

**HOW ONE DOTTH TRAIN HIS  
DRAGON**

A dramatic play in three acts by  
Alldenspa (<https://alldenspa.art/>)

Adapted from the movie  
“How To Train Your Dragon” by Dreamworks



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## DRAMATIS PERSONAE.

HICCUP HORRENDOUS HADDOCK III., *a Viking boy*

STOICK THE VAST, *his father and chief of Berk*

GOBBER THE BELCH, *Stoick's friend and advisor*

SPITELOUT, *Stoick's general*

HOARK THE HAGGARD, *a Viking warrior*

BURNTHAIR THE BROAD, *a Viking warrior*

} VIKINGS

ASTRID HOFFERSON, *a Viking girl*

SNOTLOUT JORGENSON, *a Viking boy and Spitelout's son*

FISHLEGS INGERMAN, *a Viking boy*

RUFFNUT THORSTON, *a Viking girl*

TUFFNUT THORSTON, *her twin brother*

} YOUNGSTERS

TOOTHLESS, *a Night Fury*

*a DEADLY NADDER*

*a GRONCKLE*

*a HIDEOUS ZIPPLEBACK*

*a MONSTROUS NIGHTMARE*

} DRAGONS

GO THI, *a Viking elder*

VIKINGS *and* DRAGONS

ACT I.

## SCENE 1.

*The village of Berk.**Enter HICCUP on balcony.*HICCUP *(Speaks to audience.)*

This bare and hostile spot of land is Berk.  
It lies a fortnight North of hopelessness  
And any further up you'd freeze to death.  
It firmly sits on misery's twisted arc.

The village from which I originate— 5

To put it briefly: 'Tis a sturdy place.

The Vikings have been here for generations

But ev'ry single house we have is new.

And while there aren't many big attractions,

There's Fishing, Hunting, and a lovely view. 10

The only ever problem are the pests:  
While flies and bees are terrible companions  
And mice can put your patience to the test,  
The thing we're dealing with on Berk is—

*Enter SPITELOUT below on stage, from left.*

SPITELOUT

—Dragons!

*Enter HOARK and BURNTHAIR from right, alarmed.*

*All three exit left, with battle cries.*

HICCUP

*(Continues to audience.)*

A man in his sane mind would surely leave

15

But our Viking nature makes us stay.

In fight, there isn't much we can achieve,

And yet these men fight gladly any day.

*(Descends from balcony onto main stage.)*





Now hoist the torches, man the gates anon!  
To move against these fiends with swift attack                   40  
Will save our village and protect our kind!

[Exeunt STOICK and SPITELOUT.]

*Enter GOBBER on balcony, handing out weapons to Vikings offstage.*

*HICCUP ascends to join him.*

GOBBER           Ah, Hiccup. Nice of you to join this madness!  
Methought you had been carried off by one of  
those beasts!

HICCUP           What, me? You jest! I'm too big for their taste.  
They know not what to do with all of— this!  
*(Points down at himself.)*  
In truth, with my gigantic power faced                                   45  
The largest beast would come to see its place!

*Below on stage, enter STOICK and VIKINGS, passing.*

SPITELOUT       Good chief, the grain reserve is under siege—

We must retreat and switch to ground defense!

STOICK

Pray, move on to the lower half of town

And counter their attack with catapults! 50

[Exeunt STOICK and VIKINGS.]

HICCUP

*(Speaking to audience.)*

I'll warrant now you understand the meaning

Of why we have no single seasoned building!

As dragons haunt us almost every night

Is tested our vim and Viking might,

But when the air with dragons breath is filled 55

And fire spreads, so we're forced to rebuild.

*Enter YOUNGSTERS from right, pulling a large cart filled with water. They start extinguishing the fires.*

HICCUP

And these young lads form our fire defence,

Although 'gainst dragons it's a hopeless task.

'Tis Snotlout, Spitelout's son, the Thorston twins,

Fishlegs, and that young lady there is— Astrid! 60

*(Watches in awe as Astrid returns to the cart to refill.)*

And while they work, I am in here confined!

Their job is truly worth much more than mine...

[Exeunt YOUNGSTERS with cart.]

HICCUP *(Tries to descend to stage, but is held back by Gobber.)*

Gobber, please! The fight's about to start!

Pray, let me join, I need to make my mark!

GOBBER Oh lad, you have made far enough of those, just all 65  
in quite moronic places! If you indeed held any skill  
at all, I'm sure our chief would let you out to fight.

HICCUP I beg you, Gobber! If I slay a dragon

My life will hence be infinitely better!

If even Thorston's twins can pull that wagon

Why won't you let your youngsters do't together?

GOBBER Hiccup, you can't lift a hammer, you can't swing an 70  
axe. Heck, you can't even throw one of these  
chains!

*(Holds up a rope with rocks attached.)*

HICCUP 'Tis true to say my skill with arms is flimsy—

*(Heaves up a large crossbow-like device, shows it to  
Gobber.)*

—But technical device shall throw it for me!

What I may lack in Viking grit

I more than make up for in wit!





SPITELOUT

—Night Fury!

*(Explosion nearby.)*

[Exeunt STOICK and VIKINGS on opposite side.]

HICCUP

This dragon— relentless, effective, and vicious—  
Never steals, never shows— And it never misses.

No-one has ever killed this kind of beast,

105

And that's why I dream to accomplish it first!

*(Takes the device and descends to stage.)**Enter VIKINGS, passing.*

SPITELOUT

What are you doing, Hiccup?—

HICCUP

—Nothing, Sir!

HOARK

Get back!—

HICCUP

—I won't be long!—

HOARK

—They need you here!

[Exeunt.]

*Stage lighting switches to indicate change of location.**Enter HICCUP on balcony, carrying the device.*





- 
- I had a shot and took the dragon— 130
- STOICK —Silence!
- How come that on the moment thou appearst  
Disaster is the single thing that follows?  
Canst thou not see that I have larger needs?  
When winter comes, all Berk I have to feed!
- HICCUP As son to father, I have to confess: 135
- Mayhaps the men could eat a little less—
- STOICK *(Enraged.)* Tell me, my son: Is this a joke to you?  
Why canst thou not obey the simplest order?  
My clear command was that you stay inside,  
This fragile body from those fiends to hide. 140
- HICCUP ‘Tis in my nature, take it as you will:  
If I espy a dragon, I must kill!  
*(Pause. Stoick exhausted.)*
- STOICK My son, ‘tis true that thou art many things  
But dragonslayer is not one of them.  
Return to our home this very instant. 145
- (To Gobber.)* And Gobber, pray keep eye he  
does it true.
- [VIKINGS and YOUNGSTERS begin to exit.
- TUFFNUT What a performance!—

RUFFNUT —Truly, it was flawless!

SNOTLOUT Aye, never hath a Viking caused such multitude of problems!

[Exeunt VIKINGS and YOUNGSTERS.  
Only HICCUP and GOBBER remain.]

HICCUP I thank you, fellows! Truly, 'twas my effort.  
(*Aside.*) Though, in my heart I know: I killed 150  
the beast!

If only I could make my father see  
That finally I succeeded my endeavour...  
If I attempt to tell him of my feat  
He doth not e'en my utterance consider,  
And no attention pays at all, indeed 155  
Because my weakness and my tiny figure!

(*They ascend to balcony.*)

Pray tell me, Gobber: Why can he not listen  
To anything his son hath need to say?  
Not even doth he any will display  
To open up and see his son's position! 160  
(*Mimicking Stoick.*)  
Excuse me, barmaid, there's been a mistake,

For this is not the kind of son I ordered!  
A large and beefy offspring was my wish  
And not a talking fishbone such as this!

GOBBER      Methinks you have the wrong approach on this. It's      165  
not so much what you look like, but what's inside  
of you that he cannot accept!

