



# Dylan the Dragon & the Playground Ride

By Zani Mathoo

Illustrated by [maaillustrations.com](http://maaillustrations.com)



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In this classic tale, Dylan learns to make friends despite obstacles.

And when the happily ever after arrives, both the dragon and the reader have learnt a thing or two about relationships.



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Dylan the young, blue dragon lived deep in the Rockstone Mountains of Scotland. Everyday the playful, young dragon woke up early in the morning and flew all around the mountains and valleys looking for something to do.



When he was hungry he would  
go home to his cave where  
Mummy dragon would have hot  
soup ready for his dinner.



"Wash your wings and get ready for tea.  
I've made your favourite today, darling...  
pea and toad soup" said mummy dragon.  
Dylan sighed, "Ehhh...Thank you mum."  
he said sadly.



"Whatever is the matter, son?  
Everyday you come back home happily  
for your tea but today you look so sad."  
inquired mummy dragon.



"I'm lonely, mum. I can't find anyone to play with. In all the lakes, mountains and valleys in Rockstone, there isn't a single dragon for me to play with."

he grumbled



"Well, how about this for an idea?  
Why don't you fly down to the  
village playground and see if the  
children there want to play  
with you?"



Dylan woke up bright and early the next day. He was very excited that he would soon have friends to play with everyday.



He put on his baseball cap and school tie and flew past the valleys and mountains until he reached the little village of Falkrik.



He glided down to a passer-by  
to ask for directions to  
the children's playground.



"That.. that.. that way." pointed the quivering man.

"Oh! He must be cold." thought Dylan. After all human's don't breath fire like dragons... so they must find it very difficult to keep warm.



Not long after, Dylan the dragon came in for a swift landing in the centre of the playground. The playground was filled with smart young children in bright red and grey uniforms with their school ties. Dylan tugged at his tie and cleared his throat, He felt very well dressed for the occasion.

He was about to open his mouth to introduce himself when he suddenly heard...



"AAARRRRRGGGGGHHHHHHHH!!!  
ruuuunnnnnnnn It's a dragon, he's  
going to burn us ALIVE!!!!!!" yelled  
one of the young boys.

All the children ran frantically  
towards the exits and  
disappeared in no time.



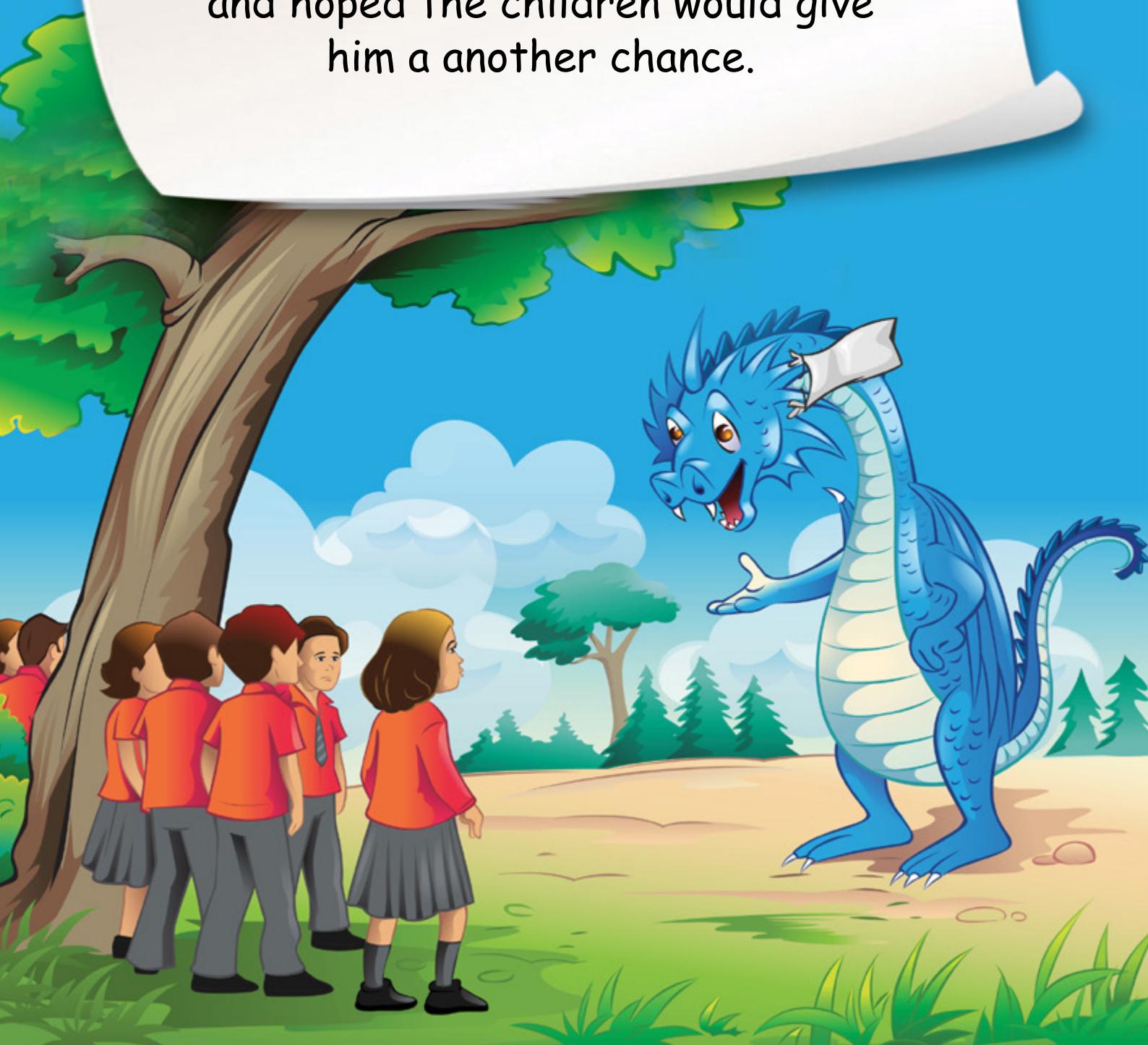
Dylan sighed sadly. All he wanted was some friends to play with but clearly humans were very scared of dragons.



He flew home with his head  
hung low to see what mummy  
dragon had made for tea.



The next day Dylan decided to try and make friends with the children in the playground again. He tucked his white handkerchief in his left gill and scooped up a large branch lying on the floor. He made it into a white surrender flag... He crossed his claws and hoped the children would give him another chance.



Down he flew again into the centre of the playground with his white surrender flag clenched in his jaw. "I just want to play and be friends." he said softly.

"But how will you play with us?" shouted one of the girls. "You're too big for our swings and slides. You won't fit in our roundabout."



"Well, why don't I take you all for a ride to the valleys and the mountains of Rockstone?"

"Yay!!" squealed all the children at once. They climbed onto Dylan's back and off the children went on a very exciting flight.



From that day Dylan  
and the playground  
children were friends and every  
day Dylan, the dragon would take  
the children on the best  
playground ride ever.



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