

*Princess  
Telsa*

and the

**OGRE**

BY: D. B. RYEN

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Version 1.1

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Contact us at: [email@dbryen.com](mailto:email@dbryen.com)

Visit our website at: [www.dbryen.com](http://www.dbryen.com)

ISBN: 9798576255115

Note to parents: This book is meant to be read aloud, with silly voices and sound effects. Also, your kids might need some help with the pictures. Make this book your own, something to look back on when your kids are older. Change the names, if you want to, to that of your own child. Then drop me a line and let me know how it goes. Enjoy!

For Telsa,  
the smartest, toughest, and kindest  
princess I know.

Color in the ogre



Draw a bridge over a nasty river

**P**rincess Telsa lived in a magical kingdom far away. It was a land of castles and knights, dragons and wizards, horses and forests, and monsters of every kind.

The only way into the kingdom was across a bridge. The bridge spanned two cliffs and beneath it flowed a stinky, toxic river. However, the bridge was getting old. Princess Telsa's parents – the King and Queen – tried to repair it many times, but down below lived an ogre.

If travelers were quick and quiet, they could get over the bridge without any trouble. But if they were too slow or too noisy, the ogre would reach up, snatch them off the bridge and gobble them up. Or else he would gobble up horses or sheep or whatever else he could grab. He even ate carriages.

Draw an ogre

Now, a bit about ogres. They're big and ugly and they like to live in caves. Ogres always smell bad. They have skin so thick that it can't be cut or pierced with anything, not even a sword or a spear. Ogres are so strong they can lift up boulders and uproot trees. They're as tall as castle walls and have legs as thick as tree trunks. Nothing is bigger or stronger than an ogre.

But the most important thing you need to know about ogres is that they're all grumpy. You can't cheer them up because they're ogres, and nobody likes being one of those.

All ogres are mean.

Draw the ogre under the bridge

The King and Queen sent out many brave knights to defeat the ogre. They'd say, "King and Queen, I am going to defeat the ogre and then I'll return to marry your beautiful daughter, Princess Telsa."

Princess Telsa was rather small and feisty. When she was told she had to marry a knight, she always said, "No way!"

Nonetheless, the knights would ride off to the old bridge between the cliffs. But when the ogre came out, the knights could barely move because of their heavy armor. Armor is great protection against spears and swords, but against ogres it just gets smashed. So even though knights fought bravely, they were all destroyed - sometimes gobbled up, sometimes knocked into the river, and sometimes thrown far away over the mountains.

So Telsa never had to marry any of them.

Draw the dresses floating in the toxic river

One day, a shipment of clothing was coming in from the next kingdom, which had some very pretty dresses for Telsa. Unfortunately, the merchants were too slow rolling over the bridge. The ogre crawled out of his cave and said in his terrible, ogry voice, "Who goes there?"

"We're travelling merchants delivering dresses for Princess Telsa," they replied.

"Dresses?" the ogre said. "I hate pretty things!"

He ripped the carriage away from the horses and tossed it into the toxic river. But the merchants managed to escape and rode off to the King and Queen.

"I'm very sorry," they said, "but all the dresses were spoiled by a terrible ogre."

Draw Princess Telsa on her pony

When Telsa heard about this, she got so mad that *steam* came out of her ears.

“What?!” she said. “That ogre has caused enough trouble for our kingdom. I’m going to fight him on my own!”

Of course, when Telsa gets an idea in her head, there’s no talking her out of it. She saddled her pony and packed her little knife. She liked to cook, so she brought along her frying pan.

Just as she was about to leave, Telsa’s father, the King, stopped her.

“Telsa, you shall not go to fight the ogre. You’ll be killed indeed.”

Despite Telsa’s arguing, the King locked her in her room. But Telsa was so small that she crawled out her window, mounted her pony, and rode away without anyone seeing her.

Draw Telsa banging on her frying pan

It was a three-day journey to the edge of the kingdom. After the King discovered that Telsa had snuck away, he ordered the highways to be patrolled, so Telsa had to ride her pony through the dense forest. Along the way, she slept in the trees and cooked eggs and potatoes on her iron frying pan. Eventually, she came to the bridge where the ogre lived.

When Telsa got to the cliff, she looked down into the river and saw all her dresses ruined on the rocks. She got *MAD* again! So she climbed down under the bridge and came to the mouth of the cave. It was stinky and messy, full of old skeletons. Telsa found a long leg bone and hit it against her frying pan.

*BANG BANG BANG BANG!*

“Ogre!” she shouted. “Get out here and apologize for ruining my dresses!”

Draw the ogre coming out of his cave

A big *GROWL* came from inside the cave. Then she heard heavy footsteps.

*STOMP STOMP STOMP*

Out of the cave walked a huge ogre, who said, "Who are you, little girl?"

"My name is Princess Telsa and you have ruined my dresses. Now you will apologize and not bother anyone again!"

What do you think the ogre did when he heard that? Do you think he was happy or angry? Ogres are *always* angry!

"You sassy little girl. I'm going to flick you into the water."

