RAGING SWAN PRESS URBAN DRESSING: BRIDGE TOWN





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URBAN DRESSING: BRIDGE TOWN

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ragingswan.com gatekeeper@ragingswan.com Use this table to generate the sights and sounds the PCs experience as they move about the bridge town. Ignore inappropriate results and simply re-roll.

D%	
1	Wheels rattle as a wagon crosses the wide slats
1	of a bridge made entirely of rickety wood.
2	Rusting metal cages hang on chains dangling
	from a steel-spiked bridge.
3	The tromp of feet nears as a guard patrol makes
	its way over the bridge.
	Children laugh as they scamper from one end of
4	the bridge to another in a friendly race.
	A raucous parade pauses in the middle of the
5	bridge to sing the mayor's praises.
	Stonemasons hammer and chisel large blocks,
6	which will soon form a new bridge.
	Pallbearers carry a casket over a bridge that
7	symbolizes the passage between life and death.
	Mounted guards shout for people to make way
8	as they thunder after a fleeing criminal.
	Wind whistles through the arches of this fine
9	stone bridge.
	The complex web of ropes holding up the bridge
10	
	creaks alarmingly as the party crosses.
11	Wherever they go in town, swarms of biting insects follow the PCs.
12	The water level in the canal is surprisingly low,
	reveals glistening mud flats.
13	Every guard bears a breastplate or shield
	adorned with a stylized bridge.
14	People whisper excitedly that the town's "ghost
	bridge" is supposed to be manifesting soon.
15	Dozens of shop fronts line this canal, but each of
	them is only accessible via the waterfront.
16	Lifelike faces of stone peer out unblinkingly from
	their settings in the side of this bridge.
17	A messenger boy walks past, calling out an
	advertisement for the Underbridge Inn.
18	A cloaked trio of people glide past, faces masked
	to resemble a variety of unearthly creatures.
19	The nearby craft shop resounds with hammering,
	and the occasional thud of a heavy object falling.
20	The stagnant water under the bridge is covered
20	with algae and crowded with frogs and turtles.
21	A mucus-covered salamander flops out of the
21	water and blinks bulging eyes up at the party.
22	A priest walks by, loudly preaching the dangers
	of offending the "God of Bridges."
23	A sign decorated with a person's face etched in
	charcoal, wanted for crimes of "Bridge Burning
	and other Acts of Arson" is nailed to the bridge.
24	The woman who just walked by had gills, scaled
	skin and webbed hands and feet.

25Signs are posted all around town proclaiming official Bridge Festival begins in a fortnight.26Water from the canals has been cleverly dive into beautiful fountains arrayed all over town27Children play and chant, "One bridge, bridge, red bridge, blue bridge" on the brid28Two fighters take up duelling poses in the mi of a bridge as onlookers place bets.29Wooden carvings of various bridges from aro town.30Fishermen shout excitedly as they haul in ne still-flopping fish from the day's catch.31bridge, asking questions of everyone who wi to cross.32this bridge, though they are never in discord one another.	erted two ge. iddle odel ound ts of the ishes cross
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32 this bridge, though they are never in discord	
	with
33 One man complains to another that he's stu this district because he's afraid of heights.	
A sign boasts of this cafe's famous "Canal 34 which they promise is brewed fresh every with authentic ingredients.	
35 A tiefling wanders past, grumbling to he about "lighting the water on fire."	rself
Polished stones are set in the street to the arrows and names pointing to various brit and districts.	
37 The stone bridge rumbles from time to time no one seems to worry.	, but
A thick fog swamps the town, not le 38 travellers see the other end of any bridge w they start to cross.	vhen
Bridge menders swap stories and jokes as 39 take a break, lounging around a broken por of a bridge.	
Children fish along the edge of a canal, le 40 their feet dangle over the edge as they cha among themselves.	atter
41 A PC overhears a young man tell a wor "Meet me at the Lover's Bridge at midnight."	
The bronze statue of a pig stands before bridge, nose polished by everyone touching they pass for good luck.	it as
A group of acrobats draw applause as 43 perform balancing acts on the bridge's railir troupe member passes a hat around for tips.	
44 An old man whistles to himself as he sw debris off the bridge into the canal below.	eeps
The person the party just passed was clutchi 45 bundle of firewoods in their arms, along w gleeful expression.	
46 A bloody set of footprints smears their toward the nearest canal and across the brid	

