

The Girl and the Dream Kingdom



Ebru Mina TOMURCUK

The Girl and the Dream Kingdom

Ebru Mina TOMURCUK



Lily was a small girl with warm light brown skin, wavy chestnut hair, and freckles across her nose. She wore a yellow dress with a white collar, a red knitted cardigan, and brown lace-up shoes. One night, as she slept, a soft glow wrapped around her, and she found herself in a strange, wonderful place. It was the dream kingdom, full of colors she had never seen before.



The dream kingdom sparkled with soft light. Trees with silver leaves swayed gently, and flowers hummed like tiny bells. Lily walked along a path that shimmered under her brown lace-up shoes. She held her blue satchel close and wondered where she was. Everything felt safe and a little magical, as if the air itself was smiling.



Suddenly, a small rabbit hopped up to her. He was about knee-high, with soft white fur, grey-tipped ears, and a green scarf around his neck. A tiny leather tool belt with a wooden hammer hung at his side. 'Hello! I'm Pip,' he said. 'You're just in time. Our bridge is missing, and no one can cross between dreams!'



Lily's hazel eyes widened. 'Missing? How can a bridge be missing?' Pip pointed to a wide gap between two hills. Where a bridge should have been, there was only empty space. On the other side, animals waited, looking sad. 'The bridge broke apart in a storm,' Pip explained. 'We need to rebuild it, but it's too big for one rabbit.'



Lily smiled her bright, curious smile. 'Then we'll do it together,' she said. Pip's ears perked up. 'Really? You'll help?' Lily nodded. 'But we need more help. Who else is here?' Pip hopped ahead, his fluffy tail bobbing. 'Follow me! I'll show you.' Lily hurried after him, her red cardigan flapping in the breeze.



They came to a clearing where a big brown bear was stacking logs. He was taller than Lily, with thick warm fur and gentle dark eyes. A blue striped apron with a large pocket covered his broad chest, and a coil of rope hung over his shoulder. 'This is Bramble,' said Pip. 'He's the strongest in the kingdom.' Bramble gave a slow, kind smile.



Bramble set down his logs. 'I can carry the heaviest beams,' he said in a deep, calm voice. 'But I can't tie the ropes and hammer the pegs all by myself.' Just then, a shimmering creature fluttered down. It was a small fox with golden orange fur, white chest, and silver feathered wings. A purple ribbon with a tiny bell jingled around her neck.



'I'm Fen,' she said, her voice like a song. 'I can fly above and cheer you on! I have a basket for light pegs.' Lily clapped her hands. 'Perfect! We have a team. Pip can carry wood, Bramble can carry the big beams, and Fen can bring pegs and keep our spirits high. I'll help too!' The animals looked at each other and nodded.



Lily looked at the gap where the bridge had been. 'We need a plan,' she said. 'Pip, you're quick. Can you find wooden planks?' Pip hopped. 'Yes! I know where they are.' 'Bramble, can you carry the heavy beams to the edge?' Bramble nodded. 'I can.' 'Fen, can you fly above and tell us what you see?' Fen rang her bell. 'I'd love to!'



Everyone set to work. Pip dashed back and forth, his tool belt jingling, bringing small planks and pegs. Bramble lifted the big beams as if they were twigs and set them in place. Fen flew above, her silver wings catching the light, and called out, 'A little to the left! Now straight!' Lily tied ropes and held things steady. The bridge began to grow.



But the work was hard, and soon everyone felt tired. Pip's ears drooped, and Bramble sat down with a sigh. 'It's too much,' Pip whispered. Lily knelt beside him. 'We can do this if we keep helping each other,' she said gently. 'Let's take a short rest, then try again.' Fen landed and rang her bell softly. 'We're a team,' she said.



With new energy, they worked faster. Bramble held the last big beam while Lily tied the ropes tight. Pip hammered the pegs with his wooden hammer. Fen flew above, cheering, 'You're doing it! Just a little more!' The animals on the other side of the gap began to cheer too. Everyone was helping in their own way, and the bridge grew stronger.



Finally, the last peg was in place. The bridge stood firm and strong, connecting the two hills. Pip jumped for joy. Bramble let out a happy rumble. Fen rang her bell so merrily that the flowers hummed along. Lily smiled her biggest smile. 'We did it! Together!' The animals from the other side rushed over, thanking them with happy dances.



The dream kingdom was peaceful once more. Animals crossed back and forth, sharing stories and laughter. Pip gave Lily a tiny wooden hammer as a thank-you gift. Bramble wrapped her in a warm bear hug. Fen tied a small bell to Lily's satchel so she would always remember. 'You showed us that teamwork makes everything better,' said Pip.



Lily felt warm inside. She had made new friends and helped them when they needed it. 'I'll never forget this,' she said. 'Helping each other is the best magic of all.' The animals nodded. 'Come back any time,' said Bramble. 'Our bridge will always be open for you.' Fen's bell jingled as the sun set over the dream kingdom.



As Lily closed her eyes, the dream kingdom faded softly. She woke in her own bed, the little bell still tied to her satchel. She smiled, remembering her friends. From that day on, whenever someone needed help, Lily remembered the dream kingdom and knew that working together could build any bridge.