

Silver Dragons  
by Phil Delrosario

Momma told me we were going to the doctor today. Momma told me I'd have a nice surprise afterwards.

I'll be right back, okay? The nurse will see you first, the doctor said. Okay, I said. He told Momma that I was going to get four vackseens later. What's a vackseen I asked. He said a vackseen was something that would make my life better. I thought about how my Power Ranger toys made my life better too, and I was excited to get a vackseen. He left the room. I really liked him, he was really nice to me I told Momma. A lady walked into the room in pink clothes with flowers on it. Her smile was too big for her face, like Jafar from Aladdin. They always had that smile when they were going to do something evil but were pretending to be nice. How are you doing she asked. I said okay. She asked me about school and what games I liked playing in kindergarten. I said I liked the jungle gym; it's really fun going upside down.

I'm going to give you the vackseens now she said. I was excited. Then she told Momma to hold me down. She told Momma to keep me calm. Calm for what? I wondered. She said hold his arms and make sure he doesn't move. Momma, what is she talking about I asked? Momma said not to worry so I didn't. I watched the lady in pink. She took these tubes with sharp points out of a box. They looked scary. Like dragons from TV. Except they were skinny and silver. I wanted her to put them away. I don't want the vackseens anymore. She said keep still, this might hurt a little.

Silver dragons. Silver dragons, with sharp points for noses. The lady said I needed to sit still, please. Why would I sit still? Before I knew it she stabbed me in the arm with a silver dragon. The pain hurt so much. I started crying. Hold him still she said again. Momma, why is she hurting me? Momma wouldn't say anything. She just held me there. The lady stabbed me

again with another silver dragon. Stop I yelled out. I was still crying. Why are you hurting me I screamed. She said she needed to give me two more and then she'd be done. She came closer and closer. I kicked her in her face. That's what Aladdin would have done. She was evil. She shouted at me and Momma. Why would she yell at Momma? I want to leave now I yelled. She said I couldn't. I was still crying. My arms hurt so badly. I wanted her to stop. Stop I yelled. Where was the doctor? He was nicer. I want the doctor, I screamed. I want him. I want him now! If only he were here, this wouldn't be happening.

Momma got her hands around my arms and the lady stabbed me again. I didn't understand why she had to hurt me to make my life better. I was tired. I still got to kick her one more time before she shouted something at me and yelled something that made another lady come and hold my legs. Mommmaa, I cried. Momma! I was so confused. Little silver dragons biting me everywhere. Too bad I didn't have a sword like Aladdin so I could fight them off. I couldn't stop the lady from stabbing me again. I screamed as loud as I could because I thought maybe she'd stop. She stabbed me quickly after. In and out. Then the two ladies holding me let go.

They looked angry at me. I couldn't see them well because my eyes were so wet. But they sounded angry. Why were they angry? They're the ones who stabbed me with silver dragons. They left the room and I was alone now with Momma. My favorite Elmo shirt was all wrinkly and wet from all the crying. I thought I was going to die. I never want a vackseen ever ever ever again, I told her. She said that everything was okay and that I was brave. She said she would buy me a new videogame as a reward. That made me happy.

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