

African Myths And Legends Oxford Myths And Legends

More wonderful tales and how to tell them from master storyteller Megan McKenna. A coyote, a woodcutter, a Buddhist Zen master, a boy named Samuel, a Sufi mystic, two men walking to Emmaus all are central characters in stories told by Megan McKenna. As we listen to "Once upon a time," their lives become our lives. We learn from their mistakes and profit from their wisdom. Megan McKenna's stories are drawn from many religious traditions, Hebrew Scriptures, sufi mysticism, Native American traditions, Eastern religions, and the Christian Gospels. Keepers of the Story also offers readers fascinating and helpful information about storytelling itself. In the final chapter, McKenna explores how the storyteller becomes theologian, talking and teaching about God, the Keeper of the Story of us all.

Presents a collection of West African tales describing a variety of cunning tricksters, including Monkey, Shark, and Crocodile.

Written by an international team of acclaimed folklorists, this reference text provides a cross-cultural survey of the major types and methods of inquiry in folklore. * Contains contributions from major scholars such as David Leeming, Linda Degh, and Dan Ben-Amos * Numerous photographs bring the subject material to life * More than 300 entries, each concluding with a bibliography of references * Over 50 sidebars provide biographical information on major folklore collectors and scholars

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Why does Monkey fear Leopard? Why does the Reed Warbler babble? How did Jabulani outwit the Lion? These and other intriguing questions are answered in When Bat was a Bird. Twenty four fresh and exciting stories feature memorable creatures both real and magical. Information boxes provide supporting information about the people, animals, reptiles, insects and birds of Africa. Over 90 full-colour illustrations bring the wealth and beauty of African wildlife alive for children. In his latest collection author Nick Greaves draws once more from the lore, mythology and history of various southern African tribes to relate a new collection of tales that is bound to become a firm favourite along with the highly successful When Hippo was Hairy, When Lion could Fly and When Elephant was King.

Proverbs in African Orature examines how preliterate Africans handle oral literacy criticism of their proverbs. The study demonstrates that Africans employ literary styles and strategies in speaking their proverbs. It also shows that the notion and practice of literary aesthetics are indigenous to African peoples. In studying these proverbs, the author goes beyond mere translation or contextual analysis and employs a new empirical approach. The approach involves the researcher recording live scenes of proverb use, appreciation, and criticism by the people of Aniocha in Delta State, Nigeria. By examining the literary background and the present study, the author demonstrates that scholars have indeed recognized the need for this new approach but have not yet tried it. Monye is the first. The author also situates proverbs in the context of other African oral forms, drawing copious examples from the Aniocha Igbo people. This study and analysis reveals that Aniocha proverbs have literary value and that the people apply their folk critical canons in the appreciation and criticism of these proverbs. Proverbs in African Orature is a highly appropriate work for African Studies scholars, especially those focusing on oral literature.

This book explores aspects of indigenous Yoruba philosophy of law and relates this philosophy to the Yoruba indigenous traditions of governance. It is written with an appreciation of the relevance of the Yoruba traditions of law and governance to contemporary African experiments with imported Western democracy in the twenty-first century.

This lively collection comes from West Africa, a place "where stories grow on trees." Here are the famous tricksters: Hare, Tortoise, and the greatest of them all--Ananse the spider. The stories are full of larger-than-life characters and situations, and include the tale of how Ananse got his thin waist, how Crocodile learnt his lesson, and how Monkey managed not to get eaten by Shark.

Gathered in this one volume, But Not Philosophy provides useful and thought-provoking introductions to seven major "schools" of non-Western thought: Mesopotamian, ancient African, Hindu, Confucian, Buddhist, Islamic, and North American Indian. Anastaplo studies ancient literary epics and legal codes and examines religious traditions and systems of thought, providing detailed references to authoritative histories and commentators.

Collects stories from the Chinese tradition relating the creation of the earth, and the place of ghosts, rain-makers, and magicians in China's storytelling tradition.