HICCUP      ...My thanks for this explicit summary.

GOBBER      Young lad, the point is: You should stop trying so  
hard to be a man that you are clearly not!

HICCUP      My only wish is to be one of you—  
Succeed in but a single Viking task!  
Such is my aim— Is that too much so ask?      170

[Exit HICCUP from balcony.]

## S C E N E 2.

*The Great Hall.*

*Enter STOICK, GOBBER, and VIKINGS.*

*They sit around a large table, looking at a naval map.*





The boy possesses not a single skill!

GOBBER Aye, you should let him train with all his peers.

STOICK It's not a joke, my friend! I'm serious! 35

GOBBER And so am I! Indeed, to draw away from all activity  
is not a way to solve his hardships well, and make  
him grow. You don't know what the lad can do.  
He's clever.

STOICK The fragile boy would die before you can  
Release a single dragon from its cage!

GOBBER You don't know that!

STOICK —Alack, I fear I do!

GOBBER You don't. 40

STOICK —I do indeed!

GOBBER —You don't!

STOICK —Enough!

You know my son. You know what he is like.  
Since birth he hath been somehow— different.  
He doesn't seem to hear me when I speak—  
His skill to concentrate is ever lacking!

I take him fishing, and he hunts— for trolls! 45

GOBBER But trolls? They do exist! They steal your socks.  
But only ever left ones— What's with that?





It's clear to see that I can never be 10  
The man my Viking father sees in me!

Can twigs like these be called a Viking's arm?  
Can stalks like these a Viking's legs become?  
I cannot fight, much less deal any harm,  
Yet Viking deeds always with force are done... 15  
Oh, how I wish there was some kind of way  
To make but once me to my father talk  
And him to listen, for me to escape  
This path on which I'm set, but cannot walk.  
Although, as fath'r and son, we oft do speak 20  
The life of Chief's a harsh and tiring task—  
And never doth he listen to my need  
To stray from that which he doth of me ask!

*(Descends to stage.)*

If only I could be like nimble Astrid—  
When fighting in the ring, she's never bested! 25  
And all the while I stumble round this wood  
Because I did an entire dragon lose!  
It must have crashed down somewhere here, I

know it!

Just the exact location, that I don't.

But wait, from over there I hear a sound— 30

Methinks that shape's the dragon on the ground!

*(Notices Toothless.)*

By Odin's Grace! The beast! I did it true!

I did the deed, the one that none could do!

That night, I truly did the dragon hit—

Who needs an Astrid, this clears all of it! 35

*(Strikes a pose over the lifeless dragon, but stumbles back in terror when Toothless suddenly moves.)*

Alack! The thing, though bound in chains, lives on!

Caught from the heavens, but not yet undone.

Oh father, how I sense: My time has come!

By insight bested, now you cannot run! 40

*(Draws out a small dagger and points at Toothless.)*

Aye, I will kill you, beast— Of that be sure!

My life will fully mended be if only this I do:

If I could to my father bring your heart

And have him know that I undid you, then  
My miserable life would rip apart! 45  
So hear you this: I am a Viking man!  
*(Moves to stab the dragon, but hesitates.)*  
You hear it, dragonfury! I'm a Viking!  
*(Wrestles with his consciousness, finally resigns.)*  
I realize now, this deed I cannot work—  
You don't deserve a death by hands of Berk—  
This suffering is what I dealt to you... 50  
I bound you, now I set you free: Adieu!  
[Exit TOOTHLESS, distrustfully. HICCUP stays back.]

## S C E N E 4.

*Stoick's House.*

STOICK, *sitting at the fireplace.*

*Enter HICCUP.*





STOICK

—Deal or no?

HICCUP

*(Resigns.)* 'Tis done.

STOICK

—Well said! Train hard, I shall be back.

E'en as I venture onto this campaign 35

To you, dear son, I shall in time return.

[Exit STOICK.]

HICCUP

And I shall miss you, father— Sail with care!

Oh if he would but listen to my will!

He never even tries, and this affair

Doth portend matters grim, and grimmer still. 40

[Exit HICCUP.]

## S C E N E 5.

*The Training Grounds.**Shields piled up at left side.**Enter GOBBER and YOUNGSTERS.*



- SNOTLOUT      But Hiccup already shot the Night Fury, so can he  
still participate in this?  
*(General laughter.)*
- GOBBER      *(To Hiccup.)* Do not worry, you are small and weak.  
That makes you less of a target! The beasts will see  
you as sick or insane and go for the more  
Viking-like teens instead.  
*(To Group.)* Behind these doors is but a portion of      15  
the numerous dragons you will learn to fight. This  
one—
- FISHLEGS      I know't, I know't! It is the Nadder there!  
With knives for claws, and razor pins for hair!  
That one is called the Hideous Zippleback—  
T'has double heads held by a single neck!  
Behind this door, a Monstrous Nightmare waits—      20  
The beast that but our strongest men can face.
- SNOTLOUT      But Hiccup has already fought with one, so doth  
that—
- GOBBER      *(Annoyed.)* Can you shut your banter down?  
*(Short pause.)*
- ASTRID      We have for dragon training gathered here,  
And not for Fishlegs' endless speech to hear.      25



As man, I shall have—

*(Dragon's fire blast hits the shield and knocks both away.)*

GOBBER —Ruffnut, Tuffnut: Out! 35

*(Twins ascend to balcony, still fighting.)*

All dragons have a limited count of shots! Tell me,  
how many doth a Gronckle have?

SNOTLOUT 'Tis five!—

FISHLEGS —'Tis six, you nitwit!—

GOBBER —Six it is!

That's one for each of you.—

FISHLEGS —I truly think

That my dear mother would—

*(Blast hits Fishlegs' shield and knocks it airborne.)*

GOBBER —Fishlegs, you're done.

*(Fishlegs ascends hastily.)*

SNOTLOUT *(To Astrid.)* Oh Astrid, I must say your figure is 40

enchanting, and I was thinking if mayhap later  
today, after I have felled this gargantuan beast, we—

*(Gronckle blasts Snotlout's shield.)*

GOBBER —Snotlout, you're done as well.

*(Snotlout ascends, eyes fixed on Astrid. Hiccup and Astrid  
cover behind the pile of shields.)*

HICCUP           Methinks it best if both of us would run—  
 Indeed, one would be mad to fight that beast!

ASTRID           *(Laughs audaciously.)*  
 The both of us? Do not yourself deviece:  
 In little time there shall be only one. 45  
*(Astrid dodges a blast. It hits Hiccup's shield and disarms him.)*

GOBBER           That's one shot left, and Hiccup, you are—  
*(Gronckle suddenly roars and charges. Gobber storms from balcony and saves Hiccup. Gronckle blasts the wall in irritation. Gobber rattled, but masking it.)*  
 —And that shall make it six. Return to bed, thou  
 sausage! You shall yet get your chance.  
*(Slams Gronckle's head with fist. Dragon exits with whimper. Short pause. Youngsters gather, exhausted.)*  
 And you, young lot— Hear and remember well:  
 A dragon never aims but for the kill.

[EXEUNT GOBBER and YOUNGSTERS.]

HICCUP in thought.

## S C E N E 6.

*The Cove.*



Yet after this encounter I can tell 15  
That there potential is to rectify!

I wonder where this narrow path doth go—  
That seems to be the way the beast flew off.  
Although, the rocky scape up here is tough—  
I don't think I have wandered here 'til now... 20

*(Begins to descend to stage, but stumbles back when  
Toothless suddenly appears, trying to climb the rock face.)*  
Alack, it's him! The dragon hunts me yet!  
Praise luck that I on this high rock am placed...  
But, winged beast, why don't you airborne rise  
Small Hiccup from the precipice to get...?

