

The Dargon of Peridot: The Green Enemy?

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This is the first part of my Dragons of the Earth Chronicles. The Peridot's dragon name is Eikki... I'm pretty sure its pronounced EEE-KEY...

Read and comment! Its much appreciated!!! ^____^

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1 - The Dragon

“So tell me Luna, have you ever wondered what its like to fly?” He asked with a menacing smile.

What? How does he know my name? Who is he? Where am I?

“I can smell your fear... Are you scared of ME?”

“I don’t know... I don’t...” Darkness surrounded them, her heart beat faster and faster and he acted as if he could hear it.

The moon was uncovered from the clouds, and in the light that shone down on them, the man that had been here was replaced by a shimmering, green dragon.

She shrieked began running.

The dragon growled ferociously and raised his head to the sky, then let out a long breath of fire.

The moon was once again covered by clouds and the dragon became man again.

“Wait! Young lady, wait!” He shouted.

But she kept running faster and faster. She tripped and looked up. There, before her, was the man.

“I can smell you, and I’m faster than you, much faster!” He snapped.

“What do you want?” She cried.

“I want that rock ‘round your neck! Peridot is very scarce, and I need it to stay dragon forever. The life of a human is much too hard on me.”

“I won’t give it to you!” She yelled.

She picked up a large stick that lie close to her and hit him hard in the gut, and then when she stood firmly, she bashed him in the head.

She ran fast towards her village, back home to Master Orfeo. He would get rid of the young dragon that pursued her so persistently.

Master Orfeo was a dragon himself, a dragon of Amethyst. He did have an amethyst stone that he wore constantly, but he was very wise and could control his rare power.

She could see the village approaching quickly in the distance.

“Orfeo!” She yelled out as loud as she could. “Orfeo!”

“Orfeo?” The young man heard her say. “But... that’s not possible... He died.”

I’d better get out of here now! He thought as he turned around and began hopping through the trees in the opposite direction the girl, was.

Why was SHE calling his name? It doesn’t make sense...

“What is it my child?” Orfeo took Luna in his arms and tried calming her.

“The green dragon showed himself to me and tried taking my necklace... I’m very sorry; I should have listened to you and not gone out this late! I’m sorry! Now he knows where I live, please forgive me!”

She cried.

“It will be alright child! As long as you stay close to me, then he will never come near here. Eikki will not come near me.”

“Is that the beasts’ name?”

“He is no beast, no more than I... But he does not understand how to control his powers. He only wants strength, but he does not understand how powerful dragon are. He cannot get the peridot you carry, for it is the last of its kind.”

“What if you carry it Master?” She asked.

“That would be unwise. You are the one who found it, and you are the rightful owner. Eikki can only be

the rightful owner if he wants it for good use. But no one knows whether or not he is trustworthy.”

“Yes Master... I'm going to bed now, I am very tired.”

Luna lay in bed looking out the window. The moon appeared from behind the raging storm clouds, and from the woods, she heard a loud, distressed scream.

I do feel sad for Eikki... He is all alone...

“Mother! Father!” Luna's small voice cried out.

Fire raged in her home village, her parents lay dead with many others.

But there was a shape coming through the fire and smoke. It scooped her up in its arms and carried her away.

Luna sat up, drenched in sweat.

“It was just a dream,” She whispered. She lay down and fell back asleep after a while.

Master Orfeo was outside in the early morning. He had been growing a rare plant lately, or at least trying to. But from the looks of it, nothing was going too well.

“Luna, maybe they need more water... Or more sun... Perhaps less sun... What do you think?”

He was puzzled, but tried covering it up with logical answers that in all actuality, did not work.

“Shall I go fetch water?” She asked, tying her apron around her waste.

“Yes, go on. Then we shall go visit Hilda. She has trades to offer, so look your best.”

Luna walked cautiously along the short river to the pool of water it stopped at.

She kneeled down and filled one bucket, and just as she was about to fill the other one, she heard a loud thud behind her. She twirled around and saw Eikki.