Starting from the question 'what is a story?' Storytelling Across the Primary Curriculum leads the reader through the theory and practise of storytelling as an educational method – a method taught by the author over the last ten years through Primary English teaching programmes. This practical book gives teachers the skills and confidence to use storytelling and the spoken word in new and exciting ways in the classroom. It will also give teachers the confidence to 'put down the book' and trust themselves to tell, rather than read, a story. It provides a wealth of examples of cross-curricular teaching opportunities, including a section on the ways in which the teaching of phonics can be embedded in the 'real' language of story. Storytelling Across the Primary Curriculum is ideal for trainee and practicing primary school teachers who want to develop their classroom practice within the field of storytelling. Students on BA Primary, BEd, and PGCE courses, particularly those specialising in English, will also benefit from this book's stimulating and intuitive approach to teaching English language and literacy.

This volume of essays covers all phases and geographical areas of African literature, including lesser known areas such as oral literature, literature written in African languages and Lusophone literature. Also included are articles on Caribbean literature, developments in South African theatre, and two articles on African film. Several writers receive special attention: Chinua Achebe, Maryse Conde, Wole Soyinka, Niyi Osundare, Ngugi wa Thiong'o and Hampate Ba. Also included are the key-note addresses by Achebe, Conde and Osundare.

"A book or collection of writings constituting the sacred text of a religion." —The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition For thousands of years,

we have been told that God was a man. Then someone reminded us of when God was a woman. Now we have a reference for the sensible folk who have always felt that it takes two. If you have ever thought there was more to religion than ancient rituals performed for reasons unknown, this book will show you exactly what you have been looking for. If you have already come to the realization that Wicca is the religion for you, this book will help fill those many blanks that have been left by other books. Author A.J. Drew makes no attempt to dictate religious dogma or routine. He is quick to point out that the title does not start with the word the. He illustrates the many issues a person's religion should address and shows how he has been able to find answers to those issues through the practice of a modern religion that was based on some of the oldest principles of the ancient world. A Wiccan Bible takes you through the journey of life in three stages: Maiden and Master: Creation, Wiccaning, and Self-dedication. Mother and Father: Initiation, Handfasting/Handparting, and the Wheel of the Year. Crone and Sage: Community, the world, and death. Mythology and science converge as the author details a life's journey into a religion with both old world ritual and new world science, fusing both into a creation myth which satisfies not only mind, but soul as well. A Wiccan Bible not only shows a religious path filled with joy, but one that offers the ability to accept and manage sorrow. It is filled with ritual and with the reasons why ritual is fulfilling, rewarding, and a necessary part of everyday life. As A.J. addresses each issue, he demonstrates not only how he found the solutions in Wicca, and the many ways in which science and magick have helped him to do so. A Wiccan Bible also contains select recipes that the author has collected, including mixtures for incense, oils, and baths.

This book brings together in one volume two earlier books by the authors, now revised to meet the challenges of 21st century scholarship in African performance and cultural studies. Topics covered range from sources of oral traditions, the relevance of cosmology to oral performance, myths and legends, occupational and heroic poetry to name but a few. The central theme is performance and the reader is provided with projects and exercises intended to keep them involved in research and performance experience.

Presents adaptations of tales and fables selected from Sanskrit and Pali sources that comprise the ancient literature and folklore of India.

The African continent is home to a fascinating and strong tradition of myth, due in part to the long history of human habitation in Africa; the diversity of its geography, flora, and fauna; and the variety of its cultural beliefs. African Mythology A to Z is a readable reference to the deities, places, events, animals, beliefs, and other subjects that appear in the myths of various African peoples. For the first time, this edition features full-color photographs and illustrations. Coverage includes:

An illustrated collection of twenty-five myths from various parts of the world explaining the creation of the world.

These folk-tales were told by simple people--vine-dressers, farm-laborers, millers--and were preserved by word of mouth, to be repeated for entertainment in the coffee-house, or at home during the long, hard winters. There are fables here, too, selected from the collections of medieval scholars and philosophers, while the expressive and often humorous proverbs show the ways of the world through shrewd Armenian eyes.

In this innovative study Dr Okpewho explores what he considers the essence of African traditions - myth - and examines its place in African life, literature and thought. Focusing on a number of tales from a selection of African countries, Dr Okpewho shows myth to be the basic imaginative resource from which the larger cultural values derive.

