

The Mysterious Brown Liquid – Alexander, Year 2, NSW

The bell rang. It was the end of recess and our brilliant soccer match had sadly come to an end. My friends and I went back to our Year 2 classroom, where we found our teacher, Mrs A, sitting at her desk already waiting for us. Mrs A pulled out from a shelf a big leather-covered book. On the front cover was the title in big golden letters: 'St George and The Dragon'. It was now time to listen to the teacher.

Mrs A then opened the book and began to read. The story was about a dragon which was terrorising a village. It was very interesting. In my mind, I imagined a scary black dragon, ancient cities, and shining bright armour. Suddenly, the telephone in the classroom rang. It was for our teacher. After answering the telephone, Mrs A told us that she had to go to the office on an urgent matter, but would only be away for a minute or two.

I was very thirsty because of all the running around at recess. The story about dragon fire, and the knight's tiring adventure also didn't help. I didn't want to leave the classroom to go to the bubblers, because I didn't have permission. Leaving class without permission was an automatic detention. I had to find another source of water, so I looked around in our classroom.

I was sitting in the front row, next to Mrs A's desk. On her desk was a mug. It was full. I knew I shouldn't drink from my teacher's cup, but I was desperate. I stood up and went to the desk. Should I? Would Mrs A find out?

There was something special about the mug. A strange smell was coming from it, drawing me near. I brought my nose closer to the mug and saw that there was a mysterious brown liquid inside. The smell was intoxicating. The rest of the kids were busy with chatting among themselves, and they didn't notice me. Without anyone seeing me, I quickly gulped down a mouthful. The liquid tasted really funny. I sat down at my desk, but soon everything changed.

When I opened my eyes, I suddenly found myself wearing battle armour. In front of me was a mighty black dragon terrorising a village. I saw a beautiful princess in the dragon's clutches needing to be rescued. I charged at the dragon with my sword and knocked it off-guard. The princess managed to escape, but the dragon then whacked me with its gigantic tail, and I was hurled into the air. I slowly stood up and saw that the dragon was about to spew deadly fire directly at my face. I quickly grabbed my shield and held it in front of me to protect my face. This managed to stop the fire from burning me, but my shield quickly caught fire, and all was in chaos. As my shield was now useless, I threw it away. I charged at the dragon with my sword ready and finally beheaded the beast.

I must have been swinging my arms and legs like crazy because suddenly I realised that there were strong arms holding me still. I opened my eyes and saw Mrs A and the school nurse standing in front of me.

"Are you okay? Mrs A asked, "You must have had a strange dream."

The school nurse was not convinced and thought it was something much more serious.

Luckily, neither the school nurse nor Mrs A realised that I had drunk from my teacher's mug. My parents were contacted to pick me up and take me to the hospital. There, the doctors did lots of tests but couldn't find anything wrong. That was the first and last time I touched that strange liquid in Mrs A's mug.

I later found out that the mysterious brown liquid was coffee.