

Jake and the diamond dragon

Chapter 1:

Once upon a time there was a boy called Jake. His family was very poor. He lived with his mother, father, his eight brothers and a little sister. He was the youngest of the boys. Their house was old and almost falling apart, but the mother and father did everything they could to feed the children and make them happy.

The whole family worked in a diamond-mine owned by a cruel dragon called Sneaky. The dragon never slept, it could hear the wool growing on the sheep, it could catch a scent better than any other animal, but its eyes were week, and therefore the dragon forced the family to go digging for diamonds in the mine every single day. There was no possibility for the family to escape the cruel dragon.

Every night when the parents and the little sister went to bed after an exhausting day in the diamond mine, the nine brothers stayed awake trying to come up with a plan to kill the dragon or to escape from its cruelty. They have tried to make a weapon sharp enough to break the dragon's skin, but nothing could cut through his diamond armoured skin. The eight oldest brothers had tried to get near to Sneaky to spot if it had a weak point in its skin, but every time their smell and sounds gave them away, and the dragon had scared them off with his burning breath and a roar that shook the mountain.

Jake knew that they had to try something new, and they had to do it fast, because every day, it became more and more difficult to find diamonds in the mine and the family had to go deeper and deeper into the mine, trying to avoid the dragons rage when they didn't deliver enough diamonds.

One day when the family went deep, deep down into the mountain searching for diamonds, Jake suddenly saw something that lit up the rough rock wall. Something shinning in red and yellow like fire. It was ...

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Chapter two

What could it be? Could it be a large shining diamond or a chunk of gold that would help them escape and buy a new house? Could it be a fire ball or a shiny magic sword that would help them become free?

They slowly approached and saw a yellow-red magic hood! Suddenly they all remembered that they had an ancestor who buried the magic hood there before he died. He had shared this secret with his children and they in turn shared it with their own.

This hood was magic because when you wore it you became invisible! The family took the hood home with them. They were contemplating how this magic hood could save them from the dragon.