“Luna, give me that rock!”

“You'll never leave me alone, will you?”

“Not until I get what I want!”

“Well, you'll NEVER get what you want from me!” She yelled.

“You think you're so perfect, don't you? You think life is easy because you're under Orfeo's care...

Living in the forest, being an orphan on the run, is not easy! You're life isn't real... It's FAKE!” He charged at her and knocked her to the ground.

She tried reaching for her knife, but failed. He held her arms firmly to the ground.

“You will die in my arms one day!” He snarled.

Then he got up and ran off.

Pull yourself together! Just don't tell Orfeo of this...

She let the tears fall for a minute and then wiped her face.

I will NEVER let Eikki have this Peridot! NEVER!

2 - Three Years Later

The fire, the tears mixed with blood. Dead bodies lay everywhere. There comes the figure walking through the smoke. But this time it's not loving arms to hold Luna... And THIS wasn't a dream, it was all real.

A hand grabs her neck and throws her up against a wall.

"I told you... You would die in my hands one day," A man's voice spoke.

Eikki! How could he do this?

"Stop this!" She screamed.

"No one can stop me now, or help you... Orfeo is dead along with the others, and soon, you too!"

He tightened his grip on her neck and she coughed. Then he thrust his sword into her stomach and she coughed up blood.

He let her drop and then he grabbed the peridot necklace.

Everything disappeared around Luna and she felt as good as dead.

Eikkie ran back to his home in the mountain that overlooked Luna's village.

Nyx, the Turquoise dragon was there.

"Did you hurt the girl? Eikki?" She said.

"I did what I had to."

"Did you hurt her?!" Nyx yelled and put her sword at his throat.

"Stop!" He yelled.

Nyx withdrew her sword and said: "It will weigh heavily on your conscious until you come to your senses."

Her blue hair flew in the wind, she was so beautiful.

Eikki looked down at Luna's destroyed village.

"You have greatly disappointed me Eikki... I thought if I trained you, then, maybe you would change, but I see I was wrong... I wasted three years! So, I will give you one week to change, or I'll take away the peridot and destroy it forever!!" With that, she flew away.

One week!

He threw back his head and screamed in deep anger and hatred.

But he wanted the peridot more than anything. So, slowly he made his way back to Luna's village.

She wasn't where he left her.

He followed her scent and it led him to the river where she used to draw water.

She was on the ground, her arms propping her up, and looking into the water.

She coughed up more blood.

He walked up to her and she started crying.

"Are you going to kill me for good?" She asked.

He didn't say a word, he just picked her up and carried her back to his cave.

She had passed out, so he fixed the wound he caused and started a fire.

Then he went out to fish before the sun set. He cringed at the thought of having to face her when she awoke.

A day later she woke up.

Eikki had been out fishing again. She struggled to stand, but she managed. Each breath caused a sharp pain to shoot through her chest.

Where am I? Where is Orf.....? Oh no! Orfeo...

She remembered what happened and began crying.

She looked up and saw Eikki walking towards the cave.

He stopped when he saw her.

Great, here we go! He thought.

He walked up to her.

"You're a monster!" She cried. "You've taken everything from me... I have no one left."

"Well... Now you're in my shoes."

He walked past her to the fire and she followed.

"Do you want people to suffer as you have?"

"Not necessarily... But if the chance arises then so be it," He replied coldly.

"Do you even have a heart?"

"I guess. But that doesn't mean I use it. The reason I came back for you is because if I didn't, then my peridot would be taken from me."

"You mean MY peridot?" She shouted.

"No! Are you a peridot dragon? NO! The only one who can rightfully own peridot is a peridot dragon!"

He furiously chopped off the heads of fish and started a new fire.

"You aren't a true dragon..." Luna realized. "You aren't a true dragon, you're only half dragon!"

"How'd you figure it out?"

"Your eyes aren't green, they're yellow, and your skin isn't a pale green. Orfeo's skin was a very pale purple, and his eyes were purple. But your blood is tainted with human blood, that's why you can't control the dragon... Right?"