47	Birds chirp from their roosts within the nooks and crannies of the bridge's stone arches.
48	A paper flutters past, and a PC sees the words "Bridge Tax" inked on it.
49	In the distance, shrieks rise as a bridge cracks and crashes into the river below.
50	A forlorn man leans against the bridge railing, sighing wistfully as he gazes off into the distance.
51	A ghostly moan wavers out from under the darkness beneath the bridge.
52	Two mobs brandishing swords and torches yell at each other from either side of a bridge.
53	A guard strides past, his booming voice announcing a bridge curfew is about to start.
54	A PC overhears several architects debating the virtues of various bridge-building techniques.
55	A passerby mutters at a PC under his breath, calling them a "no-bridger barbarian."
56	A loud snap sounds in the distance, followed by a multitude of screams.
57	High above the water, a figure perches on the lip of a bridge, as if preparing to jump.
58	The water in the canal is foamy, and the foam itself has an odd greenish tinge to it.
59	A horse's hooves sound oddly hollow as it clops its way across a lengthy span of stone.
60	The canal below moves sluggishly, looking like a thick, muddy churn full of trash and debris.
61	A gondolier rows past, calling out the prices of being ferried to various parts of town.
62	A crowd cheers as several folk hang from a bridge's railing in a test of strength.
63	A sign posted at eye-level reads, "Only people this tall or higher can cross the bridge."
64	The gentle sound of lapping water follows the party everywhere they go in town.
65	The stink of raw sewage fills the air near this plain wooden bridge.
66	This artist's paintings display locations of notable bridges from around town, except the realistic images lack the bridges themselves.
67	You hear grumbles and mutters wherever you go as town citizens complain about "bridge imps."
68	A sign directs half-orcs to take an alternate bridge rather than the main one.
69	People gather to watch a wooden bridge go up in flames. No one seems to be putting out the fire.
70	Whacking noises echo as a couple gondoliers spar with their paddles as they pass each other.
71	Rival gondolier teams mock each other's gaudy outfits and the quality of their competing boats.
72	Frogs chirrup from the abundance of lily pads clogging the canals from end to end.
73	A man screams for justice as he is lashed hand and foot to a bridge, where he'll be left to starve.
	Every bridge in town looks identical, down to the

 75	Fish fling themselves out of the canals by the
 	hundreds to flop about and die on the streets.
76	Graffiti of a generic bridge has been splashed in crimson paint on every door on this street.
 77	Rows of rocking chairs line the span; people sit
 	here to watch the sunrise and sunset every day.
78	The water in the canal has an oily scum to it that
 70	stinks of sulphur and ripples with rainbow hues.
	A troll sits in the open at one end of the bridge,
79	simply holdings its clawed hand out for people to
	drop coins into.
80	A clock tower gongs somewhere in the distance,
 80	and people hurry in all directions.
81	Someone screams before the party hear a loud
 01	splash and cries for help.
82	A bridge sentry is yelling at a half-giant, telling
 82	the brute he's far too heavy to cross the span.
	Two merchants are yelling at each other, their
83	carts having crashed into one another after
	trying to cross the bridge at the same time.
	Two black coaches race directly toward one
84	another from either end of the bridge; neither
	shows signs of slowing.
 05	A folded parchment flutters in the breeze, having
85	been stuck in a gap between two stones.
 	Rows of canal boats line dozens of small wooden
86	piers, bobbing on the current.
 	A person points to the sky and gasps, saying,
87	"Did you see? The heavenly bridge is back!"
 	Every bridge in town has tall statues on either
88	end carved with demonic visages.
	Iridescent beetles cluster by the hundreds on
89	almost every flat surface, making an oddly
	musical humming once the sun sets.
 	A red velvet carpet has been laid along the
90	street, leading all the way to the next bridge.
 	A drunken band of musicians launches into their
91	new song, "100 Reasons We Love Bridges!"
 92	This bridge is glistening wet.
 -	A robed woman stands in the middle of the
93	bridge, her face in shadow beneath the pink,
	frilly umbrella she holds.
 	Several monks shuffle past, their robes stylized
94	with gray arches, ripples and white clouds.
	A stack of planks lies nearby, drying out before
95	being used for bridge repairs.
	A man groans as he tries to roll an enormous
96	block of stone down the street.
	A few canals over, a chorus of worship songs rise
97	over the town.
	A stranger in a blank, black mask silently watches
98	
	the street. He nods at the party.
99	At ship-maker's shop workers carve a tree trunk
	into the crude shape of a canal boat.
	As the party step on a bridge, a kindly voice asks,
100	"Excuse me, but could you get off my back?"