Is it morality that keeps thee from it? 25  
From rising up, to deal this Viking's death?  
In either way, indeed I can't believe it—  
To think that dragons could such feeling have...  
*(Toothless continues to climb, but always slides back down.)*

It seems to me as if you're out of power  
Or that some other illness doth befall 30

Your wings to make them weak and let you cower  
Imprisoned by these rocky fences tall!

*(Observes further, still unnoticed.)*

I see it there, the dragon hath its tail  
So badly injured from the fall that now  
The damage done to it doth disallow 35  
To ride the heavens, and the winds to sail!

Alack, I sense that wound may never heal...

A dragon downed, incapable of flight?

Oh, how I hear my father's voice: 'To kill!

But no, I hurt the beast, I'll set it right! 40

*(Descends to stage, but is noticed by Toothless, who shrieks.)*

However, e'en a dragon downed may bite!

Methinks I best return another time...

I should approach when you're asleep at night—

Such discipline suits helpless Viking fine.

Farewell for now, but I won't stay away: 45

I shall return, this damage to repay!

[Exit HICCUP on balcony. TOOTHLESS stays back.]

## SCENE 7.





The book is fascinating, verily—  
 It tells you all about each kind of beast.  
 The perfect preparation, certainly,  
 As you proceed in battle them to face!

RUFFNUT           Methinks I shall not read a single page of it.           25

TUFFNUT           There was a chance, but now my mind is set!

[Exit YOUNGSTERS except HICCUP and ASTRID.]

HICCUP            If this is so, 'tis but the two of us?

ASTRID            I'm awed to hear you have not read it yet...

[Exit ASTRID.]

HICCUP            Whilst Astrid's scorn doth frustrate verily  
 What is not yet can still corrected be!           30

*(Opens the book and reads aloud.)*

I read here that the dragon's multitude  
 By forte in small distinctions is enclosed.  
 These temperaments count few and do include  
 The Strike, the Fear, even the Mystery class!

*(Flipping through pages of dragon description.)*

The Thunderdrum, a sea leviathan—           35

Its pitched shriek is said to kill a man!

Extremely dangerous,

And shall be slain on sight!  
The Timberjack, an airborne villainry  
Whose razor-wings cut trees entirely! 40  
Extremely dangerous,  
And shall be slain on sight!

The Scauldron, e'en the one that Fishlegs said  
Would pour its boiling water on my head...  
Extremely dangerous, 45  
And shall be slain on sight!

*(Starts to flick ever more quickly through the pages )*  
Changewing. Gronckle. Zibbleback.  
The Bone Knapper— The Whispering Death!  
Burns its victims—  
Chokes its victims— 50  
Turns its victims inward-out!  
Extremely dangerous,  
Extremely dangerous—  
—And ever to be slain on sight...

*(Reaches the last page.)*

The Night Fury— Its properties unknown... 55

Not even has the book an image shown!

The very child of death and lightning strike—

A fiendish beast not even hell hath like...

Never engage this dragon, for thine only chance

Shall be to hide and hope for its advance... 60

*(Pause.)*

And yet I sense: The dragon that I saw

Behind this grim façade is hiding more.

[Exit HICCUP.]

## S C E N E 8.

*The Training Grounds.*

GOBBER *on balcony.*

*Enter HICCUP from side, armed and exhausted from running.*



The more this dragon training doth progress 15

The more I start to doubt your competence!

In truth, if my dear mother knew of your

Archaic teaching style, you would be sure—

GOBBER Look for its blind spot! Every dragon has one. Find  
it, hide in it, and strike.

[YOUNGSTERS exit, chased by DEADLY NADDER.

HICCUP remains.

HICCUP I wonder how a man would undertake 20

To a Night Fury an approach to make?

GOBBER No man hath ever lived to tell that tale!

HICCUP Of course— 'Tis but imagination's play.

YOUNGSTERS *re-enter, still hunted by DEADLY NADDER.*

SNOTLOUT (*To Astrid.*) At ease, my love! I will take care of this,  
and slay the beast by my enormous might!

(*Throws his axe, but misses. Awkward pause.*)

What can I do? The sun was in my eye! Astrid, do 25  
you expect of me to darken out the sun? ... Which I  
of course could do, in proper time—

*(Astrid charges at dragon and strikes it. Dragon retreats.)*

[Exit DEADLY NADDER.]

GOBBER *(Descends.)* Well done, Astrid. The rest of you still  
have some way to go.

HICCUP Methinks the dragon did not earn that blow—

ASTRID *(Enraged.)*

Thou idiot! Is this a game to you?

Art thou nothing but foolish imbecile?

In earnest, soon enough the time is due 30

For us to wage the war our fathers fight!

And I can see that you still have to make

Your choice of which alignment you will take!

[Exeunt GOBBER and YOUNGSTERS.]

ACT II.

## SCENE 1.

*The Cove.*TOOTHLESS *on stage.**Enter HICCUP on balcony, carrying a fish and his knife.*

HICCUP       The Viking knowledge truly stretches far  
As long as dragonslaughter is concerned—  
Yet now I realize that the skills I learned  
For this task all but insufficient are!

For when has e'er a Viking seen a dragon  
And not proceeded outright it to slay?  
As far as all those Viking folks imagine  
There simply isn't any other way.

5

Methinks on Berk 'thas never been considered:  
To think that dragons might be capable 10  
Of tender, merciful benevolence—  
For Viking understanding, 'tis impossible!

Yet marked I am since I this dragon met  
That did a subtle teaching me infuse—  
It hath me changed and made me to forget 15  
The cruelty my Viking kin doth use.

*(Descends. Toothless eyes him nervously.*

*Hiccup offers the fish. Toothless approaches, but backs away  
after noticing Hiccup's dagger.)*

HICCUP Your eye can not be fooled, so I confess  
That I came hither armed— But now I see  
This blade inhibits my approach to thee.  
It shall be gone, so set your heart at rest. 20  
As I dismiss my knife into the lake,  
Indeed all Berk would call me naught but senseless!  
And I can only hope that you will take  
No move 'gainst me, now that I am defenceless...  
*(Throws the knife into the lake. Toothless relaxes.)*

I am about your injury concerned 25  
 And thought that you must surely hungry be.  
 I gave you promise and have hence returned  
 My shame and my humility to plea.  
*(Throws the fish. Toothless picks it up and reveals missing teeth.)*

I must mistake it, but I see no teeth!  
 A toothless dragon? Verily— 30  
*(Teeth suddenly appear as Toothless swallows the fish. Hiccup stumbles back.)*

—unique!

*(Toothless approaches, Hiccup frightened.)*  
 What is your will, companion? And what for  
 Dost thou approach? I haven't any more!  
 I knew it— Now that fish is all away,  
 He shall instead on this small Viking prey!  
*(Toothless stops close to Hiccup and regurgitates a chunk of fish onto his lap. Tense pause.)*

HICCUP *(Sarcastically.)* In honesty, my fancy did expect 35

This meeting a quite different route to take...

*(They exchange stares.)*

Well, O'er the teeth and through the gum,

Watch out stomach, here it comes!

*(Gnaws off a bite of fish and with great effort swallows it.*

*He forces a smile. Toothless mimics it endearingly.*

*Hiccup reaches to touch Toothless' head, but he retreats with a hiss to other end of stage and lies down.*

*After short pause, Hiccup approaches. Toothless tolerates until Hiccup tries to touch the injured tail. Toothless snaps and Hiccup retreats.)*

*Stage lighting dims and reignites to indicate passing of time.*

HICCUP *draws figures into the sand with a stick. TOOTHLESS awakes and approaches curiously.*

HICCUP           *(To himself.)* I cannot help but wonder  
what originally

Made dragonkind and Vikings mortal enemies—           40

Have dragons always been towards us hostile,

Or doth this conflict have a diff'rent source...?

