

The Slaying of the Dragon of Gogen Heights
by
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Once upon a time, there was a dragon. He wasn't a very bright dragon; in fact, he didn't have a lick of intelligence in his entire body. The result of course was that he was very grumpy, and would kill anything that happened by. He lived on a cave not far from the main road from Gogen Heights to Sussex. He was a terrible nuisance, and would attack mercilessly anyone who dared to pass by.

But this story is hardly about him at all. This is a story about Sir Gregory, the knight of Gogen Heights. He was a wise, cunning, courageous knight, and a kind, compassionate ruler. All the people of Gogen Heights loved him. He had no sooner heard of the dragon than he prepared his men to go and slay the beast.

The morning came when he was prepared to march and destroy the menace. He himself would lead the charge against the vicious beast. He got on to his finest war-horse; he wore his best armor. The men with him were strong and courageous, each with weapons ready. They set out to find the monster. All the ladies of the city came out and cheered as the men made their way out of the gates of the town.

All along the narrow road the men marched; eyes searched every speck of undergrowth to see if there were any signs of the dragon. They weren't too concerned though; the dragon was more stupid than he was vicious so it never attacked anyone until they passed the old dead oak tree just before Lizard Hill.

As the men approached Lizard Hill, they saw a most peculiar sight. There, lining the road, was a huge mob of people. Huge banners waved across the road. "Save the Dragon" and

“Down with cruel knights!” the signs read. Just as Sir Gregory got near the whole mob started yelling, “Down with Sir Gregory! BOO! Shame on you! Dragons are people too!”

“What is the meaning of this!” Sir Gregory yelled.

A rather seedy fellow stepped out of the mob, his name was Cloves, and shouted at Sir Gregory, (even though he didn’t need to; everyone was always silent when he talked.) “We are P.E.T.E.D. People for the Ethical Treatment of Evil Dragons! By order of the King we can protest the killing of any dragon. We love dragons. DRAGONS ARE PEOPLE, TOO!” At this last statement, the man burst into tears and the whole crowd started singing “Dragons are people, too!” over and over again.

“Look, here miscreants!” Sir Gregory yelled. “This beast has killed men from my city; I will see their blood avenged. This dragon has killed and by law should be killed. Out of the way!”

But the people of P.E.T.E.D. just ran into the road, and started booing and hissing and calling all of Gregory’s men all sorts of nasty names. Then Cloves stepped in front again, he screamed, “Dragons are people, too!” and he threw a rock at Sir Gregory. The rock clanged uselessly off of Gregory’s shield.

“You mangy cur!” yelled Captain Matthews. He was Gregory’s bodyguard and wouldn’t let anyone get away with such an insult. He drew his sword to chop off Cloves hands, but Gregory stopped him.

“We must away! Leave this mob to the Dragon.” Gregory said, and he and all his men-at-arms turned and went back into the city.

Back at the city, all was confusion. All the women were expecting the men to come back having victoriously saved the city, but they came back disheartened. To make matters worse,

P.E.T.E.D. had followed the men back to the city. As soon as they got in the gates, P.E.T.E.D. started smashing windows and throwing carts over. They smashed up shops, and even spit on the men and women of the town. All the while they chanted, “Dragons are people, too!” It got so bad so quick that Sir Gregory ordered the police to throw all of P.E.T.E.D. out of town.

Outside the town, P.E.T.E.D. got even angrier. They threw eggs, rocks, and garbage over the walls. Some even tried to burn the city down. “MAKE ROOM FOR DRAGONS!” they yelled along with all sorts of other curses.

Captain Matthews would have none of it. He ordered the archers to keep P.E.T.E.D. away from the city. They let a few arrows fly, and the whole group ran out of range.

Sir Gregory in the meantime went to the library. There he found the librarian, and asked him to find out all about P.E.T.E.D. The Librarian soon came back with his report. P.E.T.E.D. was founded by a man named Cloves Bullion: a leftover from the failed evil wizards’ rebellion thirty years earlier. He said that with so many just, honest, good knights in the world, evil dragons were becoming an endangered species. In protest, his group, P.E.T.E.D., would destroy and besiege towns that tried to kill evil dragons.

This perplexed Sir Gregory greatly. He didn’t know what to do. Days went by and still that ornery P.E.T.E.D. group wouldn’t let anyone out of Gogen Heights. Sir Gregory tried to think of a plan but nothing seemed to work. If he tried to send out his army to drive them away, they always came back; and if the force wasn’t strong enough, P.E.T.E.D. would harass and even kill them.

Finally, Bogogamogo, Sir Gregory’s advisor, had an idea. All that knight, the town’s people worked on getting Bogogamogo’s idea ready. Early the next morning it was ready. Now understand in the heights, especially the Gogen Heights, it is always windy. So all the men of the

city and all the women and all the boys and girls were excellent kite fliers. That had been Bogogamogo's idea: a gigantic kite.

It was huge, and looked just like a dragon. And everyone knows dragons don't like other dragons anywhere near them. So Bogogamogo thought if P.E.T.E.D. could see how horrible a real dragon was, they would leave Gogen Heights alone.

The plan was working perfectly. It was a great kite flying day, and the gentle breeze hardly touched the kite dragon before it lifted off. P.E.T.E.D. saw it and for a moment cheered; they thought the real dragon had come and destroyed the city. But they soon saw it was just a kite and started booing and hissing and yelling, "Down with people, up with dragons" over and over.

Hardly an hour later, the real dragon showed up. He was stupid it's true, but he still didn't like other dragons. He flew up and tackled the kite in mid-air bringing the whole thing down right in the middle of P.E.T.E.D.

Now, normal people would run for their lives if a dragon fell next to them tangled up in a kite. But the people of P.E.T.E.D. were far from normal. They felt immensely sorry for the slobbering barbaric dragon and all set to setting it free. So yelling, "Dragons are people too!" they all rushed in to help free the dragon.

The dragon, as I have mentioned before, was immensely stupid, but he had enough sense to defend himself. So as the P.E.T.E.D. group ran at him, he met them full force with claw and teeth and tail. It was quick messy work. The entire group P.E.T.E.D. lay around the dragon, beaten to death by the furious beast.

The dragon, which had little sense, then ate the entire group. Unfortunately, the people of P.E.T.E.D. were such horribly bitter people, especially Cloves Bullion, that they made the dragon quite sick. All that day, he moaned and groaned, as he held his sides.

That night after he had moaned himself to sleep the people of Gogen heights put out a bale of healing herbs and two strong rams, a known cure for indigestion. They felt sorry for the dragon. After all, he was sick because he saved them from the crazy P.E.T.E.D. group. But it was no use. The dragon died.

They people carted away his body and buried him underneath the old dead oak tree, and Sir Gregory declared a festival, the 'Dragon Festival', be held every year to honor the monster who had saved the city, even if it was an accident.

Bogogamogo retired as advisor; he was so upset at how his simple plan had failed so miserably. He hadn't wanted to hurt anyone; he just wanted P.E.T.E.D. to see the monster they were trying to help. But he didn't let it bother him for too long. He became a great kite constructor. His kites became famous. In fact, it is a rare privilege to fly a Bogogamogo original.

All in all, the people of Gogen Heights lived good lives, and ended well.

THE END