BRIDGE TOWN: BUSINESSES

Use this table to provide the basic details of businesses the PCs come across as they explore the bridge town. Some may be inappropriate based on the locale's set up; ignore such results and simply re-roll.

D%	
01-02	Up'n'Over (Masons) provides a majority of the worked stone the town needs to build and repair its many bridges.
03-04	Deep Grooves (Woodworkers) works with local lumber mills to provide the town with wood that won't warp despite the damp conditions.
05-06	Fleeters (Couriers) is known for getting messages and small packages anywhere in town within the hour, guaranteed.
07-08	Ne'er Lost (Guides) makes a pretty penny guiding visitors through the confusing maze of bridges and canal-bordered districts.
09-10	Scamping's (Rickshaws) is a speedy way to get through town, but be prepared to pay a hefty tip at the end.
11-12	The Float (City Engineer) works around the clock, maintaining existing bridges and ensuring new bridges are built according to code.
13-14	Munchles (Grocer) maintains a ready supply of fresh produce that, for a fee, can be delivered straight to your domicile.
15-16	Dropses (Demolitionist) is unique in their ability to destroy bridges with little to no damage to surrounding structures.
17-18	E'er Watchers (Statuary) creates statues, gargoyles and other decorative fixtures for both houses and bridges.
19-20	Ye Shall Pass (Temple) is the hallowed ground of the so-called Bridge God, though, so far, his followers remain few.
21-22	Scuttles and Scrum (Bridge Cleaners) works tirelessly to sweep and scrub all bridges so they're nice and tidy for foot traffic.
23-24	Tinderlight (Lamplighters) keeps the town's many lamps and lanterns burning bright.
25-26	The Drawlings (Gondoliers) is the primary team of gondoliers providing swift travel about town.
27-28	Slippery Coin (Bank) is all-too-happy to keep any funds safe and sound (for a monthly fee).
29-30	The Masked Pylons (Cult) are a mysterious group who are believed to have some sort of occult connection with bridge-related mysticism.
31-32	None Soggy (Bakery) is known for fresh bread every day, though townsfolk readily admit the crust has a bit of a "canal water" aftertaste.
33-34	Drawstrings (Tax Office) ensures all townsfolk remain paid up on their monthly taxes, which go directly to bridge repair and construction.

35-36	Papers 'Ere (Licensing) oversees any business done in town, whether mercantile goods,
	services or otherwise.
37-38	Canal Cups (Teahouse) claims the canal water is
	the best source of tea brews anywhere in the world. Its health claims are in dispute.
	Low Tide (Embassy) receives dignitaries from
39-40	both land and sea, often travelling to or from
	more important locales.
	Copper n' Gold (Entertainers Guild) tends to
41-42	have troupes block bridges with their shows until
	they're paid enough to clear the way.
	Twinners (Rope Shop) crafts much of the rope
43-44	used in bridge construction and support, as well
	as netting for boaters and fishers.
	The Leaps (Roof-Runners) is a secret network of
45-46	messengers for the town's criminals, skilled at
	using roofs as paths to avoid bridge-ways.
	Quivering Blade (Butcher) most often sells fresh
47-48	fish and seafood, but imports some even rarer
	red meats as well.
	Signed and Sealed (Waxworks) helps protect
49-50	documents and important scrolls from getting
	wet.
	The Currents (Canal Market) is a wandering
51-52	marketplace that can be set up on both bridges
	and the canals below.
	Roundabouts (Mapmaker) provides accurate
53-54	maps of all town bridges and districts, though
	they warn it's not always drawn to scale.
	The Span (Town Hall) is the mayor's office and
55-56	where meetings are held to discuss everything
	from bridge tolls to festival planning.
57-58	The Girders (Guards) patrol the town at all hours,
57-56	defending against everything from would-be saboteurs to cultists to troublemaking visitors.
	Flute Shoot (Bird Hunters) keeps the town's
59-60	pesky avian population under control—especially
55-00	those roosting on bridges.
	One t'Next (Tavern) offers a wide range of
	drinks, including a local brew so strong, even
61-62	lifelong locals get lost trying to find the right
	bridge home after just a few sips.
	Floppits (Fishing Guild) oversees all fishing
63-64	operations in town and keeps an eye out for
	fighting between fishing crews.
	The Ropes (Docks) is where in- and outbound
65-66	ships dock to send in smaller skiffs for trade or to
05 00	drop off passengers.
	No Name (Masks) can make masks out of just
67-68	about anything, to resemble just about anything.
	No questions asked.
	Skiff Cutter (Boat Makers) is a generational
69-70	business of master crafters renowned for their
	boat construction.
-	