*(Toothless runs off and reappears with a large branch. He starts to draw on the ground just like Hiccup, filling the stage with broad lines.*

*After a while he stops and inspects his work. Hiccup watches in awe.*

*Trying carefully to manoeuvre without stepping on the lines, Hiccup turns and unwittingly bumps into Toothless.*

*They exchange stares for a tense moment. Hiccup delicately extends his hand while turning his head away. Toothless hesitates, but finally steps forward to touch his hand.*

*After a moment, Toothless rushes off, leaving Hiccup astounded.)*

[Exit TOOTHLESS.

HICCUP speechless.

## S C E N E 2.

*Atop an abandoned watchtower.*

GOBBER *and* YOUNGSTERS *gathered around a campfire.*

GOBBER —And with one twist of claw he took my hand and swallowed it whole. And I saw the assessment on his grimace: I was delicious! He must have passed the word about, for not a month had gone before another of the monsters took my leg.

FISHLEGS I fancy what could happen if your hand,  
Although detached, still by your instinct lead  
Had entered dragon's body past its guard  
To kill but from within and crush its heart! 5

SNOTLOUT I swear, the loss of your beautiful hand and your beautiful foot doth fill me up with hunger for revenge. I shall cut off the legs of every dragon that I fight, and do so using nothing but my face!

GOBBER That plan is ill mislead. To slay a dragon true, you must aim foremost for its wings and tail.

Without these tools the beast cannot escape, and  
downèd dragon's life is yours to take.

*(Short pause, all eat. Hiccup in terror.)*

Aright, I shall to bed, and so should you.  
Tomorrow on, we will begin to train on some of  
Odin's larger miscreants, so come prepared! Before  
long we shall work towards even the Monstrous  
Nightmare. But who can win the right for then to  
slay it?

[Exit GOBBER. YOUNGSTERS begin to exit as well.

TUFFNUT I sense the celebration mine shall be.

SNOTLOUT Oh spite, it will be me— 'Tis destiny! 10

[Exeunt YOUNGSTERS.

HICCUP This startling truth, spoken unknowingly

Brings sudden realization verily:

That if I do not countermeasure take

The toothless dragon Viking's prey shall make!

For is it not my fault original 15

Which first the dragon in that cove entrapped

And dealt his tail a harm so critical

That now he on his own cannot escape?

I must another visit make to him!  
His drawing in the sand hath shown me verily 20  
That until now, we all misled have been  
To think that dragons evil are, exclusively.

It doth my Viking heritage betray  
To but consider thoughts like these, and yet  
I feel a need to help and take away 25  
The damage my misguided shot hath dealt.

[Exit HICCUP.]

### S C E N E 3.

*The Cove.*

TOOTHLESS *on stage.*

TOOTHLESS *(To audience.)*

Behold the irony of destiny:  
The hidden truth at last is here made clear.  
That dragonkind behind its teeth indeed  
Holds more than what doth visibly appear.

The Viking flaw now by and by is shown 5  
As we behold the courage and the wit  
Of one young boy that gathers on his own  
The truth that all his kin fail to admit.

But oh, alack: What can one child achieve  
To end at last the Vikings' villainy? 10  
Only with guidance strong he shall succeed,  
And so the task lies verily with me.

Imprisoned in this cove I'm made to guess  
About the part we dragons are to take  
In nature's grand design, as it doth make 15  
Its merry play of men and beast's excess.

These cultures two doth bind a single link:  
To ever slay the other, without reason

But that he slayeth— Thus they're made to think  
They must retaliate, the score to even. 20

There is but one exception to this rule  
That I had thought would never broken be:  
He who unchained me from my bindings cruel  
And who in my entrapment tends to me.

While I in this untroubled refuge dwell 25  
The Vikings do progress their hateful ploy—  
Yet hope I have in time their play to quell  
Not by my claws and fire, but the boy.

*Enter HICCUP on balcony, carrying a large bag and a leather contraption. He descends.*

HICCUP      I thought you hungry, Toothless, and did bring  
Some food, though from our test I can confess 30  
How fish, if raw, is not my fav'rite thing—  
*(Empties the bag of fish onto the ground.)*  
—and how disgusting this arrangement is...

Methinks the menu covers salmon, cod,  
And if I see it right this ribbon here—  
*(Pulls out a speckled Eel. Toothless backs away in shock.)*

—A smoked eel! In truth, I must agree: 35  
‘Tis not the dish of choice, so let it be.

*(Moves around to Toothless’ tail while the dragon eats.)*  
Take freely, dragon, and enjoy your meal  
While I behind in other business deal...

*(Attempts to install the prosthetic on Toothless’s tail.)*

The strapping sits,  
And the contraption fits! 40

*(Toothless suddenly spreads his wings and takes to the air,  
dragging Hiccup with him.)*

[Exit TOOTHLESS, dragging HICCUP along.

*(Hiccup’s shouts and amazed laughter audible from  
offstage.)*

[After a while, they crash back onto the stage.

*(Hiccup gasping for breath, both giggling merrily.)*

HICCUP      Your eagerness to fly astounds me, dragon  
And truly doth remind me of a human!

Not yet this gear doth function flawlessly  
But our work in time can make it be!

In honesty, it is a great relief 45  
To see you in the air, and your display  
Of flight, although indeed twas all too brief,  
Gives hop that I my fault can yet repay!  
I shall be sure tomorrow to return  
To test, adjust, and even more to learn! 50

[Exit HICCUP.

## SCENE 4.

*The Training Grounds.*

GOBBER *on balcony*. YOUNGSTERS *on stage, teamed up in pairs*:  
HICCUP *with* FISHLEGS, SNOTLOUT *with* TUFFNUT, ASTRID *with* RUFFNUT.  
*All carry buckets of water.*

*The stage is filled with thick fog from the* HIDEOUS ZIPPLEBACK.

GOBBER            Today our aim is teamwork! You shall have to guard each other and cooperate in order to defeat this crafty beast!

RUFFNUT          Pray tell, Gobber, what dragon lies in wait—

TUFFNUT          —And what significance this fog might take!

GOBBER            It is the Hideous Zippleback's deceitful trickery that with this smoke hath filled our fighting ring. The Zippleback doth carry double heads: The first 5 this fog to pour, the other then to light it, and make it all explode!

The deadly trap the spitting head hath set his friend cannot ignite with muzzle wet! Therefore your carry water, and your task: To know which beast hath fire, which hath gas!

FISHLEGS        (*To Hiccup.*)

Their teeth are razor-sharp and do inject

A venom weakening, and then on top

They strike from ambush— Oh, our fate is sealed!

HICCUP            (*Unnerved.*) Can you this ghastly explanation stop? 10

SNOTLOUT        I swear it: Cowardly trickery like this cannot defeat the mighty Snotlout! If this abomination doth









- The axe, but still: This year she's not the best!  
VIKING I So tell, who is it? If I well recall,  
The only other youngsters to attend 30  
The course this year are Fishlegs Ingerman,  
Who we can well agree is all unfit  
For anything when dragons are concerned,  
The Thorstons' troublemaking twins, and aye,  
I can't imagine they stand any chance, 35  
And noble Spitelout's son, the daring Snotlout!  
Now I do understand— Thou must mean him!  
Indeed, no other hath the skill to meet  
The fearless Astrid, that is sure indeed!  
So then, brave Snotlout shall our champion be! 40  
VIKING II Fie, nothing of the sort! Thou art mistaken—  
Hast thou not well forgotten one entirely?  
*(Pause.)*  
The chief's bold son, e'en Hiccup!—  
VIKING I —It can't be!  
All hail our chief, but when his son's concerned  
I tend to think that he doth not possess 45  
A single skill! Much less a fighter's prowess!  
VIKING II Indeed— That is what every Viking thought!

