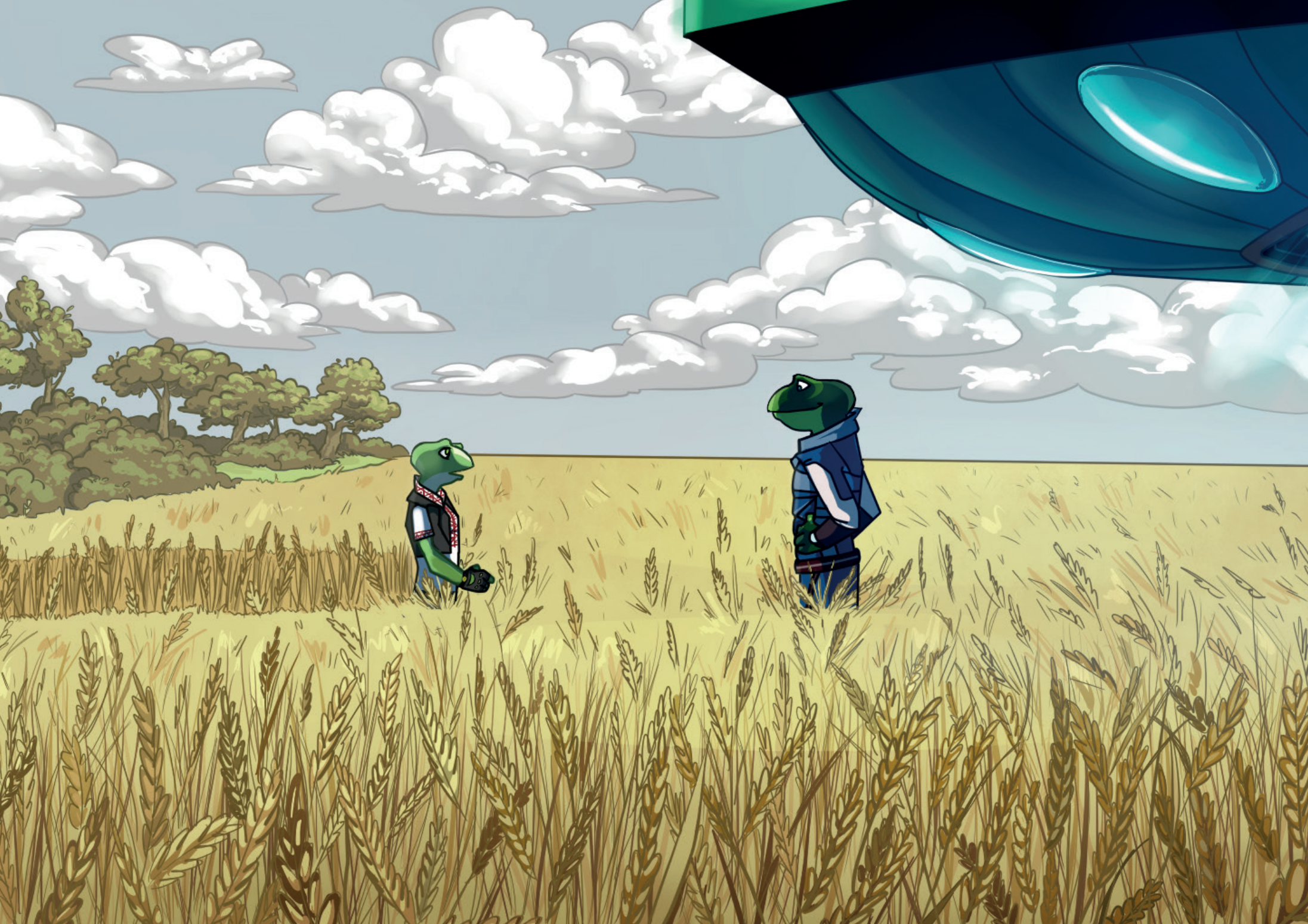
In response, Dreamko said nothing. He just shrugged silently. But in fact these words excited our frog. He thought all day and all night, and when morning came again, he decided, «I want to see my Little Star as close as possible, and I'll do my best for make it happen!»

At night it seemed to Dreamko that his Little Star was somewhere up the hill, to the right of the swamp. He jumped and jumped? for days and days! He jumped for a long time: not a day or two, but much longer. On the way during the day he tasted insects, and every night he saw only his Little Star and believed that with each

effort he became closer to her.

