

The Princess, The Dragon, and The Prince

An Unconventional Fairytale by

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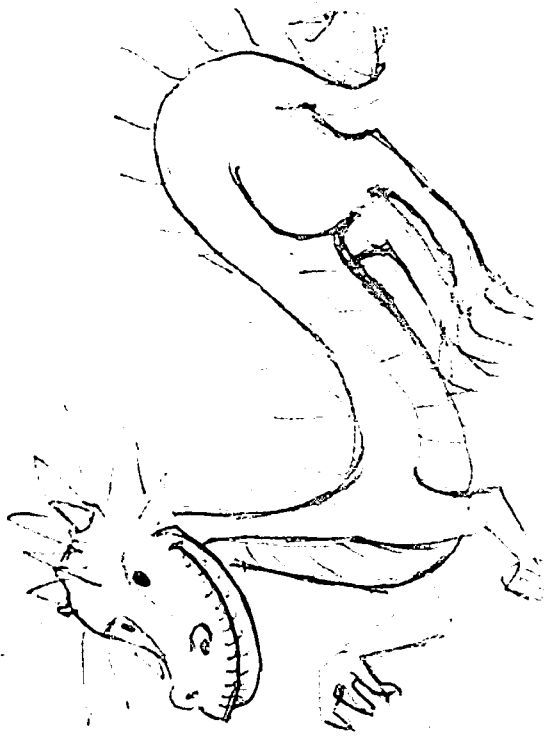


The beautiful baby was officially given the name, Princess Jane-Elizabeth-Sarah-Sophie-Ivy-Catherine-Ann and this lucky baby grew up to become a very beautiful young and well-mannered Princess. She was also prophesized by the Court's Fairy to live a very normal Princess life, where one day a dragon will come to steal her away and a Prince will save her.

Now, Princess Jane-Elizabeth-Sarah-Sophie-Ivy-Catherine-Ann was always made fun of because of her abnormally long name. People never knew what exactly to call her as they hardly ever remembered all seven names. So Princess Jane-Elizabeth-Sarah-Sophie-Ivy-Catherine-Ann learned to respond to the calls of Princess Jane, Princess Elizabeth, Princess Sarah, Princess Sophie, Princess Ivy, Princess Catherine, and Princess Ann. Despite the teasing she received from others, the King and Queen always told her she must be proud, for she wore the name of not only one princess,

but of seven princesses. She grew up to become a traditional princess, with skills of etiquette and prose; however, she was never able to attract many suitors, for their mothers were also very traditional Queens and were afraid of having an embarrassing title for a daughter-in-law. The mothers of all the Princes in the surrounding kingdoms all told their sons to stay away, despite the individual capabilities and beauty of Princess Jane-Elizabeth-Sarah-Sophie-Ivy-Catherine.

And indeed one day a young dragon flew down from his cave from a land far off in search of a princess. It was only natural for a dragon of a certain age to venture out from home to search for a princess to snatch away and have her do its cooking, cleaning, and housekeeping until some meddlesome Prince Charming came and saved the day. So the dragon landed on the kingdom where the Princess of seven names lived, huffing and puffing fire and smoke from his mouth and