But now, the truth is finally revealed:  
 He is a dragon master, verily  
 And can meet Astrid's brav'ry easily! 50

Hast thou not seen how he, sans any effort  
 Brings down even the mightiest of beasts?  
 At times, he uses no more than a stick  
 Or just a small handful of grass, to best  
 A Gronckle, then a Hideous Zippleback, 55  
 And e'en the Deadly Nadder!—

VIKING I —Oh, alack!

Thou surely must be joking, noble friend!  
 How could such boy attain such wond'rous skill?

VIKING II 'Tis well a miracle— None understand  
 How he, unarmed down to his very skin 60  
 Can effortlessly best the strongest beast—  
 That little boy is Stoick's son, indeed!

VIKING I In earnest! Just as mighty as the father!  
 I cannot wait to see his strength myself!

VIKING II In that case, friend, let us with haste away 65  
 To our training grounds— make no delay!

VIKING I I rush to it! If what you say is true,

Then Berk's young hero spawns our hope anew!

[Exeunt VIKINGS.]

## S C E N E 6.

*Berk, at night.**Enter HICCUP and TOOTHLESS.**HICCUP corded to the saddle that is strapped to TOOTHLESS's back.*

HICCUP           How silent and in peace our village lies  
                      At night, when moonshine plays his tender tune  
                      As all is still before the sun doth rise  
                      And Viking life again on Berk resumes.

                      The gear we use for Toothless' flight hath made           5  
                      A risky problem spawn from our work:  
                      It needs adjust, and forces me to take  
                      Him to my workshop— at the core of Berk!  
                      For this endeavour, we have nightly gone  
                      To visit there, this business to attend.                   10  
                      I shall repair the broken gear anon  
                      And pray no one will see my wingèd friend.



---

ASTRID           No! Not again! I had him cornered, yet  
                      He goes before and makes a swift escape...  
                      'Tis plain to see, there is some hidden goings-on  
                      That I, although I try, can't put my finger on.           30  
                      What is the secret that he hides from me  
                      That I can't seem to grasp, and how can he  
                      Who until now had but pathetic been  
                      Achieve such sudden glory in the ring?

                      Methinks there must be some sort of deception           35  
                      He uses 'gainst the dragons he doth face—  
                      For his supremacy not in the least  
                      From his seems any energy to take!  
                      'Tis true that he doth always seem to fell  
                      The beast with but a finger, whereas I                   40  
                      —Although like him I truly do excel—  
                      Have need my axe's violence to apply.

                      For my whole life I have but exercised  
                      To fight and slay each dragon that I face—  
                      That peaceful practice he doth seem to take           45  
                      Makes my life's worth look but uncivilized!

Oh, Hiccup, hear: I verily despise you  
And all the admiration that you earn!  
And still I feel a curious enchantment  
That draws me in, about you more to learn. 50  
[Exit ASTRID.]

S C E N E 7.  
*The Docks of Berk.*

*STOICK and his men return from their campaign. Passing Vikings unload the damaged ship.*

*Enter STOICK, SPITELOUT and BURNTHAIR from left, and HOARK and GOBBER from right.*

BURNTHAIR     At last, we have to our home returned  
From this campaign to crush the dragon nest,  
Although the outcome this crusade did take

	Could truly not be further from the best...	
HOARK	Of vessels three you took this trip to make I see but one safely returned to Berk! Where are the other two that you have lost, And tell us, Chief: Did you locate the nest?	5
SPITELOUT	These ships are taken to a place For which you shall not ask. The single thing we learned is that to raid The dragons' nest is not a human's task!	10
STOICK	When loss of our ships made us return In truth we had not e'en come close to it!	
	[Exeunt except STOICK and GOBBER.	
STOICK	I trust in earnest you had more success In training with the younger of our tribe— Although experience with my son doth teach Results might just as catastrophic be!	15

*VIKINGS re-enter, passing while they continue to unload equipment.*



My family is saved, and all is well!

If only though this raid had better gone.  
For soon enough in winter's cold embrace 35  
The sea, the land, and Berk are tightly held.  
No more shall we assault the dragons' lair  
Till spring arrives, our icy bonds to clear.  
Yet winter has been ever harsh on Berk  
And by its end, we might forsaken be 40  
When dragon's rage doth seal our misery.

While all of this doth hold a grave concern  
There yet is hope how Berk perhaps could earn  
Another chance. For our Viking tribe  
Hath ever held its own by might of hand 45  
And axe, and by the strength of our will!  
Our fighting prowess doth alive us keep,  
And hearing news of Hiccup's newfound might,  
I gather hope this future yet to meet.

[Exit STOICK.]



To freely soar the skies on dragon's wing  
And see the place where we today have been.

Good friend, although thou mayest wingèd be  
And not a Viking, but of dragonkind,  
There's still among the young and old of Berk 15  
No-one that truly feels so close to me:  
Methinks in truth my peers are all but false,  
Well trusting friends, but with a wrongèd cause.  
These youngsters, even older ones, do hold  
Me as their hero for my Viking force 20  
Of will— yet if they ever found its source  
In you, their admiration were but gone.

In this position I do truly feel  
More like a dragon than a Viking man.  
I could not ever slay your kind, and still 25  
My village loves me, as they think I can!

Even my very father is betrayed  
By this illusion I covertly play.  
How can I be his son when he doth see

A man I'm not when he doth look on me? 30

Alack, my state is sinister indeed!

How solve this troublesome entanglement?

I truly hope somehow all will be cleared,

And then at last shall reach a joyful end.

*(Sits down leaning against a rock and soon falls asleep.)*

TOOTHLESS *(Speaking to audience.)*

There's something else that caught my 35

keen attention:

A thing young Hiccup did, but did not mention:

He had on paper noted ev'rything

For him to steer his dragonfin invention.

'Tis natural, with leather for a wing

I cannot lead its movement on my own— 40

Conducting it, he can with me perform

The feat that neither one could have alone.

However, these instructions did indeed

Turn out to be too complicated, and

In flight were insufficient for his need 45

At moment's notice them to understand.

When we at first flew in a calmly fashion  
This did not us a disadvantage make,  
But as he lead me to a steep ascent  
To pierce the clouds with an advent'rous passion 50  
A sudden squall did off the air us take  
And our joy came to a sudden end.

In our fall he panicking let go  
Of this to him so crucial note, and Lo!  
As he was in this crisis forced to lead 55  
Not by command, but by his feeling true  
His troubled mind was of a sudden cleared  
And flawlessly the stormy path he flew.

There is a meaning deep to this event  
That he cannot yet see or comprehend, 60  
But when in time young Hiccup doth apply  
This feat onto his very Viking life—  
To not by expectation or command  
His vigour spend, but by his own resolve,  
Then Hiccup will his struggles lastly solve 65  
And hold his true identity in hand.

[BOTH remain as lighting dims.]

## S C E N E 9.

*The Blacksmith Shop.*

HICCUP *at work, on his desk multiple dragon sketches.*

HICCUP        Before the time my noble father went  
                  On this endeavour for to find the land  
                  From where the dragons all originate  
                  When they at night our food— and lives— do take  
                  He in the past did countless efforts make                    5  
                  The nest to find and dragon's home to raid.



There is a secret that thou keepst from me. 20

*(Hiccup shocked.)*

I wonder for how long you did expect

That you could business have behind my back.

On this, our island, nothing doth occur

Without your chief to notice, so we shall

About a matter talk concerning dragons! 25

HICCUP Gods' graces, father, pray forgive, I—

*(Stoick breaks into laughter. Hiccup irritated.)*

...But father, are you not upset? Or more—

STOICK My son, this is what I was hoping for!

And trust me, lad: From this point on it gets

But ever better! Wait until at first 30

You spill a Nadder's guts between hands,

Or carry on a spear a Gronckle's head.