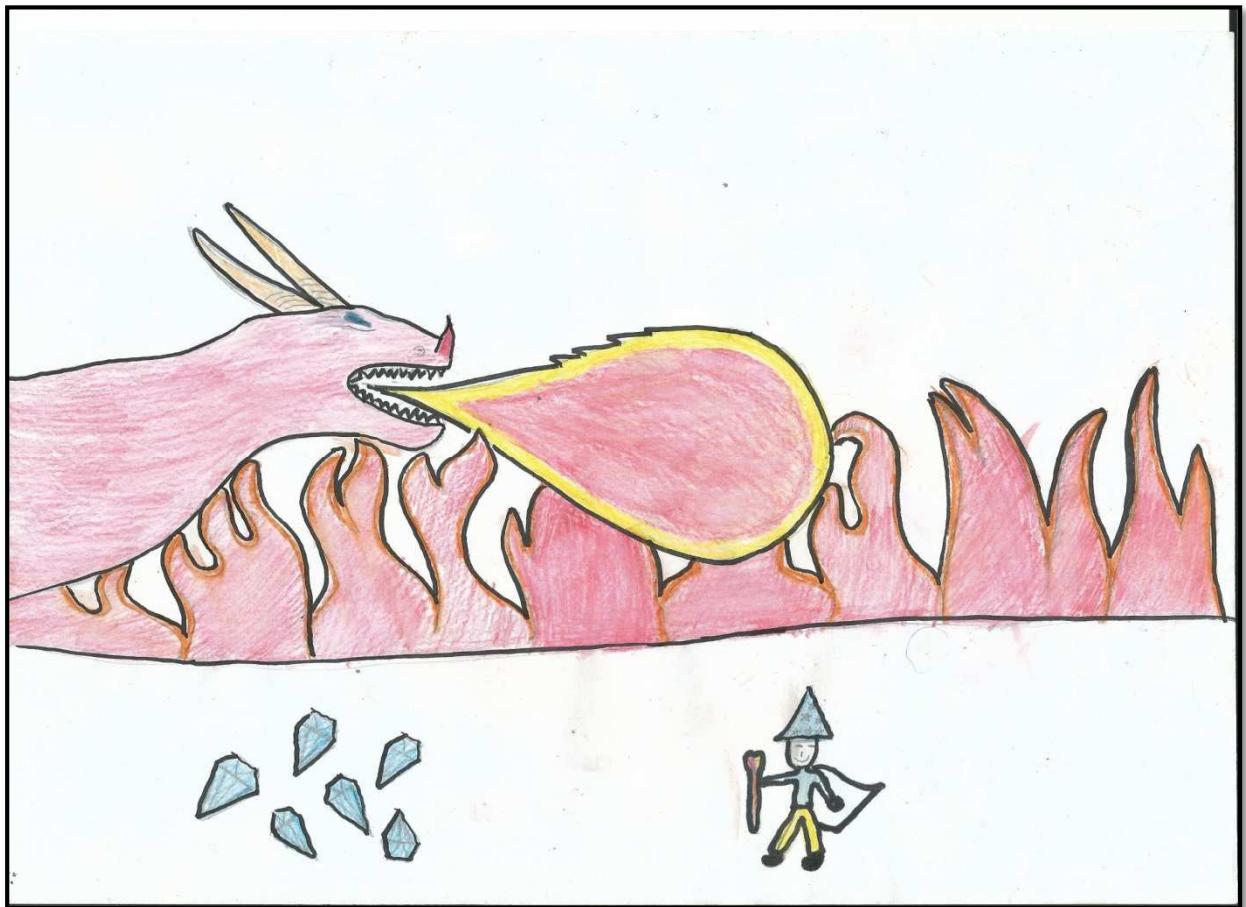
Early next morning, they set off for the mine and they took the hood with them. Jake decided to wear the hood and follow the dragon to his castle when the work day was over. He was going to take his father's sword with him.

As soon as they finished their work, they all returned home. Jake wore his magic hood and took the opposite direction towards the dragon's castle. He entered and approached the dragon who was reading a strange note at that moment! The dragon couldn't see or hear Jake but he could smell him. He blew fire from his mouth and Jake ran fearfully to escape. Invisible as he was, he snatched the note from the dragon's hands and ran home.



He entered the house and called his brothers and sister to help him study the note. It was a magic map! It was a map of the mine and Jake's house. You could see the dragon and the family in the map. It was a love map that showed all of the family's moves but also the dragon's moves!

They had to come up with a plan to escape. The magic hood and the magic map would help them. They thought long and hard and finally their little sister had a great idea. She thought...



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Jake and the diamond dragon

Chapter three

Hey, now I know! The dragon can't see or even hear us now when we have the hood. We are able to see all the dragon's movements so we could easily find out its weakest spot and do it in with our father's sword. One of us will distract the dragon while another of us does it in.

They took the sword, the map and the hood and headed for the mine. Jake was chosen to kill the dragon but he felt sorry for the beast. When the time came Jake only wounded the dragon's chest with the sword. The dragon fell and Jake escaped from the cave. After that the dragon magically disappeared-



Jake spoke to his family and said: "Now we own the mine and can look for treasures for ourselves!" Everyone agreed that now they could buy a new house if they just found something valuable in the mines. And then they all headed for the mine.

After several hours the end result was that they had found five pieces of gold and four diamonds. Then they heard a distant sound...

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Chapter four

They tried to find out where the sound was coming from. Jake's little sister was very scared and she started crying.

'It must be the dragon – she said.

The whole family was shocked when they saw the dragon flying towards them. They were running in utter confusion. But the dragon grabbed Jake with its claws and took him into the castle.



Jake was closed into the prison for long days. He was desperate and didn't know how to escape from the prison.

One day the door of his prison cell opened and Jake could see a beautiful princess who helped him to get out of his cell. The princess had long fair hair, gorgeous blue eyes, a snub nose and a friendly smile.

