

WYRMS 2

SHACKLEBOUND BOOKS

THE DRAGON'S FAREWELL

MATIAS TRAVIESO-DIAZ

A TRADE DEVELOPED BETWEEN dragon and humans. Druk's bite cured sick humans who presented themselves for treatment, offering livestock as payment.

One evening, however, Druk appeared, yanked a lamb off the altar, and rose, ignoring the man waiting for his bite.

"Leaving without treating me?" chided the man.

Druk replied from the skies: "Tired of tasting human filth. Farewell!"

Druk's story became legend in the inhospitable prairie. "Not even dragons stay here" is the tale's conclusion.

Others retort, remembering their tough bargains with L'ong: "But it was good while it lasted." For men find profit even in dreadful events.

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Born in Cuba, Matias Travieso-Diaz migrated to the United States as a young man. He became an engineer and lawyer and practiced for nearly fifty years. After retirement, he took up creative writing. Over ninety of his short stories have been published or accepted for publication in anthologies and paying magazines, blogs, audio books and podcasts. Some of his unpublished works have also received "honorable mentions" from a number of paying publications. A first collection

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