

Who did Patrick's homework?

Patrick hated to do homework. "Too boring," he said. He played baseball and Nintendo instead. His teachers always told him, "Patrick! Do your homework or you won't learn a thing."

On St. Patrick's Day, Patrick's cat was playing with a little doll. He grabbed it away. To his surprise, it wasn't a doll at all, but a man of the tiniest size. The little man yelled, "Save me! I'll grant you a wish, I promise!"

Patrick couldn't believe how lucky he was! So he said, "Please do all my homework until the end of the semester. If you do a good job, I could even get A's."

The little man's face wrinkled. He kicked his legs and doubled his fists, "Oh, am I cursed? But I'll do it."

And true to his words, that little elf began to do Patrick's homework. The elf didn't always know what to do. "Help me!" he would say. And Patrick would have to help -- in whatever way.

"I don't know this word," the elf squeaked while reading Patrick's homework. "Get me a dictionary. And even better, look up the word and sound it out for me."

When it came to math, Patrick was out of luck. "What are times tables?" the elf shrieked. "We elves never need that! Here, sit down. You need to guide me."

Elves know nothing of human history, to them it's a mystery. So the little elf shouted "Go to the library, I need books. More and more books. And you can help me read them, too."

Patrick was working harder than ever. He was staying up nights and felt so weary.

Finally the last day of school arrived and the elf was free to go. He quietly and slyly slipped out the back door.

Patrick got his A's. His teachers smiled and praised him. His parents wondered what had happened to Patrick. He became one of the best students in class!

In the end, Patrick still thought he had made that tiny man do all his homework. But, Shh... ,I'll share a secret with you. It wasn't the elf; Patrick had done it all by himself!

Adapted from <http://www.magickeys.com/books/patrick/index.html>