That is what makes a Viking true, my boy!

*(Awkward pause as Hiccup realizes the misunderstanding.)*

I must confess, my son: You had me played

As if I were a simple instrument 35

In all those years that you were held Berk's most

Pathetic Viking! Oh, you Gods, how rough!

And all this time you were but holding back  
 The Viking man inside! 'Tis true, I had  
 But barely held my hope in this charade. 40

Oh Thor almighty, and your wondrous games!

*(Sits down.)*

My son, with you excelling in the fight

We finally have things to talk about.

*(Tense pause.)*

...Lest I forget, I brought a warrior's gift  
 To in the ring keep safe your clever head! 45

*(Pulls out a helmet and hands it to Hiccup.)*

HICCUP Astounded am I, father— Thank you!—

STOICK —Aye!

Your mother would have wanted you to have it.

It is, like mine, her very breastplate half—

So wear it proudly, Hiccup. You deserve it.

*(Pause, both uncomfortable and struggling*

*to find proper words.)*

HICCUP I really should to bed now!— 50

STOICK —Verily!

We should more often in this way converse.

HICCUP Indeed, a marv'lous talk. So then—

STOICK

—Good Night!

[Exit STOICK, and after a short pause HICCUP.]

## SCENE 10.

*The Training Grounds.*

STOICK, GOTH and other VIKINGS on balcony.

*Enter HICCUP, ASTRID and GOBBER on stage, greeted with cheers.*

*At STOICK's command, VIKINGS fall silent in anticipation. GOBBER steps aside.*

*Enter GRONCKLE on stage. They fight. After some time, both youngsters*

*retreat and hide behind a barricade.*





To visit Toothless, and with him escape!

[Exit HICCUP, rushing.]



No-one can go from pitiful to best  
As fast as you pretend to have progressed. 10

There is a secret to it! Have you come  
Hither to train and practice with someone?  
Who is it? Snotlout? Gobber?—

HICCUP —Rest assured

There is no secret that I try to guard!

ASTRID Whatever your activity may be, 15

It better not involve this curious gear!

*(Points down at Hiccup's flight equipment. Hiccup at a loss  
for words, gesturing nervously.)*

HICCUP Thou— art correct, I shall uncover it:

In recent time I have attempted here

To fabricate some— garments of a sort

And— 20

*(Astrid punches him with elbow. Hiccup stumbles back.)*

—Astrid, Fie, why wouldst thou hurt me thus?

ASTRID This strike is for the lies you try to tell—

*(Bashes the stumbling Hiccup with axe hilt.)*

—And this one is for ev'ry other thing.

*(Toothless, alarmed by Hiccup's protest, appears and approaches Astrid. She notices in sudden terror and dives behind cover, dragging Hiccup along.)*

ASTRID Night Fury!—

HICCUP *(Aside.)* —Spite, 'tis finally revealed...  
*(Tries to untangle from Astrid's grip, in vain.)*

ASTRID Get down and hide, thou sorry dimwit!—

HICCUP —No!  
*(Rushes out to stop Toothless' charge onto Astrid.)*

I shall all things unveil, and first acquaint 25  
You, Astrid, with my loyal dragon friend—

ASTRID *(Incredulous.)* Thine dragon friend?—

HICCUP —You merely scared him thus!  
He but protects me— Pray, put trust in us!

ASTRID Am I supposed to scare this fury ruthless?  
How canst thou name a beast as this your— friend? 30

HICCUP Astrid, this is my good companion Toothless,  
Who but attacked his fellow to defend!  
*(Pause. Astrid speechless.)*

ASTRID Thou madman, whom all reason hath departed!  
I shall to Stoick this report anon—

*(Tries to ascend to balcony, but Hiccup and Toothless cut off her way. Scared of the dragon, she backs away.)*

HICCUP            You will do no such thing, and be ye warned:            35  
                          We shall withhold you should you try to run!  
                          *(Realizes violence is not his will.)*

Astrid, see reason: Thou art but misguided  
 By our tradition to believe the gap  
 That hath these beasts and Vikingkind divided  
 Is any other thing but mere façade!                            40  
 'Tis an illusion— Dragons aren't evil  
 Indeed, our side hath earned that shady title.  
 If I could but explain to you the way  
 How this misunderstanding came to be—

ASTRID            By Odin, I will never listen well                            45  
                          To anything you maniac can say!

HICCUP            So be it! I shan't speak in any way  
                          And let your own experience you compel.  
                          *(Extends hand to Astrid. She hesitates, but curiosity bests her fear.)*

To take my hand is a decision wise—  
 I thank you, noble friend. Then, to the skies!                    50



Into a steep ascent, the startling might  
That dragonkind doth hold to demonstrate.

Indeed, my feat did strike its aim, and she  
In terror gripped to Hiccup cried: “My liege!  
I see it now and do apologize! 15  
But pray, do not deliver my demise  
In this absurd ascent!”— Upon this word  
I sensed: All her aggressive rage was cleared  
As she in dread unto young Hiccup held  
Hoping that he would from this death her save. 20

As soon as I had won this clash of mind  
I changed our flight into a gentler kind  
At last to heed dear Hiccup's wish and show  
To her the world that dragonkind doth own:  
The heavens clear as far as eye could see 25  
And tow'ring clouds ablaze in golden hues—  
When she this alien skyscape saw, she did  
At last brave Hiccup's meaning understand.  
It had on her a deep effect, and soon  
Her hate towards him was with awe replaced. 30

However our joy was not for long—  
Too soon, when we a bank of fog did cross  
I sensed a darker presence at our side:  
A dragon that in flight did share our course.  
At first, I did not think too much of it 35  
For verily the fog is our home—  
But my concern was quickly multiplied  
When by and by more dragons did appear.  
It seemed they planned to visit some event  
Or other, for they carried food and game 40  
That they had caught on Berk, it now to bring  
Unto a hidden place, for cause unknown.

The situation verily was dang'rous  
For while I am myself of course a dragon  
My two companions still are truly human, 45  
To all these beasts a mortal enemy.  
Observant Hiccup, noticing the threat,  
Attempted us out of the fog to steer—  
Yet when we undertook this plan, Alack  
The beasts were far too numerous to flee. 50

Instead, we had no choice but to apply  
The fog around us as a weak disguise,  
In hope the dragons all around would see  
Without its riders two this Night Fury.

Within this convoy, we did lastly reach 55  
A hidden cavern in volcano's rock—  
What we did witness there— 'Twas a shock!  
So now we shall again our heroes meet.

[Exit TOOTHLESS.]

### S C E N E 3.

*The Dragon Nest, Inside.*

*Numerous DRAGONS on stage, gathering.*

*Enter HICCUP, ASTRID and TOOTHLESS on balcony.*

HICCUP      'Tis unbelievable— This setting doth



- 
- I must confess, it pains me to behold  
 How all our food we suffered hardships for 20  
 Is not by dragon eaten, and instead  
 Into a boundless chasm simply thrown!
- ASTRID ‘Tis true, they aren’t eating any of’t!  
 If this is why they raid us— Where’s their profit?  
 With all their food expelled from the hive 25  
 How can the numerous dragons here survive?
- HICCUP In troth, methinks they don’t surrender freely  
 What they by their attacks on Berk did steal—  
 There must be some authority indeed  
 That forces all these beasts to yield their meal... 30  
*(Youngsters and Toothless aghast as a sudden terrifying roar  
 sounds from offstage, signalling the presence of a gigantic  
 dragon.)*
- ASTRID Pray use your knowledge, Hiccup: What was that?
- HICCUP Dear Astrid, I have no idea— In fact,  
 Methinks this truth I do not want to know!  
 The pressing matter here is that we go  
 And from this caldera make our escape 35  
 To be away and take return to Berk!
- ASTRID I share your circumspect opinion, Aye—



---

	I do not know what measures now to take.	10
	‘Tis plain to understand that ‘gainst this fiend The Viking army stands no chance, indeed...	
ASTRID	This information’s crucial to our tribe. We must report it to the chief anon!	
HICCUP	Desist! This needs explaining how we did Into possession of this knowledge come. If my good father finds that I have been An ally to a dragon, it will mean For Toothless to be surely killed, and I In truth cannot deliver him to die!	15
	We need to form our method carefully: There is all too much risky possibility! We must handle this information well, And keep in mind what secrets it can tell— If we take action all too hastily	20
	This matter verily ends in catastrophe.	25
ASTRID	<i>(Incredulous.)</i> Hiccup, what we have found is dragons’ nest! The true objective of the Vikings’ quest Since we first sailed here centuries ago— And you intend to let nobody know?	30

HICCUP I do indeed.

