

TEN WORD TALES No. 1
Mr Wombat's Wonder Shop
by The Story Spinner

CHAPTER 5



It was Friday and the princess was sitting on the step when Mr Wombat opened up the doors of the shop.

“Have you got it?” she asked breathlessly.

Mr Wombat saw her anxious face and was very glad to be able to say, “Yes!”

He told the princess to close her eyes and hold out her hands. She thought the dragon was still in an egg or very, very small but into her hands came something smooth and warm.

She opened her eyes at once and saw a dragon's hand, shaking her own.

“I am very pleased to meet you,” said the dragon politely.

The dragon was just a little taller than the princess. He did have long claws but his hand-shake was gentle and his eyes were kind. His breath was whispery with smoke and his legs and feet were a bright minty green and the beautiful scales on his back shone like a rainbow in the morning sunshine. Mr Wombat, smiling, decided at once that he would have a rainbow waistcoat for special occasions from now on.

“A wonder!” cried the princess, delighted and feeling as if something very wonderful had happened to her at last.

“Not at all,” said the dragon. “I’m just a dragon.”

Mr Wombat saw him lean forward and say something in the princess's ear.

“I think the wonder,” said the dragon, shyly, “is you.”