

## Family watches as python eats their dog

*by UPI*

KURANDA, Australia -- An Australian father said he feared for his children's lives after a python ate his family's pet dog, cat and guinea pig. Daniel Peric and his family threw chairs at the 16.5-foot snake as it ate their Chihuahua on the veranda of their Kuranda, Queensland, home, The Telegraph reported Wednesday. It is reported that the snake ate the family's cat and guinea pig in previous weeks. "Actually watching it unfold before your eyes was pretty gut-wrenching. We'd had the dog about five years, so it was part of the family," Peric told reporters. The Perics reportedly called Australian Venom Zoo snake handler Stuart Douglas but when he arrived only the dog's hind legs could be seen sticking out of the snake's mouth, The Telegraph said. "A snake of that size is quite capable of killing a small child," Douglas said. Douglas removed the python from the Peric's neighborhood and it is being taken to a national park, the report said.

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