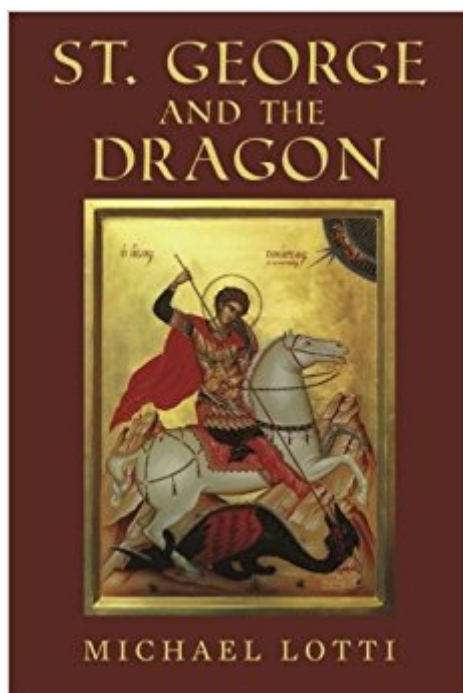


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# St. George And The Dragon



## Synopsis

During his leave of absence from the Roman army, Marcellus discovers a dragon that seems ready to fulfill his dreams of wealth, family, military success, and a secure Empire. But is this alluring beast everything it claims to be? And what about the Christians on his father's estate who show Marcellus a way of life that is both strange and attractive? And why does the dragon view these Christians as a threat to the Empire? As Marcellus tries to answer these questions, he comes to realize that he may have to choose between a life of Roman prosperity and becoming an outlaw in the Empire he loves.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Michael Lotti has taught for 15 years at the middle school, high school, and collegiate levels. He is also an accomplished business and academic writer. This is his first novel.

I had always half-imagined St George as the Christian knight, prancing in on his white horse to kill an evil dragon and probably leaving some swooning ladies in his wake. Not the most terribly interesting story. But this telling includes high drama, Roman history, a conversion, friendship and grief, told compellingly and with theological sophistication. In the dragon, Marcellus (who takes George as his baptismal name) encounters the true face of what he has worshiped and served "the Empire" and finds himself alternately seduced and repelled. Unable to make sense of or resist the dragon's pull on his old loyalties, he stumbles across a group of Christians worshipping on his father's estate. Although initially shocked by their alien ways (men and women worshipping together! Slaves and freedmen embracing as brothers! Worship at a funeral and

hope in death!) Marcellus finds them, and the hope they promise, strangely compelling. St George and the Dragon is nothing less than the story of a soul's death to life in Christ, the putting off the old man in a violently liberating way. The experience of the early Christians, and the radical upending of human empires and institutions (slavery, ancestor-worship, even marriage and friendship) that the gospel entails: it's all here, in a story that will capture children's imaginations as well as their parents'. This book would make a lovely family read-aloud, and offer excellent fodder for longer conversations with older children and teens. I heartily commend St George and the Dragon to you and hope you enjoy it as much as I have.

In my reading, the highlight and most poignant dimension of Michael Lotti's "St. George and the Dragon" is how effectively it portrays and conveys the power of encountering Jesus Christ through encountering the Gospel for the very first time. It struck me--viscerally and stirring--to sense how it might have felt to learn about Christ and meet Christians with only about 300 years of Christianity in the background rather than almost two millenia. (Full disclosure: I am a former colleague and current friend/brother-in-Christ of Mr. Lotti. I believe the novel would have had the same impact on me even if I did not know its author.)--Rev. Charles "Chuck" Wood, Assoc. Pastor, Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Lake Oswego, OR

I just read Michael Lotti's wonderful first novel, ST GEORGE and the DRAGON. As I would have expected it was very well written and held my interest. His thoughtful and insightful treatment of the life of this great Christian man brings St George alive for readers young and old alike. The book is beautifully illustrated by Jennifer Soriano. Bravo, Michael and Jennifer, and may this be the first of many such creative endeavors. I would highly recommend this book to everyone!!

Dr. Lotti has written an excellent and inspiring book. I enjoyed it as a myth/story, but I also found significant spiritual meaning in the tale as well. I recommend this book to friends and colleagues, especially parents of "tweens," without reservation. Dennis Rayl, MA, MEd, Past President, Classical Association of MN

A well written book that delivers the wonderful message of the fight for Christianity with the challenges of evils and desires looming among us. A definite page turner as this story makes it all so refreshing and adventuresome with a new twist to an old tale. Very appropriate for early teens, but delightful for adults as well.

I've read a lot of young adult books in the last 20 years. My favorites include: The Bronze Bow, The Chosen, The Hobbit, The Redwall Series, The Ranger's Apprentice series and now St. George and the Dragon.

This is an easy read and kept me interested. Not overly detailed. I imagine most kids would enjoy it. Made me wonder what the real story was. For now, this tale will do.

This was a gift item and fit the occasion well.

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