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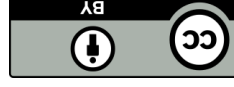
Ijoolie gaa / Children of wax

Written by: Southern African Folktales

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This story originates from the African Storybook (africanstorybook.org) and is brought to you by Storybooks Canada in an effort to provide children's stories in Canada's many languages.



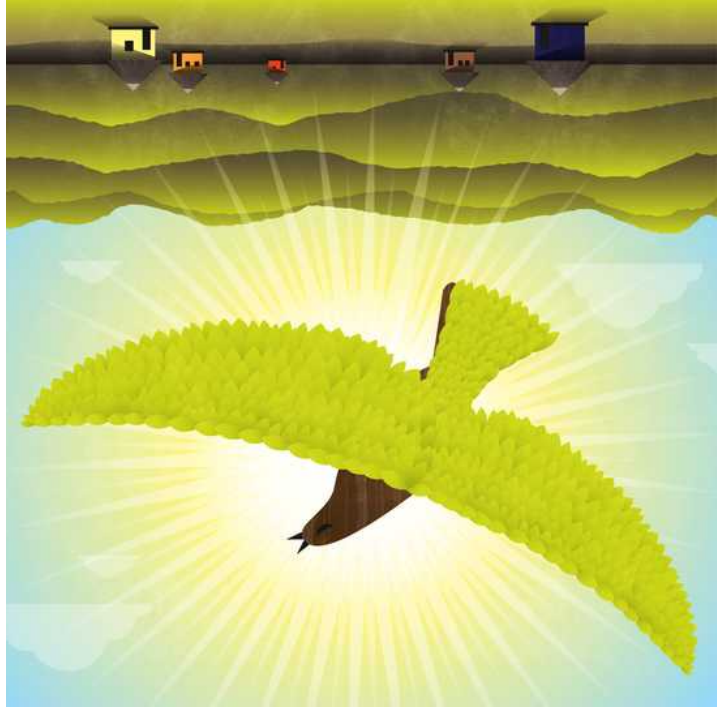
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Ijoolie gaa

Children of wax



Southern African Folktales

Wiehan de Jager

Demoze Degefa

Oromo / English

Level 2





Yeroo took matii gammachudhan jiratu
tokkotu ture.

...

Once upon a time, there lived a happy family.



Wal-lolani hinbekan. Matii isaani manatis ta'e
allati nigargaaru.

...

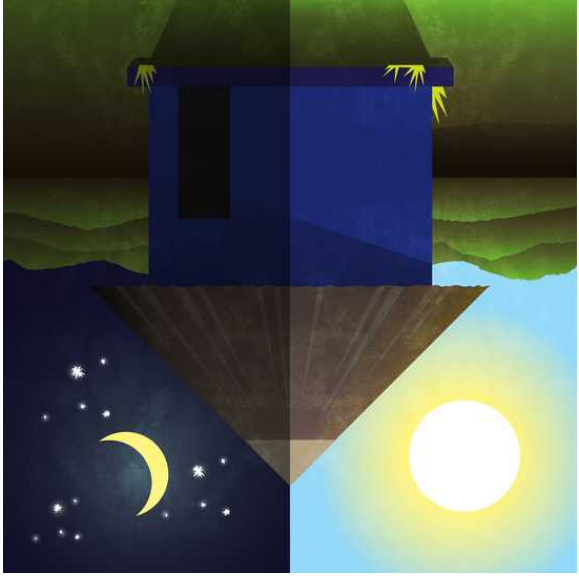
They never fought with each other. They
helped their parents at home and in the fields.



Garuu gara ibbiddati siquu dhorgamani turan.

...

But they were not allowed to go near a fire.



Hojii isaani halkan hojachu gaban. Sababin
isaas matiin kuni gagaa irra hojataman!

...

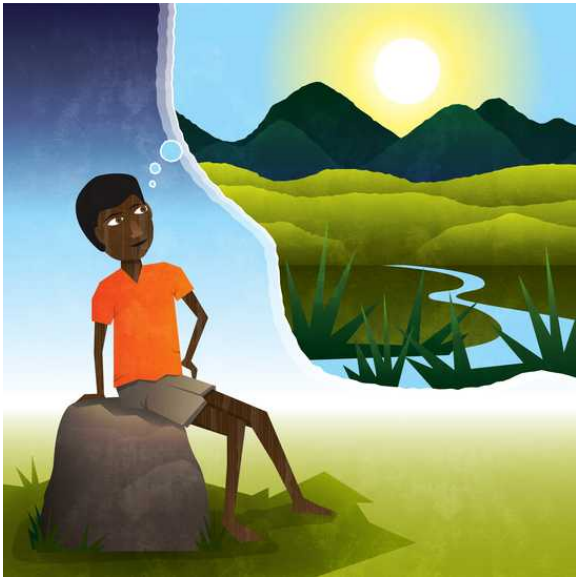
They had to do all their work during the night.
Because they were made of wax!



Akkuma addun bateen sirbaa balali'aa
deeman.

...

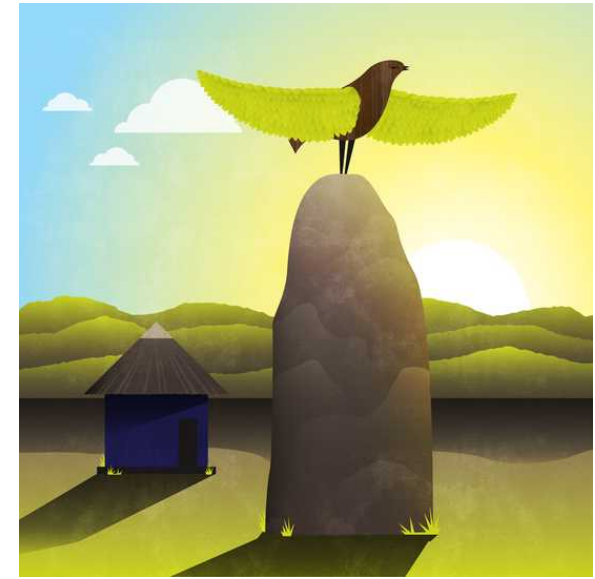
And as the sun rose, he flew away singing into
the morning light.



Isaan kessaa mucaan tokko garu gara adduti bahuu fedhee ture.

...

But one of the boys longed to go out in the sunlight.



Obbolessa isaani simbirro kan gara gaara guddaa gessan.

...

They took their bird brother up to a high mountain.



Kessaahu gattooko bayee hawee garu
obbolawan isaa isa dhorgan.

...

One day the longing was too strong. His
brothers warned him...



Sagantaa gaban turan. Gaga baqee sana gara
simbrooti gedaran.

...

But they made a plan. They shaped the lump of
melted wax into a bird.



Dhorgam suni bayee ture. Muccichi addu
kessati baqee jira.

...

But it was too late! He melted in the hot sun.



Ijooleen gaga yeroo obbolessi isani baqu
argudhan bayee aaran.

...

The wax children were so sad to see their
brother melting away.