

# HERE BE DRAGONS

By Kristian Kissel

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**HERE BE DRAGONS****By Kristian Kissel**

**SYNOPSIS:** Villagers, bakers, knights, servants and even the livestock gather to hear the stories of the adventurous travels of three siblings. This year, however, they bring back terrible news: a dragon lurks nearby! The villagers all argue about what they should do, and ultimately decide to kill the beast. But what happens if they worked themselves into a frenzy for nothing?!?

**CAST OF CHARACTERS***(3 females, 3 males, 15 either)*

NARRATOR 1 (f/m) .....	(30 lines)
NARRATOR 2 (f/m) .....	(34 lines)
SIBLING 1 (f/m).....	(17 lines)
SIBLING 2 (f/m).....	(14 lines)
SIBLING 3 (f/m).....	(13 lines)
THE BAKER (m) .....	(14 lines)
THE BAKER'S WIFE (f).....	(14 lines)
THE WIZARD (f/m).....	(33 lines)
TOWN CRIER (f/m).....	(13 lines)
RANDOM VILLAGER (f/m).....	(12 lines)
KING (m).....	(27 lines)
QUEEN (f).....	(12 lines)
ROYAL SERVANT (f/m) .....	(11 lines)
THE BRAVE KNIGHT (f/m).....	(38 lines)
PIRATE (f/m) .....	(13 lines)
GOAT (f/m) .....	(8 lines)
DUCK (f/m).....	(17 lines)
COW (f/m).....	(9 lines)
MR. DRAGON (m).....	(16 lines)
MRS. DRAGON (f).....	(14 lines)
DRAGON CHILD (f/m) .....	(12 lines)

**DURATION:** 30 minutes**TIME:** Fairy tale time

**PLACE:** Fairy Tale Village

**SETTING:** Mostly bare stage for multiple locations.

### PROPS

- 2 large books that say “Fairy Tales”
- Shawl or some other kind of covering
- 2 Scrolls
- Basket of fruit
- Basket of baked goods
- Staff for wizard
- 2 Swords (for pirate and knight)
- Shield for knight
- Toy of some kind for dragon child

### PRODUCTION HISTORY

*Here Be Dragons* had its world premiere at Live Theatre Workshop in Tucson, AZ in 2015.

**AT RISE:** *The stage is bare except for two stools upstage. The NARRATORS sit on them. They have ridiculously large books that say “Fairy Tales” on the cover.*

**NARRATOR 1:** Once upon a time—

**NARRATOR 2:** Oh, brother.

**NARRATOR 1:** Once upon a time—

**NARRATOR 2:** Ugh!

**NARRATOR 1:** Once upon a time—

**NARRATOR 2:** Oh come on!

**NARRATOR 1:** *(Quietly, acknowledging the audience.)* Are you going to let me start this story or not?

**NARRATOR 2:** You’re starting it like every other story ever written. “Once upon a time”? Really?

**NARRATOR 1:** But that’s what it says in the book. It’s right here: *(Showing NARRATOR 2 the book.)* “Once upon a time.”

**NARRATOR 2:** So what?

**NARRATOR 1:** And besides, the director *[Or, say director’s actual name.]* is expecting us to say it. Do you really want to make him *[Or her.]* mad?

**NARRATOR 2:** Please! Where is your sense of adventure?

**NARRATOR 1:** Adventure?

**NARRATOR 2:** Daring!?

**NARRATOR 1:** Daring?

**NARRATOR 2:** Yeah! Besides, what is the director going to do about it anyway?

*The lights suddenly go out.*

**NARRATOR 2:** OK, well, you have a point there.

*Lights come back up.*

**NARRATOR 2:** OK, fine. But, we could be a little less cliché, don’t you think? I mean, next you’ll be telling me that it was a “dark and stormy night.”

