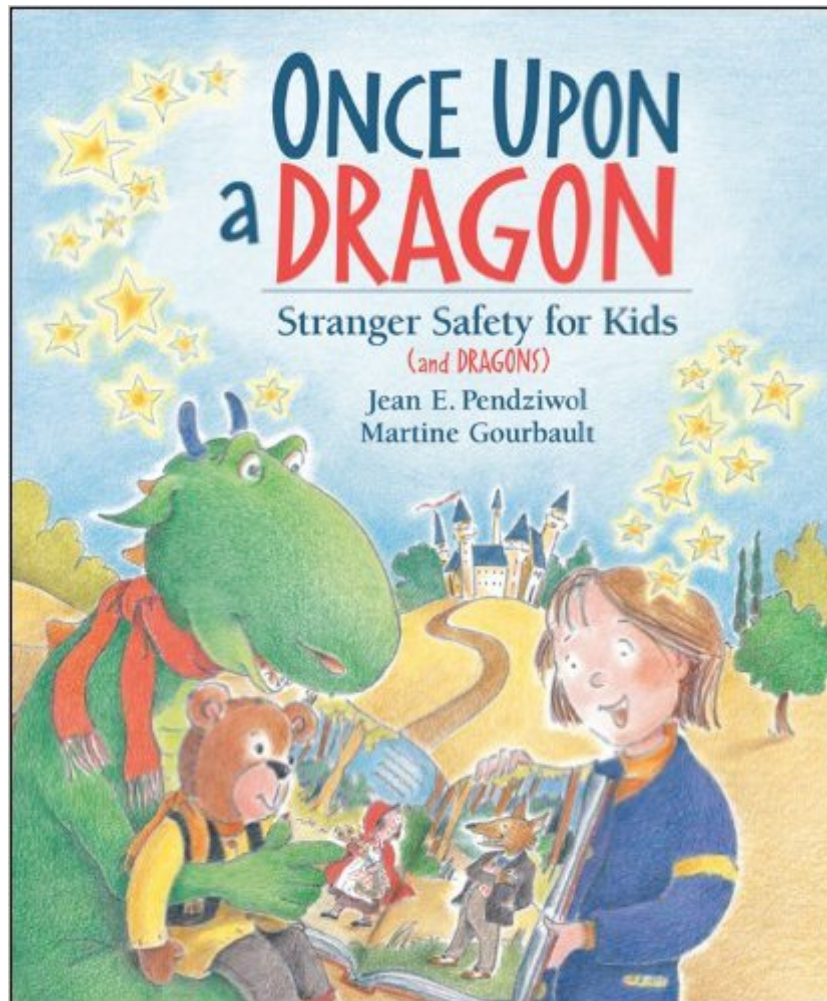


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# Once Upon A Dragon: Stranger Safety For Kids (and Dragons)



## Synopsis

After a thump-bumping ride on a slide, a little girl and her dragon friend find themselves inside a fairy-tale book. The stories are familiar, and there's lots of silly fun as the dragon is transformed into fairy-tale characters. But danger lurks in the form of strangers -- including the hungry wolf from "Little Red Riding Hood" and Snow White's evil stepmother. And it's up to the girl to keep an eye on the dragon, who walks alone through deep dark woods and takes treats from people he doesn't know. Little by little, the girl teaches her irrepressible friend to be careful about strangers. The winning combination of fairy-tale adventure and concrete safety information -- including the Dragon's Stranger Safety Rhyme and the checklist of rules at the end of the book -- provide the perfect starting point for discussions with children about stranger safety.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 820L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Kids Can Press (February 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442059060

ISBN-13: 978-1553379690

ASIN: 1553379691

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 0.1 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (16 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #324,760 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #42 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Safety](#) #567 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Dragons](#) #12704 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals](#)

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

I'm surprised this book got such good reviews. No Dragons for Tea is MUCH better by a long shot, but this one was disappointing. The story moves very quickly and focuses heavily on avoiding sketchy looking characters that the little girl (who looks like a boy) is already aware are dangerous. At one point she says, "You don't know [the apple is] safe; it could make you quite sick. Don't fall for that evil Queen's horrible trick." At another point they meet a fox and the girl says, "Now I couldn't

remember how this story went, and whether the fox really said what he meant."I don't mean to nit pick, but what's the take home message from that? Don't talk to people that you know are trying to trick you?It's not really clear who should be trusted. At the end, the fairy godmother (who is making her first appearance as such) is apparently trustworthy but we're not given a reason why. The little girl says, "'Dragon! Look there. I think she might know.' So we asked that safe stranger which way we should go."Why is the godmother safe? Why are the others dangerous? We're really not given a reason. Children lack judgment for such things and should be taught the "check first" rule instead of some confusing attempt at stranger danger. The parents' guide at the end is along the "check first" side of things, but that's pretty much negated by the story."I Can Play It Safe" by Alison Feigh is a MUCH better book and I would recommend that one instead.

My kid is overly friendly with strangers and in this day and age it scares me as a parent. I purchased this book, hoping it would help with the stranger danger concept without totally scaring her. It is a super cute story about a dragon and a boy who get lost in the dragon's book and each page brings new dangers that they face and what you should do. My child loves this book. We've probably read it about 25 times since we received it.

This book is so wonderful. We are planning on buying some more of this series! Great rhymes and very cute illustrations! I especially like it that it wasn't written in a manner that would scare children (like I have seen in some other "stranger" books).

I am a school counselor and I used this book to discuss the difference between good strangers and bad strangers. It is a great book for also talking about the different things that bad strangers might try. It is written in a fairy tale format and reviews at least 5 fairy tales that the kids know, so I was able to make a literacy link as well. I loved this book.

My children are age 2.5 and 5.5 and this book is appropriate for both of them. It achieves the right balance of not too scary but teaching about strangers. I do agree it's not totally clear how the kids identify the safe stranger at the end but I think that is an easy way to lead into a conversation with your own children. The book is also fun to read and not too verbose so holds kid's attention well.

This books is PERFECT for dealing with a potentially scary topic with preschoolers and elementary children. It puts 'stranger safety' principles in fairy tale settings, keeps kids engaged with the

storyline and provides an easy transition for parents to open a discussion with their children. We LOVE it because it deals with, not only the obvious stranger safety issues, but the not-so-obvious 'feeling' kids might get when they aren't quite sure about a situation - and it emphasizes that the 'not-so-sure' feeling is ok and they need to trust it. Have recommended this book widely and our library just purchased it as well. Try the other 'Dragon Safety' books too. They are good, but this one is the best!

This is the first book in the "dragon series" that we came across. We now have the entire collection and often give the sets as presents. These stories are a fun way to deliver important messages in a non-threatening way. The rhyming text is a joy to read and both of my sons (3 and 5) have enjoyed them. Since this book walks you through a series of traditional children's stories, it is a good idea to give your child an appreciation for the original story line. Even if they don't have that background (which mine did not the first time), they will likely still enjoy it. They just won't see the humor in it. Enjoy!

I actually got this from the Library first. I had to read it to my daughter every night for a week or so. She was just so excited to hear about Dragon and the little girl going through the tales. It's laid out in a Fairy tale fashion with a main focus on the all the strangers that existed. I was surprised at first since I had these very stories read to me as a child. I never viewed all the characters the girl and the dragon meet to be a stranger. But Jean had a very good idea to lay the stories out that way. This one I will be buying.

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