

## THE PRINCESS, THE PRINCE, THE DONKEY AND THE DRAGON

(Written for Jolene, age 8. By Merlin, The Old Wizard)

The young Princess Jo-Jo worked hard at her sums,  
She could hardly wait for her holidays to come.  
How nice it would be to have some fun,  
To go away with her Royal Dad and Mum.

Hendra Castle was the place where they went –  
In Cornwall, Land of Magic and Legend,  
Full of Wizards and the occasional Gnome  
Who had all mysteriously turned to stone.

They were sitting outside their holiday home one day  
When a French donkey called Doris came their way.  
On her back was the Crown Prince Fred,  
A most wizardly Gnome who looked very well fed.

"Bonjour, comment allez vous"  
Said the Princess to dear old Doris.

"Bonjour, your royal highness" the donkey replied,  
"Get on my back and we'll give you a ride."

Jo-Jo jumped up with the Prince, she looked so sweet  
As they happily clipped-clopped down the street  
Through the green valley, across the silver stream,  
Until the Princess let out a very loud scream.

Suddenly with a roar, a pong, and a ping,  
Up jumped this huge great horrible thing.  
It was the Deadly Dragon, Dreadful Dick,  
With a fiery tongue and a tail ten feet thick.

Jo-Jo screeched and Doris hee-hawed,  
Fred made a squeak, as the Dragon roared:  
"I'm hungry, Ho Hum! What's this I see?  
I quite fancy a nice Princess for my tea!"

You should know that Doris was a Queen among donkeys  
"Not blooming likely" said Doris at once  
"I'm a world karate champ who always wins  
And now I will make you pay for your sins."

With a swish of her tail and a flick of her ear,  
She put Dick flat on his back, shaking with fear.  
He cried "Mummy" as Doris made him squirm  
Like a tiggly, wiggly, wriggly worm.

The Dragon ran off saying "Ooh my head aches!"  
Crown Prince Fred gave them all ice creams and cakes.  
He rewarded dear Doris with a Big Gold Cup  
Plus One Hundred Carrots, and they all cheered up!