

Nancy and Nevets

IT was a surprisingly sunny day that *stayed* sunny all afternoon and the sun didn't even want to go away in the evening. But that afternoon, there was a grumpy red-haired teenager who was grumbling about school and tests and F's on her spelling test to anyone she met. Her hair was tangled and her shirt and pants wrinkled; she had forgotten to brush her teeth and clean yesterday's mud off her white tennis shoes. She was even cross to some of the pets she had adopted like Daradel the dragon and Patriot the dog.

"Nance, will you play fetch with me?" Patriot had barked running along side her as she stormed out the sliding back door onto the deck.

"No way," she shouted and pushed at Patriot with her foot.

Patriot growled at her and ran down the wooden porch steps with his new green ball in his mouth. He then went off in search of someone else to play with him and he was rewarded with four-year-old Kara as his new playmate. Nancy stomped down the steps and ran down the street, turned right and headed off to Drandaldon Stream where she had pulled a canoe with Daradel the Dragon inside. She rolled up her pants, tied her shoes together by their shoestrings, slung them (along with her socks inside of them) over her arm and then waded in the stream (which normally brought a smile to her face) and frowned deeply.

"I can't believe it," she groaned, "An F for a perfect spelling test, oh, *oh!* It must be true that Mrs. Adine...hates me!"

And then she stomped her foot which made a rather large splash and stormed out of the stream and into the woods, where she put her socks back on and her shoes, which she had been carrying, you know, she pushed onto her feet and was starting to walk towards town when she heard a branch crack behind her.

"Who – Who's there?" she asked in a quavering voice.

"It's only me, young lay," a voice called.

"What do you mean by *me*, Mr.?" Nancy shouted and then bellowed, "*Tell me who you are!*"

"My name," said the voice, "Is Nevets."