

The Truth About Dragons

By Julie Leung

Lean in close, my darling Bao Bei, and I will whisper a most precious secret about a powerful magic that lives inside you. But in order to understand this magic, first you must go on an epic quest to learn the truth about dragons. You must put your favorite cloak around your shoulders and your sturdiest boots upon your feet. Leave on a day when the air is crisp as new paper, the wind is gentle, and the skies are clear.

Dragons are fearsome and fire-breathing, my child, with wings like a bat's and the body of a lizard. Piercing horns grace their reptilian heads.

Dragons are majestic creatures of air and fire. You would be lucky if you were to ever see one, my child! They have a body like a serpent with five claws on each leg and a flaming pearl embedded in their chin!

Most adventurers have only one story to call their own. And some who cannot travel more than one path may demand that you choose between the clouds and the caves. For dragons cannot dwell in both, they say.

But my darling, my bao bei, this is the precious secret: Inside your heart is where the two forests meet. Both journeys are yours to take. Both worlds are yours to discover.