Here is a treasury of favorite and little known tales from Africa, Asia, Europe, the Americas, Australia, and Oceania, gracefully retold and accompanied by fascinating, detailed information of their historic and cultural backgrounds. The introduction provides an informative overview of folklore, its purpose in world cultures and in contemporary society and popular culture. Following this, the main sections of the book are arranged by tale type, covering wonder tales, hero tales, tales of kindness repaid and hope and redemption, and finally tales of fools and wise people. Each section begins by comparing the tales cross-culturally, explaining similarities and differences in the folkloric narratives. Tales from diverse cultures are then presented, introduced, and retold in a highly readable fashion.

A collection of thirty-four tales from all areas of Africa south of the Sahara.

A collection of 34 tales taken from the folklore of different African peoples. Grades 5-7.

Entries describe the origins and deeds of folk heroes as they have existed in folktales, songs, oral tradition, and other folklore genres.

Folktales are timeless and, although they are a product of a particular culture, they have universal relevance because they give insight into the human condition. In Folktales from Africa, award-winning South African author Dianne Stewart has retold stories from the length and breadth of the African continent. Beautifully illustrated by Marjorie van Heerden, this collection of twenty stories is certain to entertain and delight the reader, as well as give insight into the countries from which the tales have been sourced.

Examines the myths and beliefs of Sub-Saharan Africa.

"This reference is a convenient introduction to folk and fairy tales for students and general readers. Ashliman looks at tales from around the world and from diverse cultures. The book defines and classifies folk and fairy tales and analyzes a number of examples. It also studies the varied manifestations of folk and fairy tales in literature and culture, and reviews critical and scholarly approaches to this folklore genre."--BOOK JACKET. Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

"Numerous titles focusing on particular beliefs in Africa exist, including Marcel Griaule's Conversations with Ogotemmeli, but this one presents an unparalleled exploration of a multitude of cultures and experiences. It is both a gateway to deeper exploration and a penetrating resource on its own. This is bound to become the definitive scholarly resource on African religions." — Library Journal, Starred Review "Overall, because of its singular focus, reliability, and scope, this encyclopedia will prove invaluable where there is considerable interest in Africa or in different religious traditions." —Library Journal As the first comprehensive work to assemble ideas, concepts, discourses, and extensive essays in this vital area, the Encyclopedia of African Religion explores such topics as deities and divinities, the nature of humanity, the end of life, the conquest of fear, and the quest for attainment of harmony with nature and other humans. Editors Molefi Kete Asante and Ama Mazama include nearly 500 entries that seek to rediscover the original beauty and majesty of African religion. Features · Offers the best representation to date of the African response to the sacred · Helps readers grasp the enormity of Africa's contribution to

religious ideas by presenting richly textured concepts of spirituality, ritual, and initiation while simultaneously advancing new theological categories, cosmological narratives, and ways to conceptualize ethical behavior · Provides readers with new metaphors, figures of speech, modes of reasoning, etymologies, analogies, and cosmogonies · Reveals the complexity, texture, and rhythms of the African religious tradition to provide scholars with a baseline for future works The Encyclopedia of African Religion is intended for undergraduate and graduate students in fields such as Religion, Africana Studies, Sociology, and Philosophy.

A collection of the most gripping African tales, vividly retold and illustrated by an intriguing array of paintings and illustrations.

Contains more than four thousand entries touching on all aspects of fantasy literature, movies, and art

Humankind has had a long and intimate association with gourds, and one of them, the bottle gourd, or calabash, may have been man's first cultivated plant. Although grown in the United States today primarily as ornamentals, in other parts of the world gourds have many other important uses. With charming text and stunning black-and-white photographs, The Gourd Book provides fascinating scientific information and folklore about these remarkable plants and keys for identifying species. The first part of the book deals with tree gourds, widely used as containers and for decoration; the Cucurbita gourds, including the buffalo gourd, the Turk's turban, the silver-seed gourd, and the Malabar gourd, all utilized as food, and the beautiful ornamental gourds; the loofah gourds, popular as cosmetic sponges; minor gourds, such as the snake, wax, bitter, teasel, and hedgehog, sometimes used as food or medicine; and gourds mentioned in the Bible. The second part takes up the bottle gourd, which has been used for thousands of years. Even today this gourd is almost indispensable in many parts of the tropics, where species are used to make containers, musical instruments, and clothing, as food and medicine, and in art. The book concludes with a discussion of the gourd in folklore and myth and an appendix on growing, hybridizing, and preserving gourds for decoration. Delightfully written for general readers, this book will also appeal to botanists, anthropologists, horticulturists, and everyone interested in plants or gardening.