ASTRID (*Taken aback.*) —If this is your intent  
How do you plan this knowledge now to spend?

Be ye aware, tomorrow is your test  
Where you shall have to slay a dragon verily!

HICCUP Pray, don't remind me, Astrid. I detest 35  
To think at all about that dreadful ceremony.  
(*Bitter pause.*)

ASTRID This chaos truly goes from worse to worst—  
Yet pray you, for the Vikings' sake, our first  
Concern should be unveiling dragons' nest!

HICCUP Let me but until morrow morning rest. 40  
I hopefully shall some approach devise  
To save my friend— and me— from this demise.  
(*Both ascend to balcony.*)

Good Night, dear Toothless! Set your heart at rest:  
I never shall deliver thee to death!

[Exit HICCUP and ASTRID from balcony.

TOOTHLESS stays back.

## S C E N E 5.

*The Training Grounds.*

STOICK *on balcony, accompanied by numerous VIKINGS*  
*on balcony and stairway. ASTRID and GOBBER on stage.*

STOICK           Hark, all ye gathered warriors of Berk!  
                      I stand before you as your noble chief.  
                      In shadow of our failed attempt to breach  
                      the dragons' fierce domain we had, Alack—  
                      In recent times no opportunity

To join each other in festivity.  
Yet, unbeknownst to me on my campaign  
Did here on Berk a Viking hero rise.  
And when we noble warriors returned  
'Twas for each one of us a true surprise. 10

If you had once me told the news of Hiccup  
Transformed from what he was to what he is  
I would have shipped you off to dragons' land  
For surely I'd have thought you naught but mad!  
From little boy, for fighting all unfit, 15  
To glory using nothing but his wit?  
Aye, such things came to pass, and here we are  
With none of you more proud than I am now.  
Today my son, the jester of our town  
Shall fin'ly rise and Viking man become! 20

*Enter HICCUP on stage.*

ASTRID           Relief! Dear Hiccup, why art thou so late?  
The trial soon will its beginning take.

Thou shalt confront a Monstrous Nigtmare's  
wrath!

I know indeed, no man more knowledge hath  
 Than you about that fire-breathing race, 25  
 Yet pray be careful when that beast you face!

HICCUP I tell it plainly onto you: In truth  
 For this contest I larger worries have.  
 The dragon terrifies me, verily—  
 But father's gaze shall my true en'my be. 30

ASTRID What is thine plan? The beast indeed to slay?

HICCUP *(Struggles to find proper words.)*  
 I must give end to this absurdity!

But promise: If this fight doth end in pain  
 That they shall never find my friend's domain!

ASTRID I swear it, but in turn do promise me 35  
 That I will not this dreadful outcome see!  
*(Stoick signals Gobber from above.)*

GOBBER 'Tis time, Hiccup, to knock the monster dead!  
*(Hiccup takes equipment from a rack and steps forth.)*  
 Art readily thou set?—

HICCUP

—I am prepared!

*(Silence on balcony as Gobber releases the dragon.)**Enter MONSTROUS NIGHTMARE from right.**They approach each other carefully. After tense pause,**HICCUP suddenly drops his weapons and extends his bare hand.*

STOICK

*(Angered.)* What is this ploy?—

HICCUP

—Pray, dragon: Be at rest

There shall no harm be here to you expressed! 40

I am unlike them—

STOICK

—Gobber, stop the fight!

HICCUP

Desist, good father! You will all behold

This moment and let dragons' truth be told!

There is no need to murder dragonkind—

Let reason reign at last, and cease this spite! 45

STOICK

*(Stands up, thundering.)*

Your chief's command obey and stop the fight!

*(Monstrous Nightmare, enraged by the sudden clamour, charges. Hiccup dives behind cover.)*

*Stoick begins to descend, forcing his way through spectating Vikings.*

*Monstrous Nightmare corners Hiccup, but turns when hearing a sudden shriek from balcony.)*

*Enter TOOTHLESS on balcony. VIKINGS stumble aside in shock.*

*TOOTHLESS rushes to stage and brawls with the MONSTROUS NIGHTMARE.*

*VIKINGS panic while STOICK and GOBBER stand by, aghast.*

*TOOTHLESS injures the MONSTROUS NIGHTMARE and it retreats.*

*Exit MONSTROUS NIGHTMARE.*

STOICK *(At a loss of words, but regains composure.)*

My Viking men, to arms and gather round—

The king of Odin's miscreants is here!

I know not why at last thou didst return,

But by my axe you shall your death now earn!

50

*(Charges onto Toothless, who roars in rage and gallops toward him. To Vikings' shock, Hiccup intervenes and keeps both apart.*

*Stoick speechless, but tackles Hiccup aside.*

*Toothless and Stoick fight.)*

HOARK Assist your chief!—

HAGGARD —To arms and fight!

SPITELOUT Take down the fiend by Viking might!

*(Vikings descend to stage, swarming Toothless and Stoick.)*

HICCUP *(Desperate.)* Stop, Toothless!—

ASTRID —Stoick, no!—

HICCUP —He will not harm you!

*(Toothless pounces onto Stoick and prepares to breathe fire.)*

Pray friend, desist, he is my father!—

*(Toothless hesitates, confused. Moment of tense silence as all are aghast.)*

SPITELOUT —Charge!

*(Vikings charge onto Toothless, pinning him to the ground. Stoick arises, panting.)*

HICCUP Oh father, I do beg of you to spare him!

55

STOICK Put this atrocious miscreant of hell  
Into the cage, with all his peers to dwell.

[Exeunt VIKINGS with TOOTHLESS on right.

STOICK grabs HICCUP and exits on left,  
dragging him along brutally.



- Poor Toothless hath to you no evil done! 10  
*(Pause.)*
- STOICK The dragon, aye? Is that your worry, son?  
 You haven't witnessed what his kind hath done.  
 They have of Viking men and women slain  
 A hundred, and a hundred more!—
- HICCUP *(Angrily.)* —The blame  
 Falls onto you, the chief! Or else explain 15  
 How you kill thousands for you mad campaign!  
 The dragons raid us since they have no choice:  
 Like us, they but obey their master's voice.  
 Within their cavern lies a ghastly thing...  
 A dragon that commands them as their king! 20
- STOICK What sayest thou there? The cave on  
dragons' land?  
 So thou hast been there, thou hast seen the nest!
- HICCUP I did not say a thing!—
- STOICK —How didst thou find it?
- HICCUP I found it not! By chance, good Toothless did.  
 Only a dragon can the island find! 25  
*(Stoick glares, a thought forming.)*

—No, father! Cleanse that idea from your mind!  
You do not know your en'my in this fight—  
If you for dragons' cavern sail, be warned  
That by your call commanded Vikings' might  
Against this beast is nothing but unarmed! 30  
I beg you, stop before the pain is done—  
Put down your pride and listen to your son!

