

Podcast: [What If World](#)

Episode: 224: What if a dragon breathed sprinkles? (w/Jonathan Cormur)

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Transcription by Keffy

Lyrics:                   What if kittens played the glockenspiel? And what if unicorns were real? What if you could fly or travel back in time? We welcome you to What If World. What If World. This is What If World.

Mr. Eric:                Hey there, folks, and welcome back to What If World, the show where your questions and ideas inspire off the cuff stories. I'm Mr. Eric, your host, and today I am so excited to be joined by a fellow teacher, a fellow voice over actor, a fellow storyteller and podcaster, my friend, Jonathan Cormur!

Jonathan:               Hi everybody, it's great to be here. Nice to meet you all!

Mr. Eric:                Thank you so much for coming on the show. You were the host and you work on the show Dorktales Storytime. Is that right?

Jonathan:               That's right. I do. Dorktales Storytime podcast.

Mr. Eric:                It's a wonderful show and that's part of the reason why I'm excited to have your voice with us here today. We're gonna get started. We're gonna listen to our first question. This is from a patron named Remy. Remy wrote in to ask, what if there was an island that was actually a giant turtle? Great question, but we like to throw in a couple curveballs in our stories, so let's hear one more question from a listener named Dan.

Dan:                     Hi, my name's Dan. I'm five years old and my What If World question is what if dragons breathed sprinkles. Thanks, bye!

Jonathan:               What if, indeed. That would be... that would be delicious.

Mr. Eric:                Yeah, I've got to get some ice cream ready.

Jonathan:               Yeah.

Mr. Eric:                Now, we do have one last, final bonus question from a listener named Liam, but we're going to play that at the end because I like to keep some surprises for all of you listeners at home.

Mr. Reg:                Ooh, I'm so excited!

Mr. Eric: [Also doing a voice] You can't start the voice work yet, we've gotta wait til it's in the st—I'm just kidding.

Jonathan: Oh, no, that was Mr. Reg, my hedgehog sidekick who had to just chime in there for a little bit.

Mr. Eric: Oh, hey, Mr. Reg! I'm so sorry. I didn't see you there. It's so nice of you to join us.

Mr. Reg: Oh, no problem. Carry on.

Mr. Eric: So let's find out what if there was an island that was actually a giant turtle and what if dragons breathed sprinkles?

[Rising harp scale]

Abacus: Oh, welcome everyone! It is I, Abacus P. Grumbler. You may be wondering why I summoned you to the MultipurposeRoomiteria? Well, you're in for a treat because today we have a new guest teacher, Igneous Draconius. Igneous? Mr. Draconius. Oh, well, maybe he got the time wrong, or...

[Thunder rolls.]

Igneous Draconius: Igneous Interruptus!

Abacus: Oooohhhh. What a well-timed interruption!

Igneous Draconius: Uh, thank you. Hello class. I am Igneous Draconius!

Children: Cheer and clap!

Igneous Draconius: But my friends call me Iggy. So you can just refer to me as Mr. Iggy. I am a dragonborn. Do any of you know what a dragonborn is?

Abacus: Oh, oh! I do! I do! [Record scratch.] Oh wait, I'm the teacher.

Igneous Draconius: Mr. Abacus, perhaps you can explain what a dragonborn is.

Abacus: I think it means that you're a humanoid that has many draconic qualities, so—

Igneous Draconius: Oh, yes. That's very good. [Laughs] Yes, I am in fact a dragonborn and I have studied magecraft since I was but a little hatchling. Now we could maybe get started. Some simple elementary magic spells, if that's all right.

Abacus: Oh, yes. That's fine. I didn't realize we'd be going into it right away with the magic and the sudden magical appearance.

Igneous Draconius: Well, we are a magic school, aren't we?

Abacus: Let's just not forget who the head professor is, and who the guest lecturer is.

Igneous Draconius: Of course not. Now, class. I will show you a very simple weather manipulation spell. But I think we need to be outdoors. Abacus, there is a dueling ground around here, isn't there.

Abacus: Uh, yes, I think we can dust off the old grounds. We just have to get everyone into a single file line and—

Igneous Draconius: Oh, we don't need to do that. I will cast a massive teleportation spell.

Abacus: What?

Igneous Draconius: Classroomius teleportatus! And here we are. Ooh, it's a lovely ground. A bit dusty, you haven't really used it very much, have you?

