

THE  
*Fight*  
FOR  
**FEMALE**

RECLAIMING OUR DIVINE IDENTITY

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## CHAPTER 1

# *Dreams, Dragons, and Daughters*

*For God speaks again and again,  
though people do not recognize it.  
He speaks in dreams, in visions of the night,  
when deep sleep falls on people  
as they lie in their beds.  
He whispers in their ears  
and terrifies them with warnings.*

*Job 33:14–16 NLT*

**G**od has spoken and God speaks. His words echo throughout the earth with divine weight and eternal purpose. The question is: *Are we listening?*

It is my urgent prayer that within my words and through the Scriptures you'll discover His voice. There is not a minute to lose. A fierce and furious dragon is loose, and he is bent on the destruction of our daughters. In the wake of our current chaos

and confusion, he hopes we will forget who we are and the purpose of our womanhood.

Dreams often serve as divine messengers. They visit us in the night when the din of distraction is silenced and flee from our thoughts as we enter our day. It is only later, when something is said or seen, that we remember and think, *Why does this feel familiar? Have I been here before?*

Dreams counsel us as we sleep. Who hasn't gone to bed in one frame of mind only to wake with a completely different outlook? Then there are other dreams . . . dreams that linger until we listen. I believe that, in this day, God is whispering warnings by way of dreams.

God spoke to Joseph, the son of Jacob, through a dream that later meant provision for the children of Israel in a time of famine. God appeared to Solomon and imparted the gift of wisdom in a dream. In a dream, Joseph was told by an angel to take Mary as his wife. Another dream instructed him to flee to Egypt in order to escape a murderous king, and then another dream told him it was safe to return to Israel after Herod's death. Paul's Macedonian call came by way of a dream.

We all dream, but some dreams are nightmares. I've learned to pay attention to those as well. Especially when the nightmare is recurring. But have you ever dreamed of dragons?

I have. Nearly a decade ago.

At the time I was unsure what the dream was showing me. But I have come to believe it was a message for now. In this dream, I entered a room filled with women of all ages speaking freely with one another. These were well-educated, well-connected, and well-dressed women whose lives overflowed with feminine strength and promise. It felt as though they were known to me, yet I don't remember anyone specific. I watched from the doorway until someone turned and invited me in. But I hesitated because something was terribly amiss.

Each woman cradled a baby dragon in her arms.

These dragons were jewel-toned and outfitted in a ridiculous array of children's clothing. Ruffles and ornaments adorned their serpentine necks. I couldn't help noticing their razor-sharp teeth hovered dangerously close to the women's unprotected necks. Aghast and confused by their familiarity with the dragons, I questioned the women. "Why are you carrying a dragon? Do you understand how dangerous dragons are?"

Woman after woman smiled at my confusion. They exchanged knowing looks and shook their heads at my alarm. They drew their dragons closer as though shielding them from the foolishness of my words. They assured me these dragons were the gentle, wise variety.

But I knew different.

These dragons were not gentle or wise; they were cruel and cunning. They were predators, not pets. The dragons despised the women, but they were content to play along and lie in wait as their power grew in reach and measure.

These serpents knew I thought they were evil; they side-eyed me and I was aware of their underlying aggression. They restrained themselves because it wouldn't serve their purpose to attack or bite me. One woman encouraged me, "Pet it here where the skin is smooth."

She demonstrated how by running her finger down the curve of its neck. "See how gentle it is? Don't be afraid."

But I wasn't afraid. I was angry. Even as she spoke, I heard the dragon's reasoning in my mind. *Where would be the harm?* its silken voice goaded. *After all, petting a dragon is not the same as having one of your own.*

But I knew petting a dragon would mean partnering with its lie. Any pretense of agreement would contradict what I knew to be true. I shook my head and turned away, only to be confronted by another woman who invited me to take her dragon dressed in ruffles.

"Isn't it cute?" she cooed. "Here, hold it."

She extended her pet toward me, but rather than hold it, I reached out and snapped the dragon's neck.

The violence of my nightmare woke me.

Gone was the elegant room filled with beautiful women carrying rainbow-colored dragons. I was alone in a dark hotel room, flat on my back, arms in motion with my fists grasping at air. As a peaceful side sleeper, I felt completely disoriented by this dream that had become physical. I typed out the imagery and interactions of my dream on my iPad and lay awake until morning dawned, wondering what had just happened and what the dream meant.

There were a few things that were immediately clear, and other things that became apparent later.

First, calling dragons safe does not make them so. The things you refuse to confront when they are small have the potential to grow into something extremely threatening later. The dream was a warning. Lies are the most vulnerable to the light of truth in their inception. Partnering with lies and dragons will always prove dangerous. Adam and Eve discovered this when they agreed with the lies of a serpent. How much greater our peril if we agree with those of a dragon!

