

Once Upon a Time

Words and music by Laura Hall ©1997

I asked my friend, Ron West, to sing the part of the dragon because he has the lowest, most rumbly voice of anyone I know. He came to my studio first thing in the morning, slammed back some black coffee and did the part in one take.

Once upon a time there was a princess and a prince
They lived in the castle with their parents
Their daddy was the king and their mommy was the queen
One day they went out walking in the deep forest green
They ran into some dragons out on their hike
There was something about them the two kids didn't like
They were breathing fire, they were looking underfed
They opened up their mouths and this is what the dragons said
They said,

**We hate to be mean, we don't mean to be rude
But it's so long since we've had any food
And the two of you are looking so fine
Cause we haven't eaten in a very long time**

The prince said to the princess, hey I've got a hunch
If we don't think fast we might wind up as lunch
The dragons circled closer, the princess shouted WAIT
Just give us ten minutes, we'll be back with something great
We'll go into town and get you lots of food
It's surely bound to put you all in a better mood
The dragons said **okay but then hurry back from town
Cause you've only got nine minutes or we'll burn your castle down**

**We hate to be mean, we don't mean to be rude
But it's so long since we've had any food
We don't mean to complain and we don't want to whine
But we haven't eaten in a very long time**

So...the prince ran to the deli for sandwiches to go
The princess to the bakery for cookies you know
The prince ran to the fruit stand, got apples and grapes
The princess to the butcher for a whole bunch of steaks
Well, the prince stopped by a farm, got some carrots and peas
The princess to the dairy for milk and some cheese
The prince ran to the candy store for jellybeans
They threw it in a basket and went back to the deep forest green

Well they got back to the dragons and they felt great

Cause instead of nine minutes they'd only taken eight
But the dragons said **we can't eat this, it's just not what we do**
The kids said come on it's time to try something new

So they all took their picnic down to the lake
The dragons used their fiery breath to cook up all the steak
Luckily everybody liked their meat well done
And the dragons all agreed that the picnic was fun, they said

We're sorry we were mean, we didn't mean to be rude
And we actually like this new kind of food
You two are the best, you've been so very kind
Cause we hadn't eaten in a very long time

The dragons ate up everything and thought it was great
They even ate the picnic basket and all the plates
The kids heard someone calling through the forest green
It was their dad and mommy, the king and the queen
They said to the dragons we've had so much fun
But we'll get in royal trouble if we don't run
And if you ever get so hungry again
Instead of getting crabby just call on your new friends

Cause you can travel the world over
One thing you'll always find
Dragons get awful cranky
When they haven't eaten
We haven't eaten
They haven't eaten in a very long time