Abacus: It's not been... I just sort of forgot—

Igneous Draconius: Well, this could get a little dangerous class so I'm going to place a protective bubble around all of you. [Magical noises]

Abacus: What? I've never seen a bub—

Igneous Draconius: You know what? There we go. And now, the awesome power of Igneous, Iggy, Draconius!

Abacus: Excuse me... [stammers]

Igneous Draconius: Cumulo nimbus!

Abacus: Whoaaa...

Children: That's so awesome! Wow! Oooh!

Abacus: Igneous, Igneous!

Igneous Draconius: Oh, yes, Abacus.

Abacus: You've completely disrupted our lesson plan for the entire day already and shown me up with magic no less than three times since your arrival, I—

Igneous Draconius: Now, Abacus. Abacus. If you want to say something, you have to raise your hand.

Abacus: [Stammers] [The Sorcerer's Apprentice plays in the background] You have just invited yourself into a duel with Professor Abacus P. Grumbler.

Igneous Draconius: Ah, a Gygaxian Duel, you say?

Abacus: What's that?

Igneous Draconius: Wonderful. Now, allow me to summon our pillars. [Magical noises]

Abacus: Whoa. Wait, has the—did the duel start yet, because I feel like I'm already losing.

Igneous Draconius: Oh, not yet. What can we start with first? Oh, I know. Levitation. How does that sound to you?

Abacus: Yes, yes, of course.

Igneous Draconius: All right, class. Now, normally a dragonborn has wings but I've made them disappear because it makes... the wings very hard to go through small doors. So instead I've taken them off and I'm just going to use regular magical levitation.

Abacus: Also, it makes your armor fit quite sveltely.

Igneous Draconius: Oh, thank you. Yes. Yes, this is a professional wizarding armor.

Abacus: Oh wait, I shouldn't be complimenting you, we're in a duel.

Igneous Draconius: That's all right, you can compliment me as often as you like. Wingus Flightus Levitatus!

Child: Wow, he's really going to win.

Igneous Draconius: Now class, you are all safely protected in your bubble. Remain seated, please because I will levitate you. [Chuckles.] Here we go, and up you go!

Children: Wow! Oh my goodness, I'm flying. This is so awesome!

Abacus: Levitating things with perfect control and is reliable and overrated.

Igneous Draconius: Let me put the class down. Down you go, and there. All right, Abacus. Please, demonstrate what you can do.

Abacus: Okay, um, Levitorium Abacoriuseses. [Wild magical ricocheting sounds and children exclaiming in shock.] All intentional, all intentional. Aaaaah, ooh!

Igneous Draconius: He's hitting the bubble. Here. Finite Incontatum.

Abacus: Ooh. That was a close round, but—

Igneous Draconius: Yes, excellent speed. Wonderful flying, but the landing needs a bit of work.

Abacus: Well, children, I guess you are the defacto judges because it's been a long time since I dueled and I didn't find any and uh...

Children: Iggy! Mr. Iggy wins! Mr. Iggy wins! Mr. Iggy wins! By a landslide. By a long landslide.

Abacus: Oh, yes, well. Thank you for the embellishments.

Igneous Draconius: Oh children, you are too kind. Round two. Let's see, how about conjuration, the art of summoning.

Abacus: Ooh, well, you won the last round so I guess you should, you go first again.

Igneous Draconius: No problem.

Abacus: It's not like I need any time to think or anything. Ooh, what am I going to do?

Igneous Draconius: Let's see. Since the dueling grounds are so large, this is the perfect place to summon What or Who I'm going to summon. May I introduce you all, and please do not be afraid to applaud. Oh mighty one, come forth! Hear my summons. Ilundaus tutum! [Magical noises and a giant groan]

Children: A giant turtle! That's amazing! It's like a floating island. It's like an island in the sky.

Abacus: There is no proof that that turtle wasn't hidden behind a cloud until this very moment.

Turtle: Really? Oh garsh. I don't know. I'm usually in the water, after all, I am an Island Turtle.

Igneous Draconius: Please, introduce yourself.

Turtle: Yes, children and wizards, I am the Great Island Turtle, Tim.

Child: Tim? That's what he said? Tim?

Abacus: Oh, Tim. Bigger isn't always better. I've got to remember my audience. Hahaha. Oh, oh yes. Oh yes, indeed. I've got something for this. Kitty meow meow, appeara neow neow.

