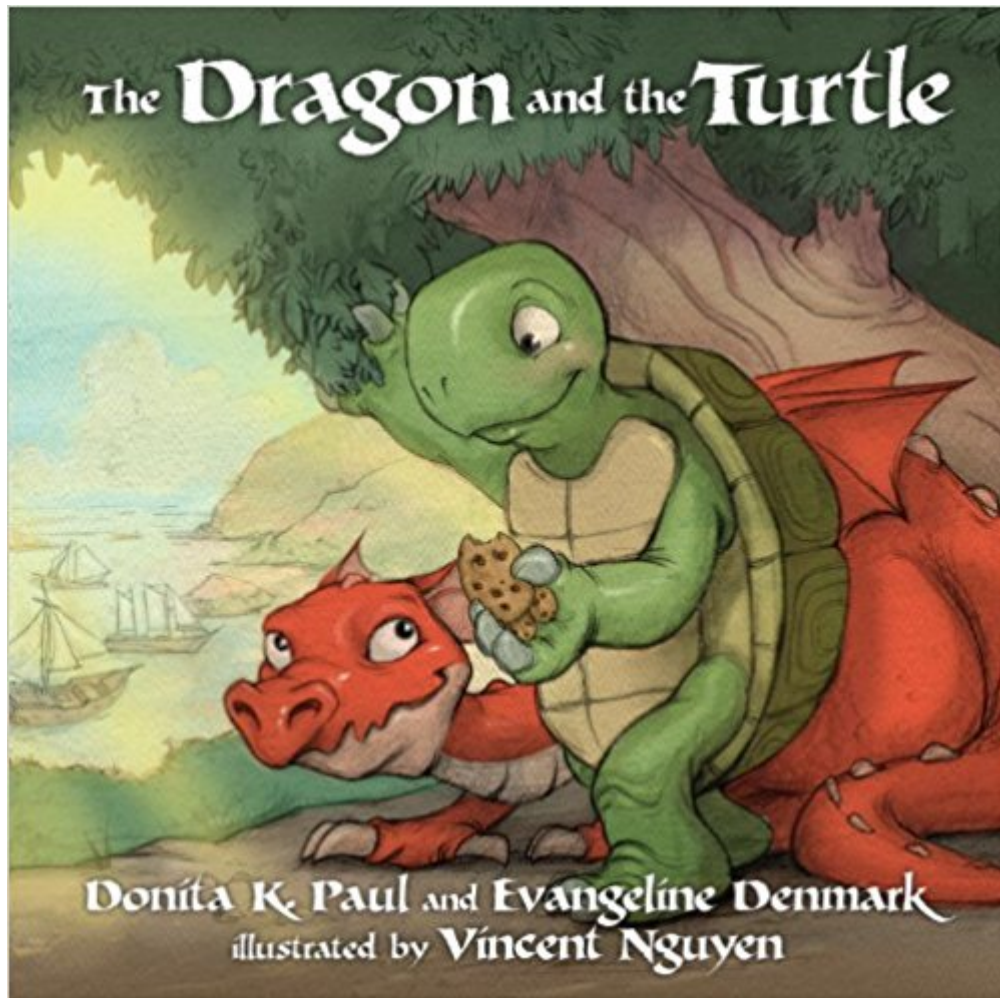




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# The Dragon And The Turtle



## Synopsis

Friends come in all sizes, shapes, and colors. Sometimes they're even dragons. Roger loves adventure. Today he's playing pirate, sailing the high seas, dancing to the hornpipe, and catching fish. But the wind's blown him off course and he's . . . well . . . lost. When Padraig, a kitten-sized, bug-eating dragon, encounters the lost turtle, he offers to help Roger find his way home. Roger's directions take some time to follow his house looks brown, sounds like singing, smells like baking, feels like sand, and tastes like strawberries and along the way, Roger and Padraig become friends. And friendship always yields unexpected rewards. Like cookies.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 68 customer reviews

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Age Range: 3 and up

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 12

## Customer Reviews

A former schoolteacher, DONITA K. PAUL is the best-selling author of the Dragon Keeper series, The Vanishing Sculptor, and Dragons of the Valley. She enjoys cooking, beading, stamping, knitting, and her grandsons. Not necessarily in that order. The daughter of novelist Donita K. Paul, EVANGELINE DENMARK grew up living and breathing good stories. Now she enjoys fiction writing and loves to share Roger and Padraig stories with her own two rambunctious boys.

Excerpt Padraig landed on a branch and popped a bug into his mouth. He grinned as he

chewed. The bug was crunchy on the outside and squishy on the inside, and it tasted like nuts and sweet oranges. The treat was yummy, but he still had room in his tummy for one more crunchy, squishy, nutty bug. He looked through the leaves. No flying bugs. He looked on the branches. No crawling bugs. He flew to the ground to look for creeping bugs. Instead he found a grumpy-faced turtle. Padraig forgot his rumbling tummy. "What's wrong?" he asked. "I'm turned around," the turtle whispered. "You're not turned around. You're looking right at me." The turtle gave an exasperated sigh. "Turned around means lost. I've lost my house." "Oh," Padraig sat down with his wings folded and his tail curled in a neat circle. "What's your name?" he asked. "Roger," said the turtle. "Pleased to meet you, Roger," he said. "My name is Padraig." Roger nodded. "Nice to meet you." "How did you lose your house?" asked Padraig. "I was playing pirates," Roger explained. "My ship hit a squall and was blown off course. Now I'm stuck on a deserted island. Which is fine, but I'm getting hungry." "I see," said Padraig. "These waters can be dangerous." "Indeed," Roger nodded. "What does your house look like?" "Brown like my shell," said Roger. "Okay. Wait here. I'll go scout." "I'll go scout."