Evil is not our friend. Don't protect it, don't make excuses for it, don't partner with it, and don't hold it close. Evil has no love for humankind. Evil hates and distorts all that the Creator has fashioned. There can be no alliance between light and dark or good and evil. They are opposing forces. Do not be deceived. We were warned long ago that the dragon and his minions can masquerade as angels of light.

For even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. (2 Cor. 11:14)

The nature of evil does not change because it is clothed in garments of innocence. And to this end, each of us should be careful what we "dress up" or make excuses for. Dragons do not belong in children's clothing.

Dragons gain power by way of theft and deception. They are agents of chaos and consumption. The only things dragons produce are more dragons. They do not create or construct anything that is useful; they use their strength solely to satisfy their appetite for devastation and destruction.

But you may be asking, *How can this be since dragons aren't real?*

There are many things that are not factual, yet they are true. Dragons are woven into the history of mankind. A very real enemy has emerged from the shadows.

He has several names: Lucifer, Satan, the father of lies, the adversary, the devil, the prince of demons, the evil one, Apollyon, Beelzebub, the deceiver, the enemy, the tempter, the prince of the power of the air, the accuser, the god of this age, the *great dragon*.

He is bent on your destruction and the annihilation of your children. He is behind every brutal act against women. He is the author of the evil that leads to sexual assault and debasement, from kidnapping to sex trafficking. This enemy will not be placated, and if you yield an inch, he won't stop at a mile. There is no hope of a peace treaty or the option of negotiations. He is committed to stripping women of our God-given authority and distorting our feminine beauty and purpose. And yet there is hope.

“Fairy tales are more than true; not because they tell us that dragons exist, but because they tell us that dragons can be beaten.”

NEIL GAIMAN

Fairy tales are more than true; not because they tell us that dragons exist, but because they tell us that dragons can be beaten.

Neil Gaiman<sup>1</sup>

I wondered why there were no men in the room in my dream. There could be a number of reasons for this. First, I am a woman

and for the most part minister to women. But even more than this, I believe that because Jesus is coming back for a bride, women and all things related to female are being specifically and strategically targeted by the enemy. He is committed to redefining and deconstructing the concept of a bride.

“Let us rejoice and exult  
and give him the glory,  
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,  
and his Bride has made herself ready;  
it was granted her to clothe herself  
with fine linen, bright and pure”—

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. (Rev. 19:7–8)

If we are honest, there is no escaping the fact that the church looks very unlike the bride described in the book of Revelation. Tragically, we often hear of the impure and unrighteous deeds of the saints rather than the pure and righteous ones. And yet no matter how filthy we become, our Bridegroom forgives us when we repent and believes better things of us in the future.

Another curious question from the dream: How had these dragons tricked the women into believing they were pets? Snakes are rarely friends with women. One answer may be the blinding power of offense. Whenever sin is rampant in both the church and culture, an atmosphere of deception abounds (see Matt. 24). It is in this climate that men and women begin to view one another as enemies rather than as allies.

If you're even slightly paying attention, you know there is both rage at women and rage in women. With each passing day the hostility without and within becomes increasingly apparent. There is no missing that some shadowed, twisted force is seriously upset with women. There are many unholy forms that this fury adopts:

hate	distortion
rape	mutilation
abuse	pedophilia
ageism	perversion
control	accusation
cutting	gendercide
suicide	dysmorphia
poverty	minimization
racism	pornography
tension	sex trafficking
divorce	displacement
slander	cancel culture
violence	homosexuality
abortion	marginalization
silencing	sexualization of women
prejudice	misogyny (hatred of women)
eating disorders	misandry (hatred of men)

All the above and more can be summed up as the attempt to manipulate, confuse, sexualize, and erase women. But now we are aware of who is behind these attacks. Revelation 12:17 gives us a window into why:

Then the dragon became furious with the woman.

Both Scripture and Western culture view dragons as agents of death and chaos. Currently, the dragon's handiwork has destabilized our culture, and we are suffering the upheaval of divisive politics, unhealthy patriarchy, raging feminism, Marxist agenda, racism, heresy, confused gender ideologies, increased witchcraft, satanism, greed, wars, violence of all kinds, cancel and celebrity cultures, abortion, and abusive forms of religion.

These ideologies and more are used to unleash his fury. What we wrestle with is the unhuman and inhumane. His malice is woven with an evil darker than we can define.

This dragon has a systematic plan to unmake the divine imagery of male and female. He is driven by an ancient rage known as enmity, a hatred so profound that the longer it exists, the greater it grows in reach and malice. This concept of enmity is first introduced in Genesis when God addresses the serpent.