71-72	Underbridge (Black Market) deals in all manner of illegal goods, undesirable services and inhuman pleasures, and meets below a different bridge each month.
73-74	Quillian's (Quartermaster) triple-checks all goods brought in and out of town, via land or water, to make sure the local lord gets his fair share.
75-76	Even Keel (Ship Repairs) keeps the town's fleet of gondolas and other watercraft afloat.
77-78	Topper's (Sewage) is in a constant battle to keep the town's filth from overflowing into the main canals and causing all sorts of health problems.
79-80	Muckshin's (Canal Dredges) has a fleet of rickety boats used to drag nets through the canals, searching for salvage (or bodies) they can turn over for coin.
81-82	Ever Higher (Architects) is a trio of brothers-for- hire who design homes from the water up and ensure they'll never fall into a canal.
83-84	The Dangles (Jail) is a set of cages hung over a wide canal, where prisoners are placed until their trial or execution.
85-86	Stumpfire (Troll Hunters) is on constant patrol to drive out or destroy any bridge trolls foolish enough to cause trouble in town

87-88	Drench Not (Water-Proofers) ensures gear such as leather or iron is proofed against the damp environs in order to avoid mould or rust.
89-90	Pass On (Toll Collectors) monitors the main bridges, asking a copper per person who passes over. Coming back over also costs a copper.
91-92	Underbridge Cafe (Cafe) sits beneath the town's biggest bridge and offers a wide variety of fresh drinks and meals for a fair price.
93-94	Stone Known (Engravers) is constantly chiselling names into the stone and metalwork of the town, often to honour important citizens.
95-96	Blessed Brush (Artists) is responsible for painting and decorating many of the bridges around town with colourful murals.
97-98	Span'do (Martial School) specializes in a fighting style that uses narrow ledges, narrow passes and fighting on higher ground.
99-100	The Crossing (Activists) is a group of young idealists who believe bridges are sentient beings deserving equal rights alongside all other races.



Use this table to generate the basic details of bridges the PCs encounter as they explore the bridge town. Use these details as a base from which to portray the bridge.

D%	
	A bridge of solid ice glistens under the sun,
01-02	refusing to melt no matter how warm it gets. Yet
	its surface is quite slick.
	This bridge is formed of floating wooden slats
03-04	that have no obvious support, yet do not bob or
	wobble under any weight.
	This all-wood bridge is rife with notches and
05-06	carvings, mostly crude, of random names and
	phrases, such as "Oggles was here."
	This rope bridge offers a single taut cord to walk
07-08	across, with a rope set higher up on either side
	for handholds.
	This bridge is carved in the shape of a serpent's
09-10	arched back, complete with spines and scales. It
	is noticeably warm underfoot.
	In order to cross this bridge, the PCs must let a
	golem carry them across, one by one. The
11-12	golems become violent against any who try to
	cross without being carried.
	Is there a need for this bridge? It's no more than
13-14	a foot long and spans a drainage ditch alongside
	the main road.
	This has to be the ugliest bridge in the town;
15-16	formed of hardened mud and jutting wooden
	pylons it has no right angles or straight lines.
	The span of this bridge is formed of what looks
17-18	like a single sheet of clear glass. It never cracks,
	and travellers can see the canal waters below.
	Despite being made of solid stone, this bridge
19-20	shifts and sways like a piece of parchment
	caught in a gust of wind.
	The wind cuts through the odd-shaped holes in
21-22	the sides of the bridge, creating a strange,
	unearthly whistling.
	The eyeballs set in this bridge's railing are
23-24	certainly made of carved marble, yet they swivel
	to watch people cross its span.
25-26	The bridge's railing has thousands of padlocks
25-20	cinched to it, apparently it brings good luck.
	The well-known Lover's Bridge is infamous for
27-28	late-night rendezvous and stolen kisses.
27-20	Unfortunately, suspicious spouses are well-
	aware of its existence.
	This is less of a bridge and more of an enormous
29-30	net strung across the gap, forcing folk to either
	walk the ropes or crawl across on all fours.
	Whenever someone steps on this bridge, the
31-32	canal below seems to drop away into a
	bottomless gulf. Only when on the other side do
	normal dimensions restore themselves.

