

The Beaver's Crystal Bridge



Ebru Mina TOMURCUK

The Beaver's Crystal Bridge

Ebru Mina TOMURCUK



In the heart of the green forest, a lively river rushed over smooth stones. Benny the beaver lived in a cozy lodge nearby, always eager to explore. One sunny morning, he packed his twig satchel with a fresh green leaf and set off. His flat tail swished happily as he waddled along the riverbank, looking for something new.



Benny followed the river until he reached a quiet bend. There, sparkling in the sunlight, stood a bridge made entirely of crystal. It shimmered with rainbow colors, and Benny's small dark eyes grew wide with wonder. 'What a beautiful bridge!' he whispered. He had never seen anything so shiny and clear. His two big front teeth showed in a delighted grin.



Benny stepped closer to the crystal bridge. It gleamed like ice, but it didn't feel cold. Tiny rainbows danced on its surface, and Benny's heart raced with excitement. He imagined crossing to the other side, where the forest looked even greener. 'I bet there are amazing things over there,' he thought. He couldn't wait to explore.



With a happy hop, Benny placed one paw on the bridge. Instantly, the crystal wobbled and let out a soft creak. 'Whoa!' he gasped, pulling back. The bridge sparkled but seemed very fragile. Benny frowned. 'Maybe I just need to be quick,' he said. He tried again, but the bridge swayed even more. Benny's tail drooped. Crossing felt risky.



Just then, a rustling sound came from the bushes. Out popped Muskrat, a clever friend with bright amber eyes and a long thin tail. Muskrat wore a blue work apron with a pocket full of shiny pebbles. 'Hello, Benny! What's wrong?' Muskrat asked kindly. Benny pointed at the wobbling bridge. 'It's too fragile to cross,' he sighed. 'But I really want to see the other side.'



Muskrat studied the bridge with a thoughtful look. 'Crystal bridges are delicate,' Muskrat said, tapping a tiny paw on the sparkling rail. 'They need gentle care and strong support. Don't worry, I can help.' Muskrat reached into the apron pocket and pulled out a handful of shiny pebbles. 'These are magic supports,' Muskrat explained with a smile. 'They'll make the bridge safe.'



Muskrat carefully waded under the bridge, holding the shiny pebbles. Benny watched as Muskrat placed each pebble gently beneath the crystal arch. 'These pebbles glow with strength,' Muskrat said. 'They will hold the bridge steady.' Benny's eyes widened as the pebbles began to shimmer with a soft, steady light. The bridge stopped wobbling and felt more solid already.



Next, Muskrat uncoiled a length of silver cord from the apron pocket. 'This cord will tie the supports together,' Muskrat said, nimble paws working quickly. Benny helped by holding the cord steady while Muskrat wrapped it around the pebbles and the crystal beams. The silver cord gleamed in the sunlight, and the bridge grew stronger with each wrap. 'We're a good team,' Benny said happily.



With the magic supports in place, the crystal bridge sparkled even brighter. Benny took a deep breath and stepped onto it. This time, the bridge didn't wobble. It felt firm and safe under his paws. 'It's working!' Benny cheered. He took a few more steps, his flat tail swaying with joy. The bridge held strong, and Benny reached the other side with a happy skip.



From the far side, Benny looked back at Muskrat. 'Thank you so much!' he called. 'You made the bridge safe with your clever pebbles and cord.' Muskrat waved a small paw. 'Fragile things just need a little care,' Muskrat said. 'And friends make everything better.' Benny nodded, realizing how lucky he was to have such a kind friend.



Benny explored the new side of the river, finding juicy twigs and a lovely view. But he didn't forget the bridge. He crossed back carefully, walking gently so as not to harm the crystal. 'I'll always take care of this bridge,' Benny promised. 'It's beautiful, but it needs gentle steps.' Muskrat smiled, proud of Benny's new understanding.



Back at the riverbank, Benny and Muskrat sat together, watching the crystal bridge sparkle. 'You know,' Benny said, 'I thought I could just rush across. But fragile things need patience and care.' Muskrat nodded. 'And a helping hand,' Muskrat added. 'That's what friends are for.' They shared a quiet moment, enjoying the peaceful afternoon.



From that day on, Benny visited the crystal bridge often. He always walked softly and checked the magic supports. Sometimes Muskrat joined him, and they would cross together, step by step. Benny learned that taking care of something fragile made it last longer. And he never forgot how Muskrat's kindness turned a scary wobble into a safe crossing.



One evening, as the sun set behind the trees, Benny and Muskrat sat on the bridge's edge. 'I used to think being fast was best,' Benny said. 'But now I know gentle care is important too.' Muskrat's amber eyes twinkled. 'And kind friends make everything better,' Muskrat replied. They watched the stars appear, reflecting in the crystal like tiny lights.



Benny decided to share the bridge with all his forest friends. He told them about the magic supports and the need for gentle steps. Everyone promised to take care. The crystal bridge became a happy place where animals crossed safely, always remembering to be kind and careful. Benny felt proud of his role in keeping it safe.



And so, the crystal bridge stood strong, a sparkling reminder of care and friendship. Benny the beaver and Muskrat remained the best of friends, always ready to help each other. Whenever Benny saw something fragile, he remembered the bridge and smiled. He knew that with a little care and a good friend, anything could be made safe and wonderful.