*(Pause. Stoick turns, masking sorrow.)*

STOICK      Hiccup, you've cast your lot and it is spent  
For them— Alack, I cannot comprehend:  
My very own, my child— Where did I wrong? 35  
Thou aren't Viking! Thou art not my son!

[Exit STOICK, in tears. HICCUP devastated.]

## S C E N E 7.

*The Docks of Berk.*

HICCUP *on balcony.*

*Enter STOICK and VIKINGS on stage,  
escorting a bound TOOTHLESS.*



- 
- Why could I not have as a Viking slain  
That dragon when I first upon him came?  
My father would in ignorance remain 15  
And all would better be for ev'ryone!
- ASTRID           Whoever calls himself a Viking true  
Had surely done the deed— So why not you?  
*(Pause. Hiccup tries to exit.)*  
Why not you, Hiccup?—
- HICCUP                                   —I had planned, but could not...  
Why is this of a sudden so important? 20
- ASTRID           Your answer is, and I want to remember it.
- HICCUP           I was a coward, weak! I would not slay it!
- ASTRID           How come that earlier you said you could not—  
Yet now your answer is indeed: You would not?
- HICCUP           What doth it change? In these three hundred years 25  
Of carnage I'm the Viking first to not  
Roar battle cries and kill him on the spot!  
*(Pause.)*
- ASTRID           What every Viking man in secret fears  
You have performed: To feel, and not to kill—  
—And ride a dragon! Stoick never will. 30





To blast agape the entrance to this pyre  
Make catapults a-ready— Steady— Fire! 10

*(Boulders are hauled offstage to the right.)*

A torch to scout in this infernal crevice!  
*(Throws a torch offstage to the right. Vikings stumble  
back in horror.)*

SPITELOUT Alack, the tunnel—

GOBBER —’Tis but choked with dragons!

STOICK Steady, my men! And find your Viking might!  
On my command, we shall this fortress— Raid!

*VIKINGS charge offstage to right, with battle cries.*

*Shrieks and clamour are audible from offstage, but are  
overpowered by a sudden deep roar.*

*VIKINGS re-enter, slashing at dragons around them,  
but bewildered.*

HOARK See how the dragons fly! They turn to run! 15

SPITELOUT Pray tell, brave Stoick! Is the battle won?



(*Forlorn.*) Surrender, fiend! Thy power is a fluke!  
Too great the virtue of a Viking true— 30  
(*Hurls shield as well, but goes to his knees, drained.*)

I see it, devil! Give thy breath,  
This man to end— My might is spent!  
(*Braces for dragon's breath, but sudden  
shriek sounds from offstage.*)  
What is it that suspends my doom  
And saves me from the death bell's ring?  
Oh, Thor almighty! Hiccup— 'Tis my son! 35  
Through evil skies aloft on dragon's wing!

*Enter HICCUP, ASTRID and DEADLY NADDER from right.*

*ASTRID and DEADLY NADDER exit again.*

HICCUP       (*To offstage.*)  
Your efforts save us, friends! Now, pray go on—  
With Toothless found I will return anon!  
His sunken prison, taken by the sea

Bears witness that a true friend I can be! 40

*(Rushed past Stoick and exits left with splash of water.*

*Tense seconds later, he reappears, drenched. He goes to his knees in sorrow.*

*After a dreadful moment Stoick surges and exits left with splash. Hiccup confounded.*

*Soon, Stoick reappears, drenched.)*

*Enter TOOTHLESS.*

HICCUP           Father—

STOICK                 —Hiccup! I cannot beg forgiveness

For all that I have done to thee— and Toothless!

I don't deserve by your hand to be saved

Nor have I right to ask you this to do—

HICCUP           *(Sarcastically.)* As Vikings, 'tis the risk we undertake! 45

And for my father's sake, I shall go on.

STOICK           *(In tears.)* I could not ask for any better son!

[Exeunt HICCUP and TOOTHLESS to left.

STOICK           With this, the foe that I came here to fight  
                  Hath me with wink of hand all pushed aside.  
                  For naught and void is all this Viking's might           50  
                  Who always let his sword, not heart, decide.

                  Where feeling doth its subtle knowledge teach  
                  My axe, my sword, my arm can never reach.  
                  And now, as gentle Toothless scales the clouds  
                  The dragons' cruel tyrant in pursuit,                   55  
                  One Viking father of his son is proud  
                  That his unripe ambition did refute.

*Enter SPITELOUT on balcony, in excitement.*

SPITELOUT       My chief, hast thou this fateful scene beheld?  
                  Thy son, atop the dreaded Night Fury  
                  And this gigantic dragon in the skies                   60  
                  Are locked in combat fierce, and now it seems  
                  That Hiccup, mounted on his Fury, can  
                  With hardships hold his own against the beast!

STOICK           Indeed, good friend, he came to our rescue!

SPITELOUT      By Odin's might your noble son be blessed!      65

*Enter GOBBER on balcony, panting.*

GOBBER      Hark, friends, this news— E'en I can scarce believe't! Young Hiccup hath the giant dealt a blow! When it unveiled its teeth to gather air and burn the skies and Hiccup by its breath, small Toothless hath a bolt of fire lead into that hellish chasm for to harm the beast but from inside!

*Enter HOARK on balcony, panting.*

HOARK      'Tis true, my noble chief— The monster falls!  
Its fiendish pinions seem to catch no air  
And it doth shriek from some unknown affliction  
That hath the devil burnèd from within!      70

SPITELOUT      Is this the truth?— Hooray, to Stoick's son!

VIKINGS      Hooray!—



[ALL remain as stage lighting dims.]

## S C E N E 9.

*Stoick's House.*

HICCUP *and* TOOTHLESS *on balcony.*

HICCUP *in bed, sleeping.*

*On stage, VIKINGS and DRAGONS pass,  
engaged in repair and transport duties.*

TOOTHLESS *(To audience.)*

A father's wrath, a dragon's gentle heart,  
And friendship's bond all featured in this play.  
When fate did intervene and cleave apart  
This young man's life, you witnessed and beheld:  
In circumstance where all against him went  
Did Hiccup persevere until the end.

But not without a cost this vict'ry is:  
Brave Hiccup dealt, by Viking knowledge blinded,  
To me a crippling blow, and fate decideth  
That he— as I— henceforth a limb shall miss. 10  
Such is the wond'rous way of life, that doth  
Deal hatred ever back onto its source.

Yet Hiccup's missing leg is not indeed  
Repayment for his unintended spite.  
Instead, it maketh plain for all the need 15  
For dragonkind and Vikings to unite.  
A gen'ral truth in these two friends is shown:  
For dragon that can fly not on his own  
And injured man together are perfected,  
And so these cultures two shall be connected. 20

*(Hiccup awakes.)*

HICCUP    Toothless? This is my house, pray disappear  
Lest raging father Stoick finds you here!  
*(Arises, but stops in shock when noticing the missing leg.  
He tries to stand up, but cannot walk without help.)*

*Toothless assists. Together they descend to stage.)*

*Enter VIKINGS and DRAGONS, cheering.*

*STOICK approaches, laughing, while VIKINGS lead their*

*DRAGONS aside to form a path. HICCUP confounded.*

HICCUP I knew it— This must be the afterlife!

STOICK Dear son, you jest! 'Tis our village true!  
 These houses new are our familiar Berk— 25  
 Yet all transformed by your courageous work!  
 In all these years as chief, how could I miss  
 That Berk but needs a little more of— this!  
*(Gestures to Hiccup. General laughter.)*

HICCUP But you just pointed well to all of me!  
 ...Except for this negligible detail— 30  
*(Points at the leg prosthetic.)*

GOBBER My handiwork! I hope it suits your taste?

HICCUP It doth! Although I may adjustments make.

