



Hello everyone & welcome to the superhero squad!

My name is Andy Shepherd and I'm the author of 'The Boy Who Grew Dragons' series. And I do love dragons!

Did you know that not all dragons come from eggs? Some of them grow on trees! A very special tree called a dragon-fruit tree.

My books are all about a little boy who finds a dragon-fruit tree at the bottom of his grandad's garden, in among the brambles and nettles. And he soon discovers exactly why it's called a dragon fruit. But growing dragons is A LOT more trouble than growing cucumbers! Luckily there's a lot more magic in a dragon...

I wonder, if you could grow a dragon like Tomas, what would they be like? Would they have any special powers? And what might it be like to live with your dragon? My dragon is called Glint,

he's turquoise and purple, he breathes sparks that light up my imagination and fill my head with stories. He can be a bit of a handful.





Today he's shredded my socks and done a poo in my slipper which then exploded!

Did you know there really is a dragon-fruit tree? They originally came from Mexico, but now you can find them all over the world. They are amazing-looking trees and as soon as I saw a picture of one I knew it deserved to be in a story. They actually do have vivid tendrils that I think look like flames. And they have moon-white flowers that only grow for one night.

I hope you have fun reading all the stories about Tomas and the superhero squad and thinking of all the different dragons that might grow on the tree.

Happy dragon growing!

Andy

P.S My story started with a 'What if?' question. What if dragons really did grow from dragon fruit? But what if you had a tree in your garden that could grow

whatever you liked - what would you most like to grow? And what would that tree look like?

