

Snidey the Bridge Troll

Once upon a time there was a troll who lived under The Creek Bridge down at Low Hollow creek. He was a short ugly fellow, but very strong. His hair was straight, red, and stuck out like a mop. His skin was yellow, wrinkly and felt like sandpaper. His clothes looked like rags and they were always smelly. His name was "Snidely."

One day, Snidely was dozing when something woke him up. Someone was coming! It was a young boy and girl in a carriage.



Every time someone tried to cross the bridge, Snidely would jump out in front, cross his arms and **demand** ten pounds.

"You cannot cross my bridge without giving me ten pounds first," said Snidely, with a **scowl** on his face. If they didn't pay, he would throw them over the side.

The boy and girl in the carriage were so scared they could hardly speak.

"Ok, we will pay," said the boy to Snidely.

"We have to get home before the storm," he said to the girl.

Snidely let them through and waved as they got to the other side and rode out of sight. He wasn't really mean but he just wanted to see if people would really pay.

Back under the bridge, Snidely could hear it beginning to rain. It rained harder and harder. Snidely began to worry as the water started to rise in the **creek**. He was a strong bully but he could not swim. The water rose higher and higher and Snidey began to shake. He had to do something quickly or he would be washed down the river.

He got out from under the bridge and went over to the tall fir tree next to the creek. He **figured** that if he climbed up it high enough, he would not have to worry about the water. Just as he began to climb, he heard a voice



"Stop, you can't climb this tree without paying me twenty pounds" it said.

It was Chunky the gorilla. Chunky was a nice gorilla but he was very tired of seeing Snidely causing so much trouble with the people crossing the bridge.

"I only have ten pounds" said Snidely.

"Well, you'll have to swim for it then," said Chunky to Snidely.

"I don't know how to swim. I will drown!" exclaimed Snidely.

"That's a shame, you should have saved your money" said Chunky.

"I tell you what I'll do" continued Chunky. "If you will agree not to charge people for crossing the bridge anymore, I will not only let you climb my tree but you can come into my house and have dinner with me. I was just getting ready to sit down and eat."

"It's a deal," said Snidely.

They sat down, ate dinner, and became very good friends.

From that day on, Snidely became known as the nice troll that lived under the bridge. Whenever someone came down in the hollow to cross The Creek Bridge, Snidely would walk and talk with them as they went across. Sometimes he would even sell them drinks and food from the little store he started next to the bridge.

Now people come to The Creek Bridge to see Snidely. He is actually a real fun guy!