



Global Storybooks

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Timoun lasi / Children of wax

✎ Southern African Folktales

✉ Wiehan de Jager

✉ ACE Haiti-University of Notre Dame USA

(ht)

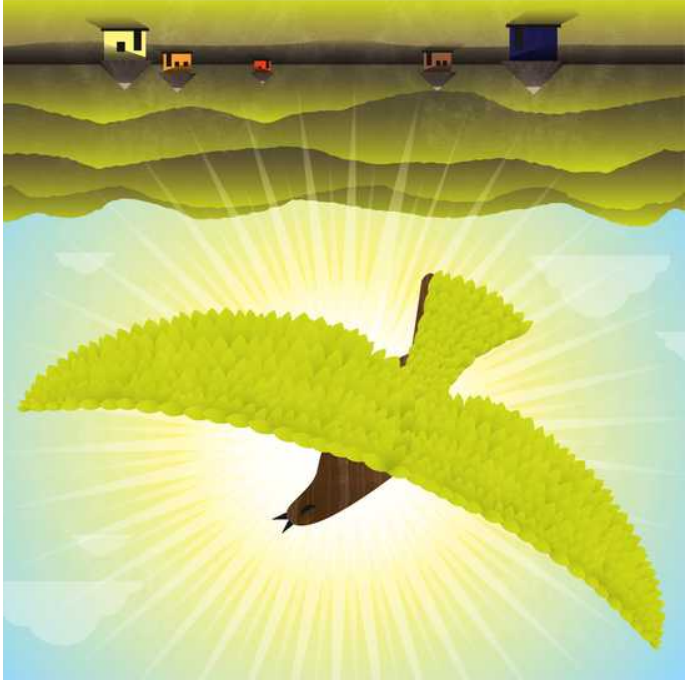


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Timoun lasi

Children of wax



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Nan tan lontan te gen yon fanmi ki tap
viv ak kè kontan.

...

Once upon a time, there lived a happy
family.

Yo pa te jamm goumen yonn ak lòt. Yo
te ede paran yo nan kay la ak nan jaden
an.
...
They never fought with each other.
They helped their parents at home and
in the fields.

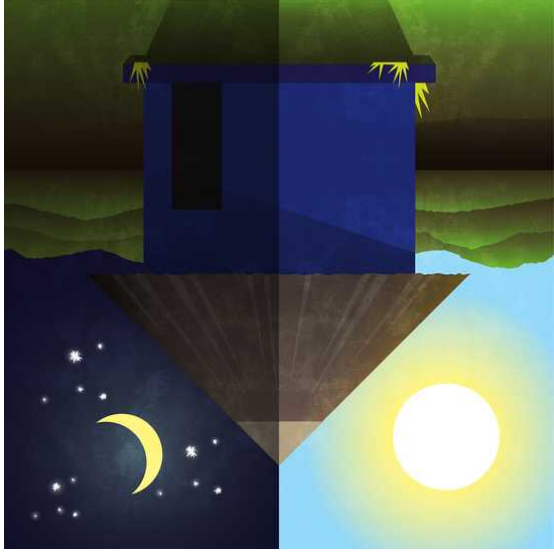




Men, yo pa te gen dwa ale twò pre dife.

...

But they were not allowed to go near a fire.



Yo te fè tout travay sa yo nan lanwit
paske yo te fèt ak lasi!

...

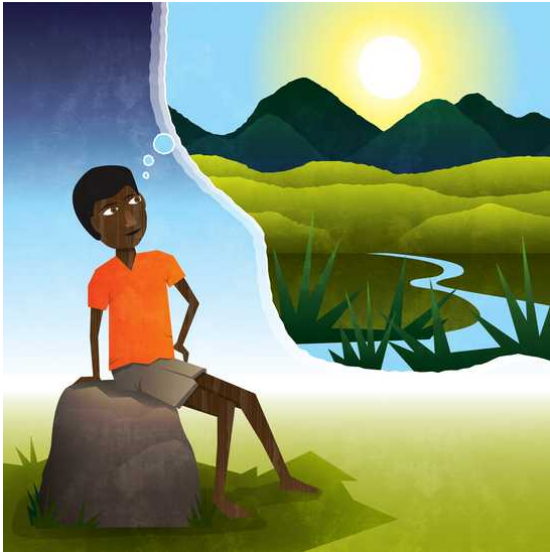
They had to do all their work during the
night. Because they were made of wax!



Lè solèy la leve, zwazo an vole pandan
l'ap chante nan limyè maten an.

...

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



Men yonn nan ti gason yo te anvè wè
limyè solèy la.

...

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



Yo mennen frè zwazo yo sou tèt yon
mòn wo.

...

They took their bird brother up to a
high mountain.



Yon jou anvi sa a te gwo anpil. Fre !
avèt'! ...

...

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



Yo fè yon plan. Yo pran lasi, yo fonn lasi
a enpi yo fè'l tounen yon zwazo.

...

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



Men, li te twò ta! Li fonn nan solèy cho
a.

...

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



Timoun yo te si tèlman tris lè yo wè yo
frè ap fonn.

...

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