'Are you kept in prison by the dragon, too?' asked Jake.

'Certainly not' answered the princess.

'Why do you live in the dragon's castle then?' Jake badgered the beauty with his questions.

'The dragon, Sneaky, is my father. A witch has cursed him and he has been living as a dragon since then. Only a brave man can break this curse if he can stand the trial.' said the princess.



Jake was surprised but he promised her to help. The princess took him to her father. Jake shook with fear when the dragon turned towards him. Finally he dared to ask the dragon.

'Why did you want us to work in your mine so hard?' asked Jake.

'Because at the bottom of the mine there is something that I need to break the curse with.' answered the dragon.

'What is it?'

'It's a magic sword which can be touched by only a pure-hearted man.' confessed the dragon.

'What do you need the sword for?' asked Jake.

The dragon did not reply at once.....

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Chapter five

Finally the dragon told that Jake has to chop with his sword in a big rock to abolish the curse. The rock lays on the bottom of the fast flowing river. To get to the river you have to go through the magic forest, full of danger. Beware of the carnivorous plants! Besides carnivorous plants, there are also hidden holes where you can fall in. These holes are covered with twigs and sand. So you can't see them.

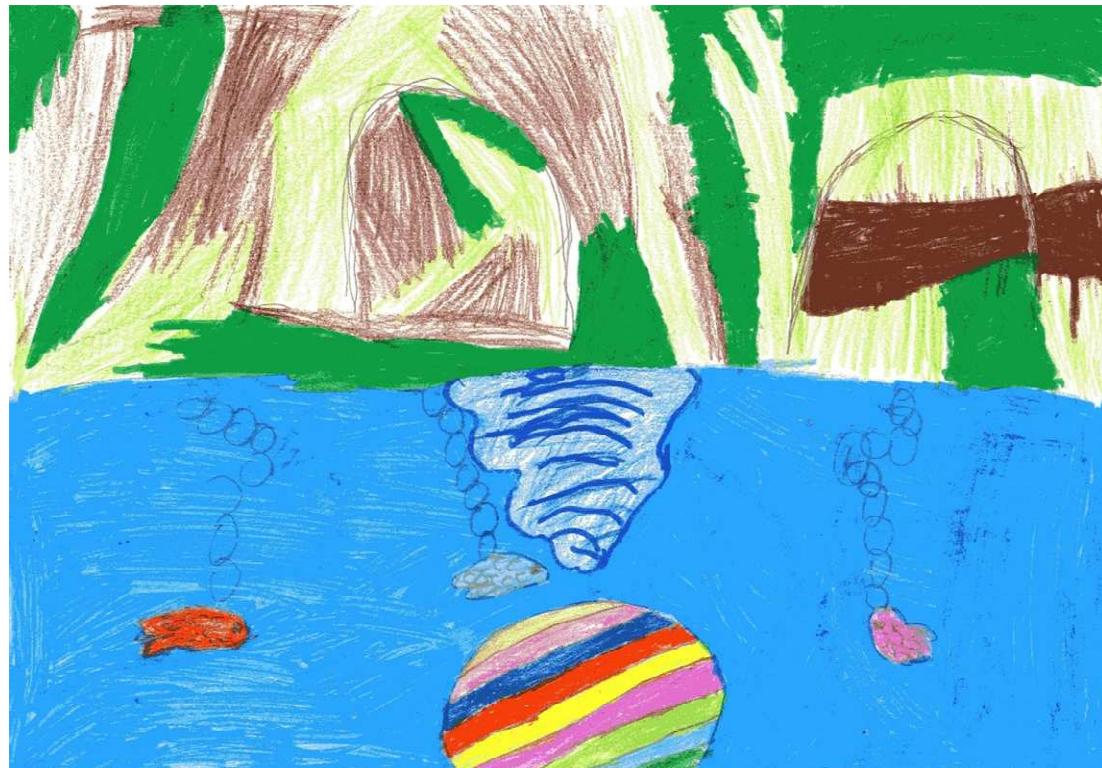
Then the princess said: 'I will come with you. I think you can use some help'.