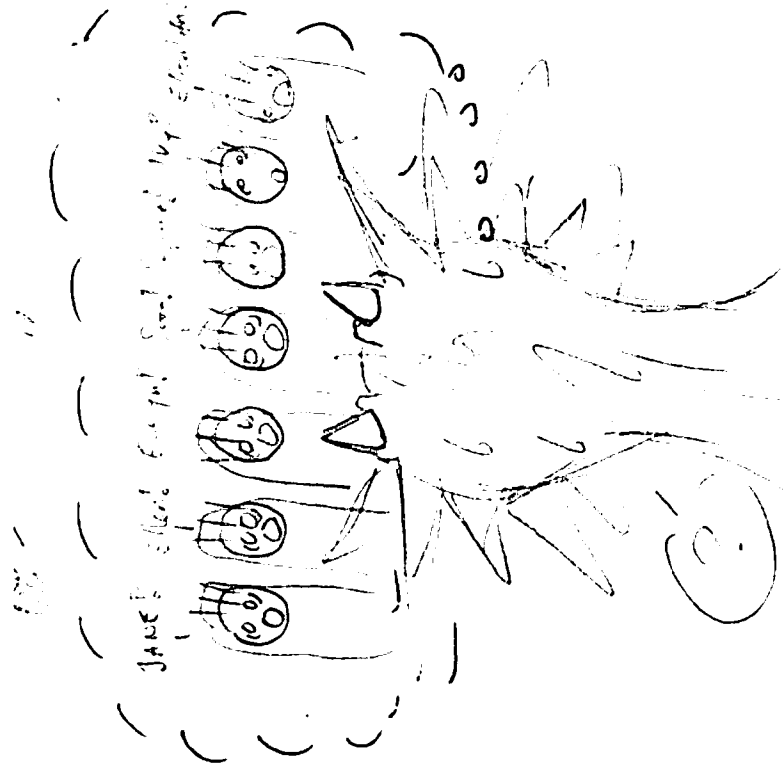
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nose, just as his mom and dad had taught him, as a way of greeting the humans. He smiled to think how proud they would be right now if they could see him. He turned to the people of the kingdom.

“Good evening, good sirs and ladies, do you know where I may find myself a princess,” was what he asked peacefully, however the smoke and flames spewing out of his mouth made it seem as if he was fiercely growling and snarling. People screamed and ran around, looking for a place to hide from the large monster. Soon the whole place emptied out in less than a minute. The dragon looked slowly around at the empty space around him and began to walk towards the castle, a bit disappointed. At the gate the dragon saw seven guards.

“Who is the princess who lives here?” the dragon asked.

“Princess J-J-Jane” stuttered one guard.



“Princess Elizabeth,” whispered another guard.

“Princess S-Sarah,” stammered the third guard.

“Princess Sophie,” said the fourth guard, hesitantly.

“Princess Ivy,” said the fifth guard shakily.

“Princess Catherine,” gulped the sixth guard.

“Princess Ann,” said the last guard, wiping off a forehead of sweat from the heat of the dragon’s nostrils.

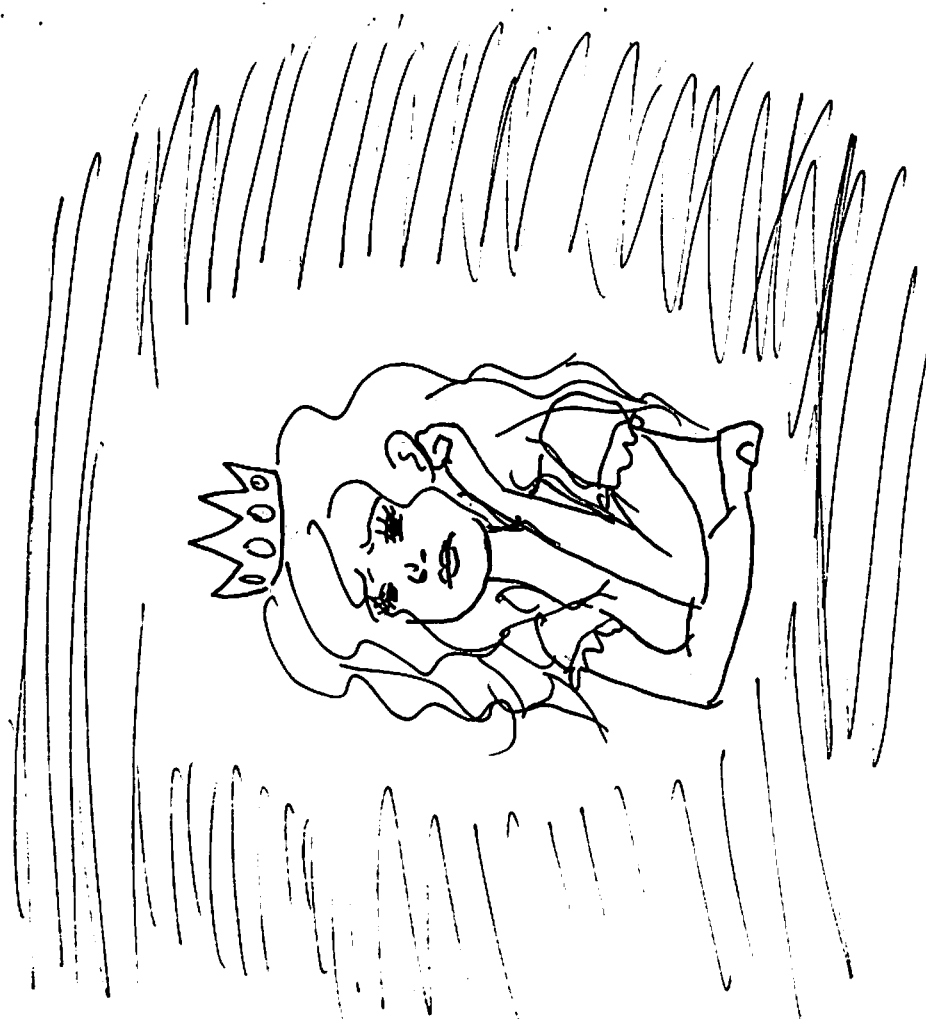
“Well, my, my, my,” said the dragon cheerfully. “I found the perfect kingdom! This land has seven princesses! How lucky I am.”