And so the forest ended. An endless field of wheat opened up in front of our young frog, in the middle of which was a strange object, previously unseen by Dreamko. For a few minutes he pondered whether it was worth approaching it for a better look. And then he decided: "I have come a long way. Will I stop now and not find out what a strange thing is in front of my eyes?" And he jumped forward resolutely.

When Dreamko jumped most of the distance to an unknown object, he was surprised to find that in the middle of the field stood a real UFO, and within the UFO stood a creature.



The alien looked at Dreamko and said: «Kwa» which means «Hello» in intergalactic frog language.

— «Kwa,» said Dreamko.



— I landed just a few minutes ago because I want to find a real Green Cone,— said the alien. The on-board computer brought me to your planet. Although all my friends and family are convinced that there are no Green Cones, I believe I can find it here.

— «I can help you,» said Dreamko.— I traveled through our forest for a very long time and saw a huge tree with just such cones not far from here. Do you want to see?

— »Of course!« I want to! Said the alien frog excitedly. «By the way, my name is Kvaker!»

— And I'm Dreamko.

And they jumped together. He brought Kvaker to a very large spruce tree, under which lay many beautiful green cones. The newcomer was just delighted with the cone luxury:

— They are wonderful! He said happily. «When I bring these cones home, all my friends will be shocked!»

After all, scientists from our planet will be able to create something truly unique from such cones in their

laboratories! A new kind of helper plant that we have all dreamed of for so long! With that, he took two cones and put them in a small bag attached to his belt.

«I'm very grateful to you, Dreamko,» Kvaker continued. «Perhaps you also have a dream I can help make come true?»

And what do you think happened next? Of course, Dreamko told Kvaker about his Little Star. And when night came and he showed it in the sky, the alien said that this is where his grandmother Kvakilda lives. He will be happy to send Drimko to visit her, because he was going to visit her himself.

It all seemed like a wonderful dream to our frog. A few days ago, he never dreamt that this adventure could turn out so wonderfully. But it was necessary to decide now... Dreamko thought for a moment. The fact is that he has been traveling for a long time and missed his mother and his home. But his dream was so close! And he didn't want to return home with nothing. Dreamko looked at Kvaker again, and agreed. Together they climbed to the UFO and flew to realize Dreamko's dream and share new adventures.

Chapter 2 *Beauty, food and caring Pete*

After the spaceship with Dreamko and Kvaker on board flew through the clouds and went into Earth orbit, Kvaker decided that Dreamko would be interested to see what his home planet Earth looks like from above. And he was right, our frog clung to the porthole like a fly to the glass.

- All the planets are like that? Dreamko asked.
- What are «like»? Kvaker asked.
- Well, so blue with white and so beautiful?

Of course not. The planets are not similar to each other: different colors, sizes, and many more are different. For example, I visited your planet for the first time, and I often visited Zelin and Ruduk before. Zelin is all green, there are many trees and grass. Ruduk is orange, almost all covered with sand, I can't even imagine how the Cosmo-Cats live there." Kvaker frowned. — «As for beauty, it's not up to me to judge,» he winked at Dreamko, «because everyone has their own concept of beauty.»

- How so? Dreamko didn't understand.
- Well, you know, everyone has their own view of beauty

Said Quaker. «Do you think your Mother is beautiful?»

- Of course! She is the most beautiful frog in our town!

- Well, do you think a baby fly considers its mother beautiful?



— I don't know, but in my opinion, flies can't be beautiful, it's just food. Not beautiful, but appetizing — yes..., — said Dreamko, licking and remembering that he hadn't eaten anything since yesterday.

— But I am sure that mother-fly is the most beautiful in the world for her baby, so everyone has their own beauty.

— «Yes,» said Dreamko, «you must be right.» By the way, what do you eat here?

Kvaker said nothing, just smiled mysteriously. In a few moments he took Dreamko to the space kitchen. Although Captain Kvaker's ship was small in size, it housed the captain's and guest cabins, a kitchen, and a ship's control center. While they were still in Earth orbit, Captain Kvaker instructed the autopilot to control the ship, and then he led the guest to dinner.

The ship's kitchen, in our frog's opinion, looked more than strange. It was a small, completely empty, white room.

— «It doesn't look like a kitchen,» Dreamko said.

— «Wait,» said Kvaker, «Now you will see»

— A small robot in a funny green-blue hat with bells flew out of the ceiling. The robot flew up to Dreamko and froze in front of him.