"YES!" He snapped. "Yea... My mom was part human, part dragon, as so my father. And my youngest sister was completely human, while my eldest brother was all dragon. I on the other hand, was just like my parents, half and half. But they are ALL dead.

"In order for me to control the dragon, I need peridot. If you would have listened to me three years ago and given me the peridot, then Orfeo would be with you right now, not me. But you chose to believe his lies-."

"What? He told only the truth! You cannot contain yourself at times, and peridot makes you stronger, and thus, more dangerous."

Yes, stronger. But not necessarily more dangerous. And I can too contain myself at times, like when I attacked you three years ago... I could have killed you. But I didn't."

"Why?" She asked full of curiousness.

"Because I knew I could find help from someone. And I did. Her name is Nyx, she is like a mother to me. Because of her... I really am different," His voice softened a little bit.

"Where does she reside?"

"Mount Fliff. She is a turquoise dragon, and can only live in cold climates. I plan on going there in two days, so hurry up and get better so we can leave!"

"I'm not leaving D'Mar! This is my home!" She exclaimed.

Eikki stood and towered over her.

"You will come with me! Or else I will kill you and feed you to the bears!"

He left the cave and climbed on top of it to watch the sunset.

"I will go with you on one condition," Luna bargained before they laid down for sleep.

"What?" He asked in an irritated tone.

"We burry Orfeo... AND, you let me get my things."

"Isn't that two? Ohhhh, Fine, whatever."

Luna was satisfied and laid down on her pallet of fur. She stared at the moon for a while, and then fell asleep.

"Run! He's going to kill you!" She told herself. She looked in her hand at the peridot necklace. Eikki jumped on her and they tumbled down a hill. He fell on top of her and bared his sharp fangs with a deep growl.

Tears rolled down her face as he was about to stab her, but he dropped the sword when he saw the tears. He put his face close to hers and growled again. But it was meaner and angrier.

She sat up and hit Eikki's head.

"Hey!" He fell back and rubbed his forehead.

I must have been dreaming, she thought.

"What are you doing?" She asked.

"You were screaming and so I slapped you, but you still didn't stop!"

"Oh... I... I'm sorry." She lay back down and silence fell again.

He crawled back onto his palette and fell asleep listening to her breathe.

Luna was ready before the sun came up, but Eikki was still very much asleep.

She tapped his head with her foot and he mumbled. She hit it harder and he woke up.

"What was that for?" He asked and rubbed his eyes.

"I'm ready, let's go!"

He gave her a sour look, trying to hide the fact he was impressed by her readiness in her condition.

3 - Mount Fliff part 1

On exactly two days time, Luna and Eikki started out for Mount Fliff.

They buried Orfeo and Luna grabbed her precious belongings.

“Luna?” Eikki asked from behind.

“What?”

“Are you... Angry with me... Because I killed Orfeo?”

“Yes... Well, actually I’m angry with the dragon that takes over your body. I just hope you’ll gain control over it when I’m with you,” She replied.

“Are you scared around me?”

“If I answered would it make me vulnerable to you?”

“Not if the answer is no.”

“Well then, the answer is no,” Luna joked.

“I’m serious Luna,” He said impatiently.

“No, I’m not,” She plainly said.

He was satisfied.

They walked on, all day without stopping.

Eikki didn’t once ask Luna if she needed help, or even look back to see if she was struggling.

I’m fine, she kept thinking. Just keep going. You’re fine.

But as Eikki pressed on into the night, she collapsed. She struggled to her feet but couldn’t stand. Eikki pulled her up and held her by the arm.

“We’ll just camp here tonight... Go lean on a tree while I set up the fire,” He said.

Luna limped over to a large tree and after she got comfortable, fell deep asleep.

Eikki quickly set up the fire and laid out her palette.

I can tell this will be a long and troublesome trip.

He sighed.