This is the first full-length study of South African English youth literature to cover the entire period of its publication, from the late nineteenth century to the early twenty-first century. Jenkins' book focuses on what made the subsequent literature essentially South African and what aspects of the country and its society authors concentrated on. What gives this book particular strength is its coverage of literature up to the 1960s, which has until now received almost no scholarly attention. Not only is this earlier literature a rewarding subject for study in itself, but it also throws light on subsequent literary developments. Another exceptional feature is that the book follows the author's previous work in placing children's literature in the context of adult South African literature and South African cultural history (e.g. cinema). He also makes enlightening comparisons with American, Canadian and Australian children's literature.

Africa south of the Sahara is a land of wide-ranging traditions and varying cultures. Despite the diversity and the lack of early written records, the continent possesses a rich body of folk tales and legends that have been passed down through the strong custom of storytelling and which often share similar elements, characters and ideas between peoples. So this collection offers a hefty selection of legends and tales – stories of the gods, creation and origins, trickster exploits, animal fables and stories which entertain and edify – from 'Obatala Creates Mankind', from the Yoruba people of west Africa, to 'The Girl Of The Early Race, Who Made Stars', from the San people of southern Africa, all collected in a gorgeous gold-foiled and embossed hardback to treasure.

Folktales can be described as fictional prose narratives that are not confined to any particular culture. A folktale may appear in a slightly different form in a culture that is geographically nearby, or it may appear in a culture that is quite far removed from its original source. In The Zebra's Stripes and other African Tales, Dianne Stewart has retold a collection of folk tales that have their origins all over Africa. Aimed at children and adults, these tales include legends such as 'How Lion and Warthog became Enemies' from the Lamba people of Togo, 'How Giraffe Acquired his Long Neck' from East Africa, 'Why Hippopotamus Lives in the Water' from Nigeria and 'Monkey The Musician' from South Africa. There are tales from the San, Zulu, Zambia, Congo and West Africa, et al. Each section is devoted to a type of animal, and concludes with some facts about the animal in question, adding educational to the stories. Proverbs from various cultures provide additional insight. Throughout, Kathy Pienaar's beautiful illustrations show great attention to detail.

Author Nick Greaves continues the ancient tradition of storytelling in this renamed and freshly jacketed edition by recounting the myths and legends of southern African tribes. Aimed at 7–12 year olds, the 19 stories in this volume introduce a magical cast of characters, from a feisty buck, greedy vultures and a bewitched crocodile to an arrogant bat and the perpetually crafty hare. The collection of tales is a delightful addition to the successful series by the author, including When Hippo was Hairy, When Lion Could Fly, When Elephant was King, and When Bat was a Bird.

Africa and the African Diaspora is the outcome of a symposium held at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon (February 2002), entitled "Symposium on Freedom in Black History," designed to celebrate Black History Month. The major themes of the conference were how Africans both at home on the continent and dispersed abroad, often by forces beyond their control, reacted to oppression and subjugation in seeking freedom from slavery, colonialism, and discrimination. The volume documents the many forms that oppression has taken, the many forms that resistance has taken, and the cultural developments that have allowed Africans to adapt to the new and changing economic, social and environmental conditions to win back their freedom. Oppressive strategies as divide-and-rule could be based on any one of a number of features, such as skin color, place of origin, culture, or social or economic status. People drawn into the vortex of the Atlantic trade and funneled into the sugar fields, the swampy rice lands or the cotton, coffee or tobacco plantations of the new world and elsewhere, had no alternative but to risk their lives for freedom. The plantation provided the context for the dehumanization of disadvantaged groups subjected to exhausting work, frequent punishment and personal injustice of every kind, This book demonstrates that the history and interpretation of these struggles of the oppressed peoples to free themselves have not received proportionate attention and analysis, as have other aspects of that history.

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