33-34	This bridge is formed of wooden and stone blocks that, by some arcane magic, constantly shift and rearrange themselves. It never looks the same from one day to the next.
35-36	When a PC steps on this bridge, they experience a brief vision of their greatest fear. When they step off, they experience a brief vision of their greatest desire.
37-38	The middle section of this bridge has been damaged, leaving a wide gap between either side. The current runs fast and deep below.
39-40	Rather than arching or going straight, this bridge bows downward, almost touching the canal before swooping back up to the other side.
41-42	Dozens of homeless people and creatures are camped out on this bridge, gathered around small fires cooking pigeons and getting into short territorial spats.
43-44	When someone crosses this bridge, they see an image of themselves passing by the other way.
45-46	The entirety of this bridge is carved with stylized flowers and plants, with intense detail given to the thorns and petals
47-48	This wooden bridge is so newly built, the oils used to christen it in honour of the Bridge God continue to glisten on the wide slats.
49-50	A PC hears dark whispers when you start walking over this bridge. The longer they remain on it, the louder the whispers get until they become deafening screams.
51-52	No matter how fast the PCs travel or how short it looks, it always takes a full day to cross this otherwise ordinary-looking bridge.
53-54	This pure white bridge is made of an unknown stone that refuses to scuff or get sullied in any way. Even blood soaks in immediately and leaves it spotless.
55-56	Somehow, this bridge has been crafted from a single gigantic metal ingot. It looks like it should collapse under its own weight.
57-58	Not a single bridge, this is an arrangement of countless planks set in place to facilitate the town couriers racing to and from deliveries and pickups.
59-60	A plain and simple wooden drawbridge lets outside merchants into town, and can be drawn up at night to keep the town safe from land- based threats.
61-62	This bridge has hollows in the side where people—monks mostly—can climb down and sit within to meditate without being disturbed.
63-64	Built from a strange crystal, this bridge sends out pulses of vibrant colour in all directions whenever anyone takes steps on it or touches it in any way.

65-66	A hastily erected bridge of tattered rope and splintered boards crosses the gap across one of the town's wider canals.
67-68	This has to be the narrowest stone bridge the PCs have ever seen, with each block just large enough to accommodate travellers. There are no railings.
69-70	This bridge floats above the canal thanks to hundreds of wings attached to either side, which tirelessly flutter to keep it aloft.
71-72	No matter what the time of day, the underside of this bridge remains cloaked in impenetrable darkness.
73-74	This rusting bridge looks ready to collapse the first time someone so much as tip-toes across, but locals cross without hesitation.
75-76	A barrier of fog sits over the middle of this bridge day and night, no matter how sunny and bright the weather.
77-78	This huge metal bridge is made of old helmets, shields, swords and other pieces of armour all welded together into a massive span.
79-80	Gargoyles sit perched along every inch of this bridge's railings. A PC happens to notice this is one of the few bridges in town devoid of any bird droppings whatsoever.
81-82	This is a covered bridge, with the opening on each end shaped to look like a demon's gaping mouth, waiting to swallow travellers whole.
83-84	This bridge has a gong set at the centre of it, and any who crosses it is required to strike it or else risk the bridge's curse.

