



## *#106 The Three Muskrats Trilogy*



### *The Three Muskrats I*



*Long, long ago, before anyone wrote words, there were three muskrats. They played all day, every day. They were great friends. They lived in a cave next to a wide river below a ring of trees that lay below a cliff. The citadel you see in the illustration was not built yet. It is in the next story, “The Three Muskrats II”. Their favorite game was listening to stories that gnomes would tell them. Gnomes are the spiritual elemental beings that live in the rocks. All three muskrats could see and hear the gnomes.*

*One day, one of the three muskrats started to write symbols on the wall of the cave. He said he was writing the story of the three muskrats. The other two muskrats did not read the symbols, just the one muskrat. All of a sudden, a gnome came to tell a story. The muskrat who wrote symbols could no longer see the gnome.*

*The gnome started the story, but only the other two muskrats could hear him. The one who learned to write, lost the ability to see and hear the gnome.*

*As the years went by, the two friends kept telling the third muskrat that the gnome was visiting. They told him the stories, too, but the third muskrat started to have trouble believing them, for he could no longer see or hear spiritual beings.*

*IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE WHAT YOU CANNOT SEE*

## *The Three Muskrats II*



*As thousands of years passed by, a citadel was built on the cliffs above the ring of trees above the river. Three new muskrats were born in a cave. They became very great friends, as did their ancestors. Also, like the one ancestor who lost the ability to see and hear the gnomes, all three of these muskrats had no idea that the gnomes were in the rocks of the cave. The gnomes wanted to tell them stories, but the muskrats could not see nor hear them.*

*One day, one of the three muskrats started to become aware of a story. He did not hear words in his ears, he imagined the story in*

*his mind. As he told the other two muskrats the story, he began to see the gnome who was telling the story. He got very excited and told the other two muskrats all about the gnome, so that they might see him, too. But, try as he might, the other two muskrats could not see or hear the gnome.*

*As the years went by, the two friends kept telling the third muskrat that they were not aware of any gnome. They told him that they had trouble believing that he could see or hear spiritual beings.*

*SOMETIMES THE MAJORITY RULES OUT POSSIBILITIES*

### *The Three Muskrats III*



*A short time passed. Even though the one muskrat kept saying that he could see the gnome and the other two had trouble believing him, the three muskrats remained very great friends.*

*One day, the one muskrat said that the gnome had come to tell a story. The gnome said that the story was for all three friends. It was a most beautiful and exciting story. So, all three sat, while the one who could see and hear the gnome related the story. It was a tale of how the muskrats' ancestors used to be able to genuinely see and hear the gnomes. It explained that the gnomes wanted to tell the muskrats all of the secrets of nature, but to hear the stories, the muskrats would have to want to see and hear them. So, being very great friends, all three muskrats acted as if*

*they were one, and made a wish. They closed their eyes and wished with all their hearts that they could believe in and learn from the gnomes. And lo and behold, all three opened their eyes and there in the cave was a gnome sitting right in front of them. The gnome was so happy to be seen, that he called elemental beings of the water and plants and air and fire to come to celebrate. In addition to the gladness of being seen, the elementals brought very great and valuable gifts to the three muskrats. The gifts were secret tricks of how to gather food and swim in the water and fly in the air and play with fire. Never again did the three muskrats doubt each other.*

*ONE FOR ALL AND ALL FOR ONE*