**NARRATOR 1:** Actually, yes! *(Reading.)* Once upon a time, on a dark and stormy night—

*The lights flicker, and the SFX: THUNDER.*

**NARRATOR 2:** Great! Just great!

**NARRATOR 1:** As I was saying: Once upon a time, on a dark and stormy night,

*Lights and SFX: THUNDER again.*

...three siblings returned to their village from a long adventure.

*The three siblings enter with coats pulled over their heads.*

**SIBLING 1:** Woo-hoo! Is it ever dark out there tonight!

*Lights dim.*

**SIBLING 2:** And stormy!

*SFX: THUNDER.*

**SIBLING 3:** Boy, I've never seen such a dark and stormy night!

*As SIBLINGS 1, 2, and 3 exit, NARRATOR 2 speaks.*

**NARRATOR 2:** We got the picture, OK? Anyway, the adventures of the three siblings were known throughout the village. Once a year, on the same date, the siblings would set out, and every year, on the day after they returned, the village would gather and listen to the stories of the sites they had seen in far off, mysterious lands.

**NARRATOR 1:** Their stories were greatly anticipated by everyone.

*One by one, the villagers enter and exit. The BAKER and BAKER'S WIFE enter.*

**BAKER:** I wonder what strange and exotic foods they've eaten! Do you think they've brought us any?

**BAKER'S WIFE:** I don't know, but they're sure to be hungry after their trip. Let's get to work, husband.

**BAKER:** Ooh, good idea!

*WIZARD enters.*

**WIZARD:** I wonder if they stumbled across any strange, magical realms. It would sure be nice to meet another wizard! I get so lonely...

*TOWN CRIER enters.*

**TOWN CRIER:** HEAR YE, HEAR YE! THE ADVENTUROUS THREE HAVE RETURNED! EVERYONE SHOULD MEET TOMORROW AT NOON IN THE TOWN SQUARE TO HEAR THEIR TALES!

*RANDOM VILLAGER enters.*

**RANDOM VILLAGER:** Hello Town Crier. How are you today?

**TOWN CRIER:** I'M DOING WELL. RANDOM VILLAGER. HOW ARE YOU?

**RANDOM VILLAGER:** Oh, you know, can't complain.

**TOWN CRIER:** GLAD TO HEAR IT! HOW ARE THE KIDS?

**RANDOM VILLAGER:** Great! My youngest is starting the third grade, and my oldest is playing Quidditch this season.

**TOWN CRIER:** BOY, THEY SURE GROW UP FAST, HUH?

**RANDOM VILLAGER:** Boy, you said it! Have a good night!

**TOWN CRIER:** YOU TOO. SLEEP TIGHT.

*KING, QUEEN, and ROYAL SERVANT enter.*

**KING:** Do you think they found another King as fair as I?

**ROYAL SERVANT:** Certainly not, sire!

**QUEEN:** Or a Queen as beautiful?

**ROYAL SERVANT:** Impossible, my lady!

**KING:** A king as honorable?

**ROYAL SERVANT:** You joke, my lord!

**QUEEN:** A queen as pleasant?

**ROYAL SERVANT:** Never!

*BRAVE KNIGHT enters.*

**BRAVE KNIGHT:** Adventure! Hah! Their “adventures” can’t hold a candle to the things I’ve seen! From mountaintops to streams to every battlefield in between! They wouldn’t know an adventure if it came up and bit them on the –

*PIRATE enters.*

**PIRATE:** Booty! That’s what they’ve found! I know it! There’s plenty of pirates’ treasures hidden in thar islands! Gold! Silver! Jewels to make yer mother faint! Why, I was a-sailin’ the high seas just last week when—