[Magical noises and hairball hacking noises]

Ooh. He seems to be hacking up a sort of a hairball.

Igneous Draconius: Ooh, goodness gracious. That's a lovely little hat you have there, Mr...

Abacus: Oh, I believe he goes by Mr. Whiskers.

Mr. Whiskers: Meow.

Igneous Draconius: Oh, Mr. Whiskers. Are you alright?

Mr. Whiskers: Meeeoow...

Igneous Draconius: What sort of thing do you do?

Mr. Whiskers: Meh.

Abacus: I mean, we're pretty much seeing it. But he's very old and has an aroma that is quite unique.

Zach: Yeah, you could say that.

Mr. Whiskers: [Coughing and choking]

Children: I think he needs to see a vet. I don't know, I kind of like it. I kind of like it, too.

Abacus: Let's see who wins this round.

Children: Abacus. Abacus. Abacus. Yeah, Mr. Whiskers.

Scully: Oh, I don't know, I like... I thought Iggy's was pretty good... but uh.

Abacus: We're tied! It's, we're tied now, yes.

Igneous Draconius: I think a tie is perfectly fine. Thank you, Tim. I will see you later. Tim is also my island vacation home.

Tim: That's right.

Abacus: Oh, now he's just showing off.

Igneous Draconius: Would you like to stay, Tim?

Tim: Sure. I'd like to see how this plays out.

Abacus: In the final round...

Igneous Draconius: Oh, yes.

Abacus: Everyone knows that I am good at transformation. That's one thing that I often do, not by accident.

Igneous Draconius: Transmutation. Transformation, transmutation. Ah! Here we are. And now, children. One thing about dragonborns is that we all have a specific kind of breath depending on the color and I am a red dragonborn so my breath is fire. Now, observe! [Breathes fire]

Abacus: Wow.

Igneous Draconius: [Coughs] Ooh, a little smoky, that one.

Abacus: Indeed, here, my whiskers are singed.

Igneous Draconius: So is Mr... are you all right, Mr. Whiskers?

Mr. Whiskers: [Coughs] Mow.

Igneous Draconius: Now, I will use transmutation magic to turn my breath into something delicious. Breathalyzun transmutatum! There we go. Hold on. I think it's coming. Just a, oh, and, here we go! [BLEEEEEEEH]

Children: Aah! He's puking. Sprinkles! They're so colorful!

Igneous Draconius: [BLEEEEEEEH BLEEEEEEEH] [Coughs] And there you are. Abacus, you said this was your best, right? Show us what amazing transmutation you can do.

Abacus: Yes, what I find is that transmuted others, oh, now that takes talent. Talent that I have in spades.

Igneous Draconius: Oh, indeed.

Abacus: Abacar peee ruumbler! [Mechanical noises and poofing]

Children: What's happening to me? My arms are wheels? My back is a tailpipe! I'm a bus. [Motor noises]

Abacus: Yes, and children love cars. Right? I mean, these are all eco-friendly, of course, I think.

Children: Oh no! I'm running over the sprinkles.

Abacus: Uh, seatbelts!

Child: I haven't got my driver's license yet! [honking and motors and beeping and clattering]

Child: I'm a scooter. I think I want to stay this way.

Abacus: Your name is Scooter, so I can see why that might be. Igneous, could you maybe help me get these kids, except for Scooter, of course, back to normal?

Igneous Draconius: No problem. Finite incantantum, exceptus scooterus.  
[Magical poofing noises]

Children: I'm dizzy. Ooh. My arm still hurts.

Abacus: Oh no, all those tire marks will come out in the wash, I'm sure. And Scooter, remember to ask your parents' permission to stay that way, okay.

Scooter: Okay.

Children: Mr. Iggy wins! Mr. Iggy wins! Mr. Iggy wins!

Scooter: I like being a scooter but Mr. Iggy wins.

Child: I like Mr. Whiskers but Mr. Iggy wins!

Abacus: That's quite all right. I don't feel embarrassed or ashamed at all. I just need to get something from my office. [Magical teleportation noises]

Igneous Draconius: Well, at least he's not embarrassed about it, I suppose.

Zach: I think he does feel embarrassed and ashamed. Maybe that's just me.

Igneous Draconius: You really think so.

Zach: Yeah.