So the humongous dragon entered the castle, for the guards were too afraid to even move a breath. They had never seen such a large dragon in their entire career as guardsmen of the kingdom. The dragon would have liked nothing better than to get this princess ordeal over with so he can return to his cave, away from blindingly bright sunlight, screaming little

people, and stuttering guards whose legs shook like rattles when he looked at them.

News naturally spread quickly to the surrounding lands and kingdoms that a dragon planning to kidnap the Princess of seven names and destroying the Castle single-handedly.

Meanwhile, the dragon was trying his best not to break off the roofs with the glinting emerald scales on his back, but he was having an awfully hard time managing that. Perhaps it was the danger of confronting one of the largest dragons ever seen, or perhaps it was because there were no Prince Charming in the surrounding area who heard the news, or perhaps it was because busybody mothers of Princes who didn't want their son to marry Princess Jane-Elizabeth-Sarah-Sophie-Ivy-Catherine-Ann due to her extremely long name, but sadly, no Prince came to the rescue.



By this time the dragon had already searched through most of the large castle, and still hadn't seen a single princess in sight. He did, however, find a small boy in one of the rooms. The boy was young, barely six years of age, and was not afraid of the dragon because he had never met nor heard of one before. The boy was also very curious and constantly questioned the dragon.

"What are you doing here?" asked the boy.

"I am searching for one of the seven princess who live here," replied the dragon.

"Why?" asked the boy.

"Because that's what dragons do, when they reach a certain age," said the dragon.

"But why?" asked the boy.

"Well, b-b-because," stuttered the dragon, "because that's what my parents taught me to do."

“But what will you do with the princess?” asked the boy.

“She will do my cooking and cleaning,” said the dragon.

“My mother says that is something *everybody* should be able to do, even men who go out hunting. Can you not cook or clean?” asked the boy.

“Of course I can clean, and I am the best cook in my family,” replied the dragon confidently.

“Then why do you want a princess? They can neither clean nor cook. She only knows how to walk and sit prettily without ruining her dress,” said the boy.

The dragon looked at the boy thoughtfully.

“Then I’m not quite sure of why I do want a princess,” said the dragon. The more the dragon thought about it, the more he realized he really didn’t *need* anybody to cook or

clean for him, especially a person who didn't know the way he liked his room or even the type of food he eats. "Why, thank you little boy. I guess there is really is no use getting something I don't need, now is there?"

With that said, the dragon broke an opening through the roof of the castle and flew back to his cave. Nobody in the kingdom really knew why the dragon miraculously flew away, but they were all grateful for it. The young hero turned out to be the younger brother of Princess Jane-Elizabeth-Sarah-Sophie-Ivy-Catherine-Ann, and so it turned out that a prince indeed came to save the day. The little prince also presented his sister a new nickname, one that everybody agreed with. He compiled the first letter of all her names and soon Princess Jane-Elizabeth-Sarah-Sophie-Ivy-Catherine-Ann became Princess Jessica.

The End