The Dragon and the Turtle is a precious story of friendship and caring for others. Throw in some detective work and here is a story that your children will enjoy. The book begins with a hungry dragon - Padraig - looking for a little more food to satisfy himself. Along the way, he meets a new friend - Roger the Turtle. Sadly, Roger is lost and unable to remember how to get home. Through the use of the five senses, Padraig helps Roger figure out where his home is.

Momma C's Thoughts: When the opportunity to review this book arose, I passed it over because of the "dragon" word. I just didn't know what exactly the plot would entail. Thankfully the chance to review this book was still available later and I am glad that I gave it a chance. The very first word of the book is "Padraig." With my very poor phonics skills, I panicked! The very first word of the book and I don't know how to pronounce it. Thankfully, the internet has answers to all questions and I learned this Irish name is often pronounced "paw-drig." Names that are unfamiliar are frustrating to me in children's books but that is a personal thing. Following the story are two pages to guide parents in a discussion about friendship. The Bible verse Proverbs 17:17 is included. I really appreciate these

suggestions and find that ideas from one book can be carried over to other books that I read. Also included is a recipe for Chocolate Chip Snappers. Use this book in a series on the five senses or friendship and bake cookies afterward! Not mentioned in the suggestion page, take the story a step further and allow your child to describe his/her home using the five senses. Although the two friends had just met, Padraig was willing to forget about his own desires to focus on the needs of Roger. Even after several attempts, Padraig was very patient and kind. While looking for Roger's home, the turtle and dragon talk about their likes. While they found some things in common, there were several different variations of their likes. Neither character cared that they had differences. What examples of true friendship! This book is filled with possibilities for preschool and elementary aged children. While the preschool child can appreciate the story, the elementary child can be lead further into the meaning. Thank you to Waterbrook Press for the opportunity to review this book.

The Dragon and the Turtle, by Donita K. Paul and Evangeline Denmark, is a cutely illustrated, and uniquely descriptive picture book about Padraig the dragon and his new friend, Roger the turtle. I think most children in the age range of 4-10, would enjoy this book - although it seems my 8 year-old son enjoyed it more than his older sister, probably due to the fact that it includes 2 boys (one of them a dragon), and a pretend pirate adventure. For a brief synopsis, two completely different boys meet and become friends; Padraig realizes his new friend is lost and does everything he can to help Roger get back home; the boys use the senses of sight, sound, smell and taste to finally find the right house. Unlike other picture story books I've seen, this one has a couple of pages found after the story to help a parent or caregiver delve deeper into the meaning of the book. It offers a Bible verse (Proverbs 17:17,) as well as discussion questions regarding friendship. It even gives a recipe on the last page for Chocolate Chip Snappers, the special kind of cookies mentioned in the book. Disclaimer: Waterbrook Multnomah Publishers has provided me with a complimentary copy of this book for review purposes. The opinions I have expressed are my own.

While Padraig the dragon searches for his favorite treat, "crunchy, squishy, nutty bugs," he finds a "grumpy-faced" Roger the turtle instead. Why so grumpy? Because Roger is lost. Lucky for him, Padraig has wings. Although Padraig is hungry and would rather spend his day snacking, he cheerfully spends it helping Roger find home. This story is well-written and fun, though it begins to drag after so many failed attempts to find Roger's house. But this gives Padraig (and readers) an opportunity to exercise patience. The book teaches several other good lessons which are summarized at the end. An extra bonus is a recipe for Chocolate Chip Snappers--Roger's favorite

cookies. As for Padraig's favorite snacks, they can be found under a rock in the back yard. The detailed and enjoyable illustrations by Vincent Nguyen certainly add to the book. Between the good lessons, the great illustrations, and the Chocolate Chip Snappers, both parents and children will be pleased with The Dragon and the Turtle. I received this book for free from WaterBrook Multnomah Publishing Group for this review.

When I received this book, and casually flipped through it the beautiful illustrations by Vincent Nguyen really captured my attention. They follow the story very well, and make it come to life. The Dragon and the Turtle is a story about putting aside one's own feelings to help someone else. Padraig the dragon puts aside his hunger to help his friend Roger the turtle, find his way home. This book shows children that there are rewards for helping others. Padraig earns a friend, learns he likes strawberries, and is rewarded with cookies. The last pages of this book have a Bible verse and a guide to help parents teach the message of the book. The fact that the Bible verse is in the very back will give parents the choice of using it, and incorporating it into the story, or not. And the very last page has the recipe for the great cookies that Padraig and Roger share in the story. I loved this book, and so did my grandchildren. I would recommend it to anyone with small children.

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