Igneous Draconius: Tim, what do you think?



Tim: I think you might have come across a little too strong, there, Iggy.

Igneous Draconius: You don't say. All right, I suppose I'll send you back and children, go see the head nurse's office, any of you who still feel bad, I'll release you from your bubble. Mr. Whiskers, are you okay?

Mr. Whiskers: Mow.

Igneous Draconius: Now, I will go and check on your teacher. I will be the bigger dragonborn and apologize.

Abacus: Where is it, I know it's here somewhere. My secret wishing salmon. Okay, wishing salmon [whispers] just listen to me [whispers].

Sal: Hi Abacus, how's it going? I'm Sal, the Wishing Salmon. But you probably already knew that. [Giggles]

Abacus: Didn't you hear my muffled whispering? [whispers]

Sal: Come on! Speak up!

[Knocking and then a door opening]

Abacus: Oh, Igneous Draconius. So nice to see you here.

Sal: Hi Iggy! How's it going?

Igneous Draconius: Hello there, Sal. How have you been keeping?

Sal: Master Abacus is really good and he takes care of me well. He does mumble a bit, though. I think he said something about he wanted to wish for your wand to turn into a bratwurst.

Abacus: Back in time. Oh wait, no, I didn't. No! I mean, shhh.

Sal: Oh, right! That's right. He wanted to go back in time so he could switch out your magic wand for a bratwurst.

Abacus: Ooh.

Sal: Of course, you know this kind of wishing magic always comes at a cost.

Igneous Draconius: I see. Was I just so rude and horrible that you would even risk your own wellbeing to do that?

Abacus: No, I just wished that you had been a little more sensitive to my feelings from the beginning. And then I felt like I'd been backed into a corner and had to play out this competition in front of our students. And I felt like I

was being a bad professor and a bad wizard, and oh, now I've been a bad friend, I'm afraid.

Igneous Draconius: Oh. No, no. I admit, I might have come off a little strong and I was so caught up in what I was doing that I didn't take into account that I might have been making you feel a bit bad. Do accept my apology. This is a little bit embarrassing.

Sal: Oh, go on, Iggy. Tell him how you really feel.

Igneous Draconius: Oh, thank you, Sal. You certainly are good at granting wishes.

Sal: It's what I do!

Igneous Draconius: I did it to impress you. I've heard about your amazing adventures and I have nothing but the greatest of respect for you. And you even inspired me to take up magecraft even though when I was little, I actually wasn't very good at it, believe it or not. I had to work very hard to get to where I was and dash it all, I bungled it up.

Abacus: To me, you're this young, talented wizard who's just succeeded in every place that I've ever failed. And of course I accept your apology as long as you accept mine.

Igneous Draconius: Oh, of course. I hope this doesn't ruin our friendship.

Abacus: Not at all! We just met!

Igneous Draconius: True [laughs].

Sal: Well, my work here is done.

Abacus: But you didn't grant a single wish.

Sal: Sure, I did. You wished for the problem to go away, and it happened.

Abacus: Oh, I just wonder what the cost will be.

Sal: You'll never know.

[Scene break sound]

Abacus: Oh, look at Igneous there teaching his class. Oh, wonderful.

Igneous Draconius: All right, class that's excellent flying magic. Your wings are looking very good. And now of course, why don't you move on back to the classroom so that Mr. Whiskers can teach you the art of cat magic.

Mr. Whiskers: Yes. Follow me if you would. Mrow.

Children: Mr. Whiskers! I love Mr. Whiskers' class! He's my new favorite professor. Yeah, Abacus P. Who-bler?

Abacus: [Grumbles] I blame Sal the wishing salmon!

Mr. Eric: The end.

[Rising harp scale]

Mr. Eric: Jonathan, we did it!

Jonathan: We did, oh my gosh, we did it.

Mr. Eric: Now, I would be remiss if I didn't let you talk about Dorktales Storytime podcast.

Jonathan: Yes, so Dorktales Storytime podcast, me and my amazing hedgehog sidekick, Reginald T. Hedgehog, we either tell these fairy tales with a twist, or hidden heroes of history. We talk about people who aren't really discussed as much in history books. It's a nice little fun way of entertaining and educating all at the same time.

Mr. Eric: Now, I know from talking to our parents that we have listeners who are both neurotypical and neurodivergent and I think all of our listeners would love to hear a little bit about your experience as a voiceover actor and a teacher and a podcaster who also happens to be neurodivergent.