**NARRATOR 1:** Excuse me...

**NARRATOR 2:** Yeah, yoo-hoo!

**PIRATE:** Who be ye, scoundrel?

**NARRATOR 1:** Well, I be the narrator of this story, and, I’m sorry, but I just don’t see—

**NARRATOR 2:** There’s no pirate in the story!

**PIRATE:** Huh? What mean ye?

**NARRATOR 1:** (*Looking in the book.*) I mean, no pirate is in here.

**NARRATOR 2:** This is a fairy tale. You know: kings, queens, knights in shining armor...

*PIRATE looks over at BRAVE KNIGHT, who waves.*

**NARRATOR 2:** No pirates.

**PIRATE:** (*Sad.*) Argh.

*PIRATE leaves. BRAVE KNIGHT goes off the other way.*

**NARRATOR 1:** Even the village animals awaited the siblings’ return with great excitement!

*GOAT, COW and DUCK enter.*

**GOAT:** Baaaaaa!

**DUCK:** Quack!

**COW:** Moo!

**NARRATOR 2:** This particular year, however, the travelers told of a disturbing development.

**NARRATOR 1:** All of the villagers gathered in the town square expecting to hear exciting tales and have their heads filled with dreams of far off lands.

**NARRATOR 2:** But no one was quite prepared for the news that the siblings broke on that BRIGHT, SUNNY day.

*Lights back up to full.*

**NARRATOR 2:** Finally! Thank you!

*ALL VILLAGERS enter and sit on stage. They sit on the ground except for the KING and QUEEN, who have thrones carried in for them, and the BRAVE KNIGHT, who stands. The PIRATE is also among them, disguised as an old woman with a shawl around his shoulders.*

**TOWN CRIER:** HEAR YE, HEAR YE! GATHER ROUND, GATHER ROUND! IT'S TIME TO HEAR THE STORIES OF THE THREE SIBLINGS' ANNUAL EXPLOITS! MEETING NOW IN THE TOWN SQUARE! BE THERE OR BE ONE!