Draw the ogre chasing Telsa

The ogre *STOMP STOMP STOMPED* toward Princess Telsa. He was just about to knock her into the river but Telsa dashed between his legs.

*WHOOOP!*

The ogre fell flat on his face.

“That was a dirty trick! Stand and fight like a man.”

Telsa replied, “I’m *not* a man. I’m a girl, and I’m smarter and faster and a better fighter than all of those dumb knights you destroyed.”

The ogre said, “We’ll see about that!”

Draw the ogre running into the cliff

The ogre picked himself up and ran toward Telsa.

*BOOM BOOM BOOM*

His footsteps shook the ground! But Telsa zipped out of the way again. The ogre smashed into the cliff.

*BONK!*

*"Ow! That really hurt!"*

The chase was on. The ogre would stomp after Telsa but missed her every time. Soon Telsa began to laugh!

*"Ogre, I'm good at playing tag. You're IT and you can't catch me!"*

The ogre became furious! *"ROAR! I'm going to get you, you stinking little princess!"*

But as much as he tried, he couldn't lay a hand on her.

Draw Telsa bonking the ogre with her frying pan

Finally, the ogre was so tired that he fell to his knees. Telsa walked right up to him.

“Ogre, you are going to apologize or I’m going to smash you over the head.”

The ogre said, “You will do no such thing!”

He tried to grab her but missed and collapsed on his face. Telsa lifted up her big iron frying pan and swung it at him.

*BONG!*

The frying pan slammed into the ogre’s thick skull.

“OUCH!” the ogre howled. “That really hurt!”

Draw the ogre crying

The ogre got up and chased Telsa again, but he tripped over a rock and collapsed with a *CRASH*.

Telsa said, "Ogre, say you're sorry."

"No!" said the ogre. *BAM!* She hit him right on top of his head again.

"OUCH! That was right where you hit me before!"

Telsa said, "You deserve it!"

Once again, the ogre chased Telsa but fell down after two steps onto the ground. And once again, Telsa swung her frying pan – *SMASH!* – and hit him for the third time.

The ogre started crying.

"Okay, okay. I'm sorry. Just don't hit me with the frying pan again, you terrible, lousy, nasty girl."

Draw the ogre's ugly feet and broken nasty toes

Telsa said, "It's time for you to pay for all the trouble you've caused."

"No," the ogre grumped. "I don't want to."

Telsa raised her frying pan again, but the ogre said, "Okay, okay, okay! I'll pay for it. What you want me to do?"

"Fix this bridge."

"What?!" said the ogre. "I'm an ogre. I don't fix anything. I just wreck things."

Telsa swung her frying pan and the ogre covered his head.

**BAM!**

"OUCH! You smashed me toes!"

"I'm going to smash you as many times as you need to learn some manners!"

With tears in his eyes, the ogre said, "Okay, you awful, horrible girl. I'll do what you want."

Draw the ogre pulling up a tree

For the next week, the ogre fixed the bridge. He carried giant rocks and built up the foundation. He ripped up trees and laid them between the cliffs. Then he sliced the logs into long planks with his jagged teeth, laying them across the beams. Telsa told him just how she wanted it done and together they finished it. The new bridge was so solid the ogre could jump up and down on it – *CRASH, CRASH, CRASH* – and it wouldn't budge. It was the strongest, toughest bridge ever built.

“Ogre,” Telsa said, “you are almost finished. You must come back to my castle and apologize to the King and Queen.”

This time the ogre didn't argue.

“Okay,”

Draw the King and Queen

Princess Telsa and the ogre journeyed back through the kingdom to her castle. By this time, the ogre started to like Telsa and Telsa quite liked the ogre.

At the castle, the guards were terribly frightened. But there was Princess Telsa sitting on the ogre's shoulder, frying pan in hand, as the ogre led the reins of her little pony behind them.

"Stop!" said Telsa to the soldiers.  
"He's here to say he's sorry."

The King and the Queen came out and Telsa made the ogre bow before them and apologize.

Draw a frying pan with eggs and potatoes

The Queen said, "You terrible ogre. You've been very naughty. However, because my daughter has knocked some sense into your thick head, I'll give you a job. You are now the Guardian of the Bridge. If it falls into disrepair, you will fix it. If our enemies try to cross it, you will stop them. And in so doing, you may live under the bridge in our kingdom."

The ogre said, "Well, I guess so."

He was still scared of Telsa and her frying pan.

The ogre returned to his cave under the bridge. No one ever had any trouble with him again and he kept the bridge in tip-top shape. Telsa came to visit often and cooked him eggs and potatoes on her iron frying pan. And they remained friends for the rest of their lives.

The end.

## Hey Kids!

You've probably noticed that there are no pictures in this book. That's because kids always do a better job at imagining stories than adults. So go back and draw all the pictures. Get your parents to scan and email them to me and we'll post the best ones on our website! Be sure to include your name and age.

Enjoy!

*D. B. Ryan*

[email@dbryen.com](mailto:email@dbryen.com)

[www.dbryen.com](http://www.dbryen.com)