«He's our food assistant,» the captain explained. «We call him Pete.» Now he scans your brain and body to understand which of your favorite food will be most useful to you right now.

— “And what should I do?” Dreamko asked, looking

anxiously at the strange hat on the robot's metal head.

— »Nothing,» Kvaker shrugged. «Just stand and think about your favorite food.» I always do that.

Dreamko closed his eyes and imagined Mom setting the table, with his favorite cake, with fried dragonflies and chocolate. And next to it — cherry sauce with celery roots, sprinkled with dried fly wings. Hmmm, he only ate that on holiday.

When Dreamko opened his eyes, everything that painted his memories was in front of him. And the chocolate cake, and the sauce, and even the table with the tablecloth are just like at home. Only Mom was not there.

«Strange,» Kvaker's eyes widened. «Pete usually makes only one of the imaginary dishes.» You're probably really hungry. And that's what I would like to eat now...

With that, Kvaker closed his eyes, and Pete flew up to him and quickly scanned with the blue beam that shone from the bells on his hat.

At that moment, a small table appeared in front of Kvaker, with a plate of incomprehensible purple liquid on it.

— «Soup again,» Kvaker said disappointedly.— Only once I did allow myself to dream of a 100-kilogram cake of dragonflies with marzipan, and please, for the third day I have only soup.

— Why so? Dreamko asked, chewing on his cake.

— Well, you see, 'said Kvaker awkwardly,' I not only dreamed, I ate it. Now Pete thinks I need to go on a diet.



And to be honest, he's right, I ate too much, and Pete's worried about my health.

«Well, at home, I also sometimes allowed myself to enjoy the delicacy more than I needed to,» Dreamko smiled, remembering his last birthday.

He was given a bucket full of candy, and Mom said he should eat one a day... Well, what kind of frog can stand that?!! Of course, the bucket was emptied in a few days. Then his stomach ached unbearably. Just than Dreamko made a serious adult decision: never ever in his life to do so again.

Satiated with food, our frog immediately felt how tired he had been lately and how much he wanted to sleep. He told Kvakoroli about it. Then a friend took him to the guest cabin, and he jumped to the control center of the ship. Because it was time to turn around and head for the planet Zelin, where his beloved Grandmother lived.

Chapter 3 ***Where do frogs fly in the spring***

When Dreamko woke up, he did not immediately understand where he was. It was dark, warm and soft. He did not know how much he had slept, and in just a few minutes he remembered everything that had happened to him.

Before leaving our frog alone, Kvakoroli instructed him on how to operate the spaceship's cabins. For example, to turn on the light, you had to blink twice with the right eye and then twice with the left eye. And in order to open the door, you need to say loudly «Kva-aak» and jump at the same time.

This technology is called «multi-kva-movement».

First of all, Dreamko decided to turn on the light and look around. He successfully winked two times with his right and then his left eye. Now everything is visible in the cabin, as in the daytime! Dreamko lay drowsy on a cozy, white, wooden bed that resembled the shell of a giant walnut. The guest cabin did not look like the kitchen. No white walls, it was all juicy green. When Dreamko looked closely, he realized that soft green moss was growing on the walls and floor of the cabin, and from the wall on the right flowed a real waterfall. Well, what Frog will refuse to stand under streams of water, or at least wash and moisturize the paws in such beauty? The ceiling was black, decorated with images of the sun and planets never seen before by our frogs. It all was very



interesting and caused a lot of questions for Dreamko.

He wanted to get out of the cabin and look for Captain Kvaker. Dreamko looked around again. He remembered that to get out, you just had to stand in front of the door, shout Kva-aak and jump, but it was completely unclear where the door was.

After some thought, he decided to do it in front of each of the four walls of the cabin. Sooner or later, the door will be found, Dreamko thought. Apparently from the outside it looked pretty funny, but he had no other options. The wall on the left was chosen first. Dark green moss grew on it. Our frog took up position, said Kva-aak and jumped at the same time,... but nothing happened. Then he moved to the wall, which flowed water. Doing the same, Dreamko expected the door to open in the wall, but instead the water began to harden and turn into a kind of mirror. In it he saw himself as if from all sides at once. Dreamko even jumped a little more just for fun, and to see himself better. There was a bed by the third wall, so there could be no door in it. There was one wall of light green color left, on which houseplants with multicolored leaves were twisted. He approached it and loudly performed a «multi-kva-movement». Immediately the wall became translucent and our frog, remembering how Captain Kvaker did, just went through it.