After the fire had been burning bright and long, he decided it might be best to try and sleep. Luna crawled on her palette, shivering from the cold, crisp night air.

“Next time, let’s travel at night and sleep during the day,” She suggested.

“The night is more dangerous,” Eikki said. “And you can’t run.” He covered himself in a hooded cloak as the moon shone brightly down on them.

“But either way, we face the night.”

“Yes, BUT, animals don’t come near a fire.”

“You could turn into a dragon and then carry me off if we were in any danger... Or just fight the animal or whatever it might be,” She said.

“I’d rather not... Now, enough talk, go to sleep.” He said. “There will be no stops tomorrow.”

Luna pulled her knees to her chest and slowly began warming up. She fell asleep watching the flames lick at the wind and consume the wood pile.

Eikki slept sitting up, but not for long.

A noise behind him startled him awake and the uncovered half his face. Scales immediately covered his face and he breathed fire onto the wood to make the flames bigger.

“Eikki,” A woman’s voice came from behind him.

He turned swiftly and the hood fell.

He growled and turned back when he saw it was Nyx.

“Eikki, if you take this girl and the peridot to Mount Fliff... Then we will never see each other again. You will be banished to the wilderness with Palladin... Do you understand the consequences?” She spoke softly and calmly.

“Yes, I understand.”

“I will not be at Fliff when you arrive. But Zlatan will be. If you choose not to have the peridot embedded in your heart, then I will come back.” Then she left.

Eikki growled and watched Luna peacefully sleep.

Why can't I control the dragon? This question always came up; it burned a hole in his heart.

Why am I like this? Why can't I be normal?

Rage got the better of him and he stood up, letting the cloak fall.

He transformed into the beast and growled loudly. Luna woke and sat up.

He put his face in hers. He came closer and closer, she cringed at every inch. He came so close she was as far back as she could be on her elbows.

“Eikki stop!” She screamed.

He growled and then flew off.

“I'm not safe her,” She whispered. “What was I thinking?”

The woods were thick and dark. But she didn't care. All she could think about was getting home. She limped on, hoping Eikki wouldn't be back until morning, and then she would be long gone.

There is another village, five miles from mine... If I can walk the extra miles, I'll be safe.

She came to an open area of ground next to the river.

Good, I'm the right track.

She was in the middle of the open area when Eikki landed in front of her. He growled loudly and walked up to her.

She winced as he growled in her face and a tear rolled down her cheek.

“Please, don't hurt me,” She said.

“You are scared of me, aren't you?” He smiled. His voice was much deeper and raspier.

“Just let me go!”

“No!” He grabbed her arm and started dragging her back to camp.

His wings disappeared and he stood on two legs. His body was covered in scales and his ears were large and pointy. His fangs were long and sharp.

“Let me go! You're hurting me!” She tried pulling away but he turned and growled in her face.

When he turned back around, she kicked him and he slapped her face.

She fell and he stood over her.

“You try my patience... And my sword is quite fond of you... I would be careful from now on.”

He just thinks I'm scared of

him! S

“You only treat me like this because you THINK I'm scared of you... Well, you're wrong!” She kicked his leg and he fell.

She tried standing up, but he pulled her shirt.

He crawled over her and held down her hands.

“Get off!” She kicked her legs but he was too strong in this position.

Then, he kissed her.

WHAT???! She stopped kicked and her body went limp.

What? I.... Can't... I can't move.... What's happening?!

Then, she closed her eyes and fell asleep.

He picked her up and carried her to camp. Nyx was there.

“What have you done?” She asked when she saw Luna hanging limp in his arms.

“I’ve only poisoned her,” He said and laid her on her palette.

“She doesn’t deserve to be dragged around by you!”

“No! I will not let her go! She found this peridot, and she might be able to find more!”

“Eikki, you know all the peridot is gone. YOU are the last peridot dragon..... Do you keep her for another reason?”

“What other reason would I keep HER for?”

“It was just a thought... Eikki, do NOT kill her.” Nyx flew away.

He curled up under a tree and fell asleep.