Jonathan: Yes, I am neurodivergent. I am on the autism spectrum. It was a bit of a challenge, mostly because I'm not really typical in terms of what they would think a person on the spectrum was at the time when I was younger. It was hard for them to really figure out what my challenges were and once we did, it was really kind of freeing in a way.

I actually view it more as an asset, really, because I could focus on and kind of remember. I watched a lot of cartoons growing up, playing a lot of video games, watching a lot of movies and stuff. And I would kind of imitate those characters. And I even kind of learned how to speak to people through various videos and other things just helped me kind of learn how to communicate better.

With Iggy, I even brought a little bit of that in there. One thing for me is I can't read social cues very easily. I've gotten better at it, and that's what Iggy kind of did with Abacus. He was so caught up in what he was doing that he didn't really see how he was making poor Abacus feel bad.

Mr. Eric: Yeah, and I'm thinking about it. Abacus, one thing that he could have done better is maybe explain how he was feeling, right? To be open and honest about his feelings?

Jonathan: It's like a conversation. You have a conversation with two people. It takes two people to have a conversation, and it's hard to be the first one to admit you're wrong and apologize, but usually it leads to the other person going, yeah, I'm sorry, too, and...

Mr. Eric: It is like you said. It's a conversation where two people are listening and really responding.

Jonathan: You did bring up, I was also a teacher as well and I'm glad we kind of came up with this story about the conflict because, with kids, I see conflict all the time. And it's over some things that could just very easily be resolved with, hey, just take a little break and try and talk it out and stuff. But kids, like even grown-ups, they're stubborn.

Mr. Eric: I taught the same age range after school for years and I just, I feel you a million percent. A lot of our parents have shared resources with me in the past and Jody, who is a producer and co-creator of your show—

Jonathan: Yes.

Mr. Eric: —has shared resources as well. There's all kinds of resources, whether you're neurotypical or neurodiverse.

Jonathan: There's a lot out there, and there's a lot. It takes a little bit of work on the individual's part, but with a good support system and good resources, that person can live a very happy and well-fulfilled life as I had. I'm not saying that everybody's story is going to be like me. It's definitely, definitely possible for anybody. Neurotypical or neurodiverse, what have you, it's possible for everybody.

Mr. Eric: I hope you enjoy the story and a little bit of an extended interview, yes, because Jonathan and I just really hit it off.

Jonathan: Yeah.

Mr. Eric: And I wanted you to hear from him. So, thank you again for coming on the show, you're welcome back any time.

Jonathan: Thank you so much for having me. Hopefully there'll be an opportunity to do this again some time. This was a lot of fun, and please don't hesitate to reach out.

Mr. Eric: All right, all right. Thanks a lot, Jonathan!

Jonathan: Thanks a lot! Bye, guys!

Mr. Eric: So, Remy, Dan, and Liam, I hope you enjoyed your story. Liam, we are going to play your question now.

Liam: My name is Liam and my what if question is what if Abacus gave people wheels for feet and cars arms. And I really like my bearded dragon, Fifer. I love your podcast, bye!

Mr. Eric: Thank you for giving us our final transformation in your question.

JF Kat: J.F. Kat here to shout out Viviana. She's six years old and loves What If World. She listens every day on the way to school and has a cat named Jingles and a fish named Sugs, short for sugar. So maybe I should say that shugs.

Fair Elise: And I am here to shout out Olive Hawthorne, age nine. Olive is from Australia and wanted to shout out brother Sam as well.

Fred: And I have a big thank you for Mabel Davis, age nine.

Abacus: Then, of course, there is Emma, age nine, from San Francisco, California. She's in the fourth grade and has two pets, a cat named Tobin and an eight month old puppy named Delilah.

Fred: Finally, there's Tabitha, who's eight years old. She loves gaming on her Nintendo Switch and also dogs, of course, and the color black. Her siblings are Lily, Dexter, and Cece.

Mr. Eric: I'd like to thank Karen O'Keeffe, my co-creator. Craig Martinson for our theme song. Dessiree McFarland for her sound design. My helper, Miss Lynn, and all you kids at home who know that most conflicts between friends can be overcome with just a little listening and understanding.

Until we meet again, keep wondering.

[What If World theme plays]