

The *TRUE* Story of St. George and the Dragon

By Natalie Rohne

You know how the dragon in all those legends is the “bad guy”? Well, this legend has a different dragon. That dragon is me. I was known to be the bad guy in this story, but it’s not true. Let me tell you the real story.

It all started when my mother was making her favorite meal, rotten fish stew. Of course, as all mothers do, my mother stuffed this glop down my throat. But, on accident, she poured some *on* me! Phew! I stunk! Then Mother threw up her wings and said, “If you won’t eat this, then *you* go find us dinner!”

So, as most dragon children do, I obeyed and that night I set out to find food. Well, apparently 7 miles away an armed man was taking a stroll near a big fence. As I came near to see if there was any food beyond that fence, the guy passed out and died! It must have been my stink!

The next day, I went to that same place thinking I might find something during the day. Again, as I drew near, another armed man saw me. He ran off to a big building. There was another person there in a big high chair. I had seen him last night, and he didn’t acknowledge my presence. Well, he saw me now. I was currently scanning the area for the same reason as the previous night when I saw something! A huge flock of sheep!!! The guard noticed I was staring at them, and I licked my lips with hunger. Immediately, he threw two sheep out to me. I ate one and took the other one home to the marsh. Instead of rotten fish stew, we had fresh sheep stew that night.

From then on they gave me two sheep. Until one day a guard screamed at me saying they had only a few sheep left. At that moment, a small child ran out of a house and began running around in the dirt. I watched in wonder as the scrawny thing scurried around. Again, the guard saw me looking at the child. That day I went home without food. We had rotten fish stew that night, but I figured I was in for a surprise the next day.

As I suspected, a surprise *was* waiting for me at the gates. This time a child was crying at the gate! When I came over to ask what was wrong, the child gasped and fell over! It must have been my stink . . . again! Now, I’m a smart dragon and I know it’s a waste to just leave a good source of food to go bad. So, I ate the child. After all, my mother always says, “Never waste your food.”

The same thing happened every day! Sometimes, I brought the “dead” child home or ate it. Until one day, as I was walking across the marsh, I saw another girl. As I got close enough for her to see me, she didn’t fall over! Instead, she looked off to the other direction. A man on a cute little horse and wearing shiny silver things rode up! He asked her what was wrong, but I didn’t hear her answer. She pointed to me and the man jumped down from the horse. Then she climbed on and backed the horse up. The girl was about to fall off, so I ran to catch her. When I reached the shiny man’s horse, I started a conversation about pretty ladies. When . . . ow! Hey! I turned my head to see what had just poked me on my tail. The shiny guy had a big, long, silver stick and he was swiping it across my tail.

I got annoyed, and when I get annoyed, I go nuts! I shook my tail away from him and then he looked like he wanted to play tag. I don’t like being “it”, so I raced off and then . . . Oh no! He caught me! I was about to get up when he surprised me by jumping

on me! I assumed he wanted to play leap frog, so I let him scramble over me, but he wouldn't get off! So, I gently put him I front of me, and I jumped on him. Then, we played tag some more and when he caught me again, he threw this leather thing around my neck and led me through the city gate. Lots of people were cheering as I entered their city. The shiny man pulled out his sharp, shiny stick and then . . .

The End