85-86	The sign says "Invisible Bridge." No one seems to
	be using the bridge making it hard to locate.
87-88	Comprised of white, semi-sticky strands, this
	bridges looks to have been created by a giant
	spider of some sort.
89-90	Shrines to many gods have been constructed
	along the length of this bridge, and the PCs are
	keenly watched by the shrines' clergy to see at
	which they worship.
91-92	Censers have been strung across the girders of
	this bridge, so travellers have to inhale incense
	the whole passage. The incense is highly pungent
	and a thin haze of the stuff hangs over the
	bridge.
	Bronze-cast faces have been placed in this
	bridge's span so travellers tread on a variety of
93-94	visages ranging across all species, genders and
	expressions.
	This is an ordinary stone bridge. There is nothing
95-96	strange about it whatsoever. Absolutely nothing,
	rest assured. Move along.
	5
	A gnome is offering passers-by the chance to try
07.00	his "bridgeless bridge" which appears to be an
97-98	oversized catapult of sorts designed to hurl
	travellers across the river. Strangely, few people
	seem keen to take the gnome up on his offer.
99-100	This bridge appears to be constructed of a giant
	humanoid skeleton, with its bony feet planted on
	one end and an enormous skull on the other.



Although the PCs may simply want to visit the bridge town, sometimes fate intervenes. Use this table, to determine what opportunities or complications the PCs encounter.

D20

1	Every bridge in town has a troll under it, each demanding a unique manner of toll from travellers.
2	The PCs are invited to participate in the Bridge Run annual event, an obstacle course race where the winners receive an enormous prize of gold coins.
	The PCs come across a bridge that isn't listed on
3	any official map, and no matter who they point it
	out to, none of the townsfolk seem aware of its
	existence.
4	A band of sharpshooting archers are keeping
	anyone from leaving a bridge-bound district until
	their exorbitant payoff demands are met.
5	An entire bridge has been stolen in the middle of
	the night and the mayor is offering a reward for
	anyone who aids in its return.
	A graven face in the side of the bridge suddenly
	animates, looks at the PCs and asks, "Could you do me a favour?"
7	A local priest has declared all town bridges as
	sacred ground and is threatening to burn alive any
	"heretic" who attempts to cross them without his
	god's permission (which is obtainable—naturally—
	with a small tithe).
8	An architect asks for the party for help in gaining an
	audience with the mayor. Seems he's designed a
	new-fangled "drawbridge" that could allow larger
	ships and greater trade into town, but he keeps
	being laughed out of town meetings.
9	A merchant slyly asks the PCs to sabotage the main
	bridge into town so a competitor's caravan won't
	make it in until after the next big market gathering.

10	Several bloated corpses have bobbed to the surface of the canals recently and guards are asking for balains in dradsing up other passible victims
·	helping in dredging up other possible victims.
11	The PCs hear word of a criminal committing daring
	robberies and escaping with the help of a wand that
	makes bridges appear and disappear on command.
12	The party start to cross a bridge but are stopped by
	guards who claim they've used up their daily "bridge
	crossing allotment." Luckily, this can be replenished
	with a hefty fee.
13	A woman who says her son crossed a cursed bridge
	on a foggy night and has never come back approaches
	the party. She begs them to find and return him.
	A group of robed and masked figures draw the PCs
14	aside and ask if they would be interested in joining
	the Secret Society of Bridges.
	A bridge-builder asks for the PCs' help in uncovering
15	evidence that a competitive construction company
15	has been sabotaging his projects.
	The mayor would like to hire the party to round up a
	bunch of homeless people who've turned a bridge
16	into their personal tent city and run them out of
	town.
17 18	A young child runs up and tugs on one PC's arm,
	saying the bridges have a message for them, and they
	must come with her to find out what it is.
	No matter what bridge the party start out crossing,
	they keep winding up getting off the end of another
	bridge altogether.
19	A vigilante who calls himself "Bridge Man" has been
	causing havoc in town, randomly assaulting people
	and reprimanding them for their supposed crimes
	against bridges.
20	Whenever the PCs ask anyone about all the bridges in
	town, they look at them blankly and say, "Bridges?
	What bridges? There's only one bridge."



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