The corridor, probably for contrast, was gray and gloomy. The only thing that pleased him was the same green moss that grew everywhere like a carpet. As the road from the guest cabin led in only one direction,

Dreamko jumped forward. Suddenly the corridor ended with a blank wall.

«Kva-aak,» Dreamko said, jumping up at the same time. The wall became translucent. Behind it was the captain's ship's control center with Kvaker inside. This was exactly what he needed, and the frog bravely walked through the wall.

— Oh, kva-kva! The captain of the ship greeted him happily.— Dreamko, how did you sleep?

«Kva,» Dreamko replied with a smile from one frog's ear to another, «slept well.» I dreamed of my Little Star. I am so glad that soon I will not just see it, but even can touch it. By the way, how long do we have to fly?

— There are a few hours left. «While you slept, we covered most of the way,» Kvaker replied.

— How do we move so fast? — our frog wondered. «It took me several decades to jump from my swamp town to the meadow.» And here — a whole trip to a distant planet, and only a few hours?!

«It's all kva-quantum technology developed by our scientists a few years ago,» Kvaker said proudly. By the way, he's my dad. "Captain Kvaker was overwhelmed with pride. Proud frogs usually look a few inches taller, their cheeks swell, and a smile shines on their faces. However, at the same time with respect, Dreamko felt shades of sadness in the voice of a friend. He thought he would have to ask Kvaker about it later.

— And how does it work? Dreamko asked curiously.

— Everything is very simple. The professor proved

that the power of our thoughts and desires is much greater than it seems. He created a device he called the IAM, which stands for «I am a Mentalist.» With these words, Kvaker pointed to a small white hoop lying side by side on the table.— Wearing it on a head, each frog can realize all their desires. In addition, the «IAM» has protection against non-frog touch. First, the device is invisible to all but frogs. And secondly, if someone still touches it and tries to take it, it instantly destroys itself, turning to dust.

Dreamko was very interested in the captain's story. He looked at the white hoop and reached for it.

— »Can I try?« He asked.

- Why not! Excitement sparkled in the corners of the captain's eyes. «You're a Frog, so 'IAM' is for you, too.» Yes, you did not train, so «IAM» is unlikely to immediately begin to respond to your wishes. But you can always try. Kvaker shrugged.— Taking IAM, he helped our frog attach the device to his head. He listened intently to his feelings. He wanted adventure. Real, space adventures! The ones you can proudly tell your friends about and rejoice in looking at their elongated faces... So he sat for a few minutes until he realized that nothing new was really going on around him. Sighing, the green traveler removed the device and handed it to Kvaker. The expression on the captain's face showed that he was not expecting anything else. «It's probably not as easy to control IAM as it first seemed, but Kvaker knows something» our frog thought.

Questions swarmed in his head like bees in a hive, so he decided to ask: — Tell me why you had to fly on Earth for green cones, because you could just wear "IAM" and wish to get them right away!

— «Yes, you're right,» said Quaker, scratching the back of his head, «but in reality it's much more complicated.» It was not enough to just wish for something. You still need to know what it looks like, and most importantly, believe that it exists. In addition, you still need to be able to focus your thoughts on one wish and imagine that it has already happened, as clearly and distinctly as possible, and this sometimes takes years of training. For example, I trained for five years until I learned to imagine my ship flying from one planet to another in just a few hours I was able to believe so much that it really happened. The exercises with green cones took me another year.

— WOW! Dreamko's jaw dropped sharply in delight. Putting it back in place, he continued: — I'm so glad you did such a great job, because that's how we met, "and he smiled at his new friend.

Suddenly, the light on the ship went out, the siren sounded, and the artificial gravity failed. The frogs came off the floor and spun smoothly in the middle of the room. In a few minutes, dim emergency lights came on in the ship's control center.

— What happened?! Deamko was frightened.

«I don't know,» Kvaker said, confused. «I'll try to find out. With that, he swam awkwardly to the on-board

computer, brandishing his paws. Reaching the target, Kvaker deftly grabbed the handrails of the captain's chair, seated himself and fastened his seat belts. A few minutes later, the captain turned to Dreamko, who was still maneuvering under the ceiling. Kvaker's eyes were wide open»

«Looks like we were attacked and taken prisoner.»
Look! — and he pointed his paw at the porthole, behind which the ship could be seen. A giant ship in the shape of a strange red cat. «These are real space pirates,» said Captain Quaker nervously.

