A TROLL TRIUMPHANT

Written by

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EXT. OLD STONE BRIDGE - DAY

A wisp of mist clears to reveal an old stone bridge in the middle of a forest. A tiny brook runs underneath it. Next to the brook, there is a cave.

INT. FENRIK’S CAVE - DAY

The inside is dark, dirty, and full of furniture made of salvaged materials. A huge pile of trash composes the back wall. There is one inhabitant.

FENRIK the troll slouches in a rusty chair. His greasy hair is a stark contrast to his pale green skin. A filthy burlap sack serves as his clothing. He is reading a magazine titled Garbage Aficionado.

Fenrik’s STOMACH GROWLS. He glances at his hubcap dinner plate. Nothing. He looks in his cracked cookie jar. Empty. He puts an old oil can to his lips. Not even a drop.

He paws through the pile of trash. Behind him, a worm wiggles its way across the dirt floor.

A distant BELL RINGS.

Fenrik turns and sees the worm. He dives after it, but the worm vanishes into the ground. Fenrik pulls up a clump of earth and inspects it. No worm. Fenrik’s STOMACH GROANS.

The BELL RINGS again. Fenrik looks at the cave opening. He exits to investigate.

EXT. OLD STONE BRIDGE - DAY

Fenrik peers over the side of the bridge. The road is empty. As he starts to climb down the side, the BELL RINGS.

A LITTLE GIRL (7) on a bicycle rides toward him. Her dress flows in the breeze. There is a large bow in her hair. She smiles to herself oblivious to the world around her.

On the handle bars are a silver bell and a basket full of delicious-looking muffins. Fenrik’s STOMACH RUMBLES.

He ducks down as she passes. Once she is gone, Fenrik’s head emerges. He is excited.
EXT. ROADSIDE BUSH - DAY

Fenrik hides in a bush next to the road. The BELL RINGS. The little girl rides toward him. As she nears the bush, Fenrik sticks his arm out to grab her, but his arm is too low, and she runs over his hand.

INT. FENRIK’S CAVE - DAY

Fenrik wraps a bandage around his hand. He turns toward the wall of trash and ponders. He sees a length of rope and snatches it.

EXT. ROADSIDE BUSH - DAY

The BELL RINGS. Fenrik’s arm emerges from the top of the bush twirling a lasso. Before he can throw it, the lasso falls. Fenrik entangles himself with rope and branches.

Immobile, Fenrik watches as the little girl passes. She is eating a muffin. His STOMACH CRIES.

INT. FENRIK’S CAVE - DAY

Fenrik removes the remaining rope and examines the wall of trash. He grabs a large fishing net.

EXT. ROADSIDE BUSH - DAY

A fishing net protrudes from the top of the bush. The BELL SOUNDS. The little girl is coming. Fenrik slams down the net. It jostles in his hands. A BELL JINGLES with each movement.

He pulls the net into the bush, and an angry cat with a bell on its collar leaps onto Fenrik’s face. The bush erupts.

INT. FENRIK’S CAVE - DAY

Fenrik stands in front of the trash wall. Tiny bandages cover his face. He sees a crossbow. His STOMACH GROWLS in approval.

EXT. ROADSIDE BUSH - DAY

The little girl draws near. Fenrik looses a crossbow bolt. It narrowly misses the basket of muffins. It ricochets off the bridge, arches through the sky, and lands in the bush.
INT. FENRIK’S CAVE – DAY

Fenrik pulls the crossbow bolt out of his head. He stares at the trash until he finds the next item.

EXT. ROADSIDE BUSH – DAY

A grappling hook launches from the bush. It misses her and lands in the back of a speeding pickup truck. Fenrik is yanked from the bush and dragged away.

INT. FENRIK’S CAVE – DAY

A heavily-bandaged Fenrik wobbles in front of the wall of trash. The BELL RINGS.

EXT. ROADSIDE BUSH – DAY

A bazooka emerges from the bush. Fenrik aims at the little girl and pulls the trigger. The rocket does not fire. The ROCKET WHISTLES. A puff of smoke emits from the bazooka.

Fenrik breathes a sigh of relief. The rocket explodes, and the bush is engulfed in a flash of light. Fenrik soars through the air.

The little girl rides down the road oblivious to the mayhem. She RINGS the BELL.

INT. FENRIK’S CAVE – DAY

Fenrik hobbles into his cave covered in soot. He plops down into his chair, and buries his head in his hands.

The BELL RINGS.

Fenrik is enraged. He howls, picks up his chair, and throws it at the wall of trash. The wall crashes down. Fenrik stands in a sea of garbage. His STOMACH releases a pathetic MOAN.

A wave of realization hits him. He marches out of the cave.

EXT. OLD STONE BRIDGE – DAY

Fenrik stands in the center of the road. His arms rest on his hips. The little girl advances, he does not move from his stoic pose.
Her BICYCLE SCREECHES to a halt directly in front of him. The little girl is frightened.

She slowly moves her hand to the BELL and RINGS it. Fenrik rips the bell off the handlebars and throws it. The RINGING fades as it soars into the distance.

Fenrik’s STOMACH lets out an excited GURGLE. The little girl looks at Fenrik’s stomach and then to the muffins. She picks the best one and offers it to him.

Fenrik grins, and the little girl’s worries are put at ease. She smiles.

EXT. OLD STONE BRIDGE - MOMENTS LATER

Fenrik walks down the road picking his teeth. His protruding belly leads the way. Behind him, entire muffins and pieces of bicycle are strewn across the bridge.

All that remains of the little girl is her bow.

THE END