The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,  
    cursed are you above all livestock  
    and above all beasts of the field;  
on your belly you shall go,  
    and dust you shall eat  
    all the days of your life.  
I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
    and between your offspring and her offspring;  
he shall bruise your head,  
    and you shall bruise his heel.” (Gen. 3:14–15)

It is important to note that God is the one who put enmity between the serpent and the woman. At the beginning of time, He positioned the woman and her seed as part of His redemptive plan and cursed the serpent and its offspring. Two legacies were forever set at odds with one another. You’ve heard of the term *irreconcilable differences*. It describes the parting of ways between those who were once together but cannot find a way forward. The phrase is used in divorce cases, to dissolve political affiliations, or to divide corporate entities. The parties involved agree to disagree.

Enmity is different. Enmity is irreconcilable hostility. There never was an alignment, therefore there can never be any future

agreement. The only possible way for us to align is if we are deceived into mistaking our mortal enemy for a wise friend.

I believe the serpent's hope was that mankind's fall in Eden would cause us to be forever at odds with our Creator. But on the cross, Jesus closed the breach by taking our sin upon Himself. When Jesus took our place, the dragon was displaced. Now he pursues a different course.

And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. (Rev. 12:13)

What began in the garden continues to this day. He detests all that our womanhood represents. Perhaps that is the reason the ancient myths included stories of maidens sacrificed to appease dragons and abate their rage. But the dragon that threatens us will not be appeased with the lives of a few maidens.

In researching for this book, I came across a thought-provoking article, "Rescuing Our Maidens from the Culture of Death." Joseph Pearce says,

Dragons have a preference for the virgin flesh of maidens because they are not merely hungry but wicked. They desire the defilement of the pure and undefiled, the destruction of the virgin. Their devouring is a deflowering. Parallels with human "dragons" in our own world are not difficult to discern. The war against the dragon is not, therefore, a war against a physical monster . . . but a battle against the wickedness we see around us in our everyday lives. We all face our daily dragons, and we must all defend ourselves from them and hopefully slay them, which is only possible with the assistance of God's grace. The sobering reality is that we must either fight the dragons that we encounter in life or become dragons ourselves. There is no middle path. No neutrality in this fight to the death is possible. We either fight the dragon or we become the dragon.<sup>2</sup>

This article was authored in 2016, the same year of my dream. Pearce also addressed the spike in suicide, sexual and physical abuse, and pornography use since 2014. If the plight of our daughters was tenuous then, it is horrific now.

Virtue is mocked as vice.

New words and prefixes are created.

Existing words are stripped of their original meaning.

Biology is subjective, and feelings are given precedence.

Marriages are contracts rather than holy covenants.

Pornography attempts online home invasions.

Preborn children are stripped of their right to life.

Gender ideologies are manipulating our children.

Women's locker rooms, bathrooms, and prisons are contested spaces.

Parents are intimidated into affirming their child's gender identity.

There's a push for pedophiles to be called "minor-attracted people."<sup>3</sup>

Perversion and fetishes are being normalized at an alarming rate.

And yet in some ways the spiritual battle has never been more obvious. It is not a battle *with* the souls of men and women, but a battle *for* the souls of men and women. Paul makes this distinction in Ephesians 2:1–3.

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, **the spirit that is now at work in the sons [and daughters] of disobedience**—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. (emphasis added)

We either follow the God Most High or the dragon who is “the prince of the power of the air.” The dragon’s spirit first ensnares, then works through, the children of disobedience.

The dragon’s attack doesn’t stop with us; it reaches beyond us to consume our children. When men falter, women become the last line of defense for the children. As women, we will always feel the attack on our children more intimately.

Look again at God’s words to the serpent in Genesis 3:15:

I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and her offspring;  
he shall bruise your head,  
and you shall bruise his heel.

Most Bible scholars agree that the phrase “he shall bruise your head” refers to Jesus’s triumph through the cross and the phrase “you shall bruise his heel” refers to the enemy’s relentless attack on the body of Christ. We see this conflict again in Revelation 12:17:

Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

“The woman” in this passage has plurality of meaning. She is collectively Israel, then specifically Mary; collectively the church and more exclusively the bride. What the dragon hates in its entirety he hates individually. We know the interpretation of “the woman” cannot be limited to Israel because they (literal Israel) do not currently hold to the testimony of Jesus.

This fight for female is not a fight for women’s rights—it is a battle to rescue and recover our divine birthright. What one generation forfeits, the next fights to recover. There are battles for the men to fight and there are battles only women can win. This is

our fight and it will require repentance, redemption, and rescue. I believe we are poised for the restoration and recovery of what

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has been misplaced, displaced, and stolen from our feminine identity for decades.

For too long we've battled one another, blinded to our true enemy. We've exhausted ourselves fighting the wrong battles and wrestling allies. It is time to speak words of hope and life rather than words of death and despair. It is not too late for us to remember who we truly are. We are the dragon's enemy.

*Heavenly Father,*

*I come to You in the name of Jesus. I believe I was born for this moment that is at once terrifying and wondrous. Thank You for entrusting me with the honor of being a female. Show me how You see the wonder and the beauty of this fight to recover what has been lost.*