

The Egg

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George knew something wasn't right, when he found more than he had bargained for under his mother's favourite chicken.

He moved the egg to the warmth of his bedroom. For three days and three nights he read the egg stories.

On the third night, the egg started to rumble. Something was hatching, and it definitely wasn't a chicken...

When the dragon saw George, it gave a chirrup of delight. George didn't speak Dragon, but he knew exactly what the dragon had said...

"Mummy."

George had never been a mother before, but he knew that it was his motherly duty to teach the dragon dragony ways.

The first lesson he taught was *The Fine Art of Flying*.

The second lesson was *Fire and How to Breathe It*.

The third lesson was *How to Distress a Damsel*.

And the final lesson was *How to Duff a Knight*.

Every evening, as all good mothers should, George read the dragon a bedtime story.

One night, as he read from a book of dragon tales, the dragon looked longingly at the pictures. A sizzling tear rolled down his scaly cheek.

The dragon was lonely. He was missing his own kind.

The next morning, the dragon had gone. George was very sad. He thought he would never see his dragon again.

But seven nights later, he was woken by the beating of wings. Excitedly, he pulled back the curtains. There, perched in the tree, was the dragon. George opened the window and clambered onto his back.

They soared into the night, chasing the moon around the world, over oceans and mountains and cities.

Faster and faster they went, until they came to a place that was neither North nor South, East nor West.

They swooped down through the clouds, into a cave that gaped like a dragon's jaws. This was the place where dragons lived.

The dragon gave a roar of delight. He was home at last.

Finally, it was time for George to leave.

Up, up they flew, chasing sleep through the night, until they could see his home below.

George hugged his dragon tight, and the dragon gave a roar. George didn't speak Dragon, but he knew exactly what the dragon had said...

"Thank you."