*Once ALL VILLAGERS are seated, SIBLINGS 1, 2, and 3 enter.*

**SIBLING 1:** Greetings, friends!

**SIBLING 2:** Greetings!

**SIBLING 3:** Greetings!

**SIBLING 1:** As always, it's good to be home. We come to you today once again with many stories of distant places.

**SIBLING 2:** Our adventure this year took us to the misty mountaintops of Zepelin...

**ALL VILLAGERS:** Oooooohh....

**SIBLING 3:** We saw the giant beetles of Liverpool...

**ALL VILLAGERS:** Aaaaaahh...

**SIBLING 1:** And encountered the legendary Rolling Stones and their Beasts of Bur-Den.

**ALL VILLAGERS:** Oh my! / Goodness! / Can you believe it? (*Etc.*)

**BAKER:** (*To his wife.*) I don't want to be one of those.

**SIBLING 2:** However, dear friends, I fear our tales will have to wait.

**SIBLING 3:** We come to you today with urgent news!

**SIBLING 1:** A new danger lurks nearby.

**SIBLING 2:** A threat to our homes!

**SIBLING 1:** We must take action soon!

*Pause. SIBLINGS 2 and 3 stare at SIBLING 1.*

**SIBLING 2:** What are you doing?

**SIBLING 3:** Yeah, that was mine.

**SIBLING 1:** What do you mean?

**SIBLING 2:** You talked out of turn.

**SIBLING 3:** / was supposed to tell them that we need to take action!

**SIBLING 1:** Oh, sorry. Um, go ahead.

**SIBLING 2:** Well, there's no point now.

**SIBLING 3:** Yeah, now they already know!

**ROYAL SERVANT:** Excuse me, but the King and Queen are growing impatient.

**KING:** Yup.

**QUEEN:** Yup.

**BAKER'S WIFE:** Yes, if it's so urgent, don't you think you should probably get to telling us?

**SIBLING 1:** Quite right my friends.

**SIBLING 2:** The trip home took us over the great Northern Mountain.

**SIBLING 3:** That's the mountain just north of the village.

**SIBLING 1:** Upon our descent, we came across - a cave!

**BRAVE KNIGHT:** Pshaw! There are hundreds of caves in the mountains!

**SIBLING 2:** Yes, Brave Knight, you are correct. But, how many caves have you seen that are home to...

**SIBLING 3:** A Dragon!

**ALL VILLAGERS:** What? / Oh my gosh! / Can you believe it? (*Etc.*)

**WIZARD:** Are you quite certain?

**KING:** Yes, what proof do you have?

**SIBLING 1:** A mailbox, sire!

**QUEEN:** A mailbox?

**SIBLING 2:** Yes. In front of the cave, on a tall post stood a bright red box. The word on it, as clear as day...

**SIBLING 3:** D-R-A-G-O-N.

**ALL VILLAGERS:** Well, that proves it. / This can't be good! (*Etc.*)

**RANDOM VILLAGER:** What shall we do? We can't just let a dragon lurk quietly on the mountainside!

**BAKER'S WIFE:** It could destroy the whole village! Our bakery!

**BAKER:** He could kill all the livestock!

**GOAT:** BAAAA!

**DUCK:** QUACK!

**COW:** MOO!

**TOWN CRIER:** HE'LL BRING AN END TO OUR PEACEFUL, QUIET WAY OF LIFE!

**RANDOM VILLAGER:** We must kill it!

**GOAT:** BAAA!

**BAKER:** Random Villager and the goat are right! We should strike first, before he wipes out the whole village!

**BRAVE KNIGHT:** We should waste no time! This beast must be slain!

**PIRATE:** (*Trying to disguise his voice.*) We should take to the high seas!

*THE VILLAGERS all stop and look at the PIRATE. Pause.*

**TOWN CRIER:** WHO ARE YOU?

**ROYAL SERVANT:** (*Consulting a scroll.*) Yes, I don't see you on the latest census...

**PIRATE:** I'm – umm – the old lady who lives in the shoe!

**NARRATOR 2:** Wait a minute!

*NARRATOR 2 crosses to PIRATE and removes the shawl, then simply points to one of the exits.*

**PIRATE:** (*Sad.*) Argh. (*He exits.*)

**NARRATOR 2:** (*Crossing back to the stool.*) Carry on.

**WIZARD:** Friends, a dragon is a very dangerous creature! They are smart, they are cunning, and they are ferocious! This will take a

great plan and a tremendous amount of wit. We will need every ounce of bravery we can muster!

**BRAVE KNIGHT:** Bravery? Look no further! I can slay this dragon! It's no match for my sword! I shall leave immediately! Prepare my horse!

*BRAVE KNIGHT starts to exit. WIZARD stops him.*

**WIZARD:** Brave Knight, I'm afraid that no single man, no matter how brave, is a match for a dragon.

**BRAVE KNIGHT:** Ha! You obviously haven't seen me in action! Step aside!

**WIZARD:** No, you mustn't!

**BAKER'S WIFE:** Listen to the Wizard! We need a plan!

**BAKER:** Yes, let's go back to the bakery and devise one!

**BRAVE KNIGHT:** And by the time you're done, I will have slain the dragon and we'll all be safe. Now excuse me.

**SIBLING 1:** Oh, for Heaven's sake! Just say it already.

**GOAT:** BAAA!

**TOWN CRIER:** YEAH, SAY IT! WE CAN'T JUST LET HIM GO!

**WIZARD:** (*Whining.*) But I don't wanna say it. Why do you people always want me to say that?

**QUEEN:** Yes, do say it already.

**WIZARD:** M'lady, I—

**COW:** Moo!

**WIZARD:** Oh, not you, too.

**KING:** I command that you say it!

**ROYAL SERVANT:** The King commands that you say it!

**WIZARD:** I heard him! Very well...

*Pause. ALL VILLAGERS lean in silently, listening with great anticipation.*

**WIZARD:** Brave Knight – (*Pause.*) You shall not pass!

*ALL VILLAGERS erupt with laughter and cheers, high-fiving each other, etc.*

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