'That's way too dangerous', said Jake.

'I still want to help you', was the answer of the princess.

Jake thought this was a dangerous adventure. So many things could happen on his way. Fortunately he would have some help from the princess.

The dragon continued his story: 'The big rock on the bottom of the river has a lot of colours. The colours of the rainbow. But be careful in the river! It's very dangerous because of the whirlpools. When you are going to swim, these whirlpools will drag you into the depth. You won't survive!'



When you have finally found the big rock, you have to chop the rock in ten pieces. For each child of your family one piece.

Your family has to complete the big rock again with all those ten pieces together. Be securely, because all the colours have to be in the right place. If you have completed the puzzle, there will be a beautiful rainbow.

If you can do this all: The curse will be abolished and I will be a man again. Good luck!'

A little worried went Jake and the princess to the river. It was a risky journey through the forest. Luckily the carnivorous plants were asleep and they didn't fall into the hidden holes.

They were relieved when they came to the river.

'Where would the big rock be?' Jake asked. The princess answered: 'There! I think next to the whirlpool.'

They dived into the water, searching for the big rock. About five metres underwater they saw the big rock, with the beautiful colours of the rainbow.



Jake took his sword and chopped the rock in ten pieces.

'Now we have to bring all the pieces to the waterfront.' Jake said. And so they did.

When they were finished, they hurried to get home. Home to all Jake's brothers and sisters. Because they all had to come with them, to solve the puzzle of the big rock.

However..... They were so excited and they didn't watch out, so they fell in one of the hidden holes the dragon had warn them of.

'Ouch!' they yelled at the same time.

This is how they ended up in the deep hole. The only thing they could do, was to wait for help to come. So they yelled and shouted as loud as they could.

After two hours of yelling they saw a shadow among the trees. The shadow looked like some kind of witch on a broomstick.



Why was she here.....?

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CHAPTER 6

As soon as the princess, called Helen, saw her, she screamed: "It's her, the wick witch who cursed my father!" Then, she told the whole family the story.

The witch was who cursed the dragon. Before the curse, the dragon was a powerful and kind prince of the diamond mines; the witch was in love with him but he didn't love her. His father, the king, wanted him to marry her but he was secretly in love with a beautiful princess. The wedding day he didn't appear, he ran away with her to the mines. They were living in the mines for a few years and they had a beautiful baby, princess Helen. Their life was almost perfect until one day the witch found them. She took the princess to a high tower in the Dark Forest, far away from the Diamond-mine Kingdom. She also cursed the prince to live as a dragon with her daughter. The dragon went back to the castle and found that the king turned into a troll. The dragon tried to talk to the troll but he couldn't control his burning breath and burnt the troll. Soon after, he realised that the troll he had killed was his father. From that day on he became evil and made people work hard to find the way to break the curse.

The witch was about to lock them up in the hole forever, when suddenly the Diamond Dragon appeared.



"Release them!"-shouted the dragon. But the witch refused to do it-"I won't never release them unless you give me all your wealth". The dragon finally agreed and helped them to get out, riding on him.

"Let's go to the Dark Forest!;there we will put all the pieces together." Jake said.



In the middle of the forest they found a tower and someone asking for help. They got closer and realized that she was the dragon's wife . They rescued her. Princess Helen ran towards her mother and they hugged each other.

Once the family was together again, the dragon with his breath burnt the Dark Forest to start a new beautiful kingdom to live. After that, they began to put the pieces of the rock together. When the puzzle was done, a very big rainbow appeared. The dragon went under the rainbow and he turned into a man again.

Jake, after his adventure, fell in love with princess Helen. They got married and they had two sons. They lived all together happily ever after in a castle they built in the new forest .

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THE END