4 - Poison

Luna woke the next morning an our before dawn and found the Peridot necklace next to her.

Eikki was packing his bag.

“What’s going on?” She could tell by the look on his face that something was wrong.

“Keep the necklace until we get to Mount Fliff. If I wore it, I could turn into a dragon during the day. So it’s best you wear it for now.”

‘What caused this?’ She thought as she rolled up her palette.

She sat down and threw some twigs in the burning coals in front of her.

“I’m going to tell you something, and please don’t get freaked out when I do...” He said and sat beside her.

“OK,” She said hesitantly.

“Erm... When I wear Peridot, I can partially change into a dragon. I can stay in human form but I have scales, fangs, talons, etc... And if I do that, I have poison in my system... Last night, you ran away because I changed into a dragon. I found you and you tried running away again, so I poisoned you... It erases memory from 12 hours before, and if I poison you more than four times... You’ll die. So that’s why I’m letting you have the Peridot for now.”

“You would... Keep yourself from trying to kill me?”

“You found this Peridot,” He touched the Peridot and his eyes flickered from brown to yellow, and his teeth became fangs.

“I know there is more... But if there isn’t, there is no hope for the Peridot dragons. So I need you to try and find more... So my children can carry on this race.”

“Wait... you’re saying, that you’re the last... Of the Peridot dragons?”

“Yes.”

“I’m sorry.”

“Don’t pity me. I’m fine... Let’s get going,” He stood up and handed her her bag.

Luna kept pace with Eikki almost the whole day, although it seemed like he slowed down quite a bit.

They hardly exchanged words and the silence awkward to Luna.

But into the long hours of the afternoon, Eikki started conversation.

“So... Did Orfeo name you Luna or did your parents?”

“Orfeo did. My parents died when I was seven and Orfeo saved me.”

“What was your name then?”

“I don’t really know... I have a locket I always carry with me... Its in my pocket...”

She pulled out a gold locket and opened it.

“They were my parents,” She showed him the picture and he stopped dead in his tracks when he saw their faces.

“What?” She asked.

“I knew these people, are you sure they were your parents?”

“I’m positive... How did you know them?”

“Did you have a brother?” He asked, ignoring her question.

“No, I don’t think so, although there was a boy that came around a lot. I have only a few memories of him, but they were good ones. I guess you could say my parents thought of him as a son.”

“Did you have a sister?”

“Yes, she was older than me.”

“What was her name?”

“I don’t remember. And how did you know my parents?”

“Luna... That boy you talked about...” He looked her dead in the eye. “That boy was me.”

“YOU?!?” She dropped her bag. “How can that be possible? The boy I remember died... He died, I know he did.”

“No Luna, your sister had blond hair and green eyes, like your father, and you have brown hair and brown eyes like your mother!” He said looking at the black and white picture of her parents. “You did have a brother... I remember now... His name was Ra- Ra-e- Rezi! He had blue eyes and.... White hair! I saw him a couple of years ago at a tavern!”

Luna remembered Rezi, but he was not her brother.

“No he wasn’t, I didn’t have a brother!”

“Then why did he live with you and call you sister?”

“I don’t know, but you must be mistaken... Eikki, Rezi drowned. I watched him drown, I MAY have been wrong about your death... But I SAW Rezi die,” She swallowed hard. She hadn’t thought about Rezi for a long time, all because it was too hard. She didn’t want to remember.

So much of this was overwhelming, but inside Luna, a new light shined. Maybe she could fill in the lost pieces of her past with Eikki.

“Give me the Peridot!” He ripped it from her neck and wrapped it around his wrist, then he transformed into a dragon. “Get on, we’re flying to Fliff!”

“Why didn’t you do this earlier?” She yelled as she hopped in his back.

“Because, I’ll sleep for three days afterwards!”

And he swiftly flew away, into the clouds.

It was the most amazing scene Luna had ever saw.

The sun was shining on the top layer of clouds, and they floated along like a boat at sea.