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A Curse or a Blessing?

Author - Alfred Esinyen Illustration - Marleen Visser, Natalie Propa, Silva Afonso and Vusi Malindi

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A Curse or a Blessing?
Alfred Esinyen
Marleen Visser



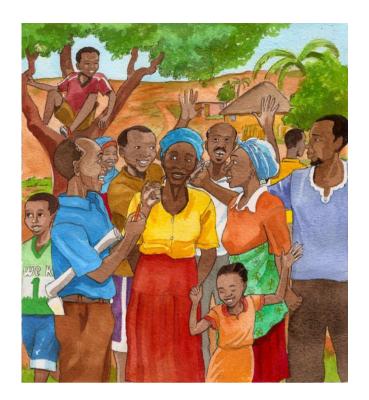






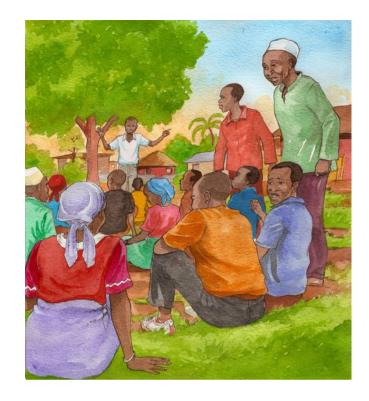
What should have been a blessing, became a curse to us. Lomongin, the rain-maker, was disappointed as well.

The only one who was happy, was Kapuus with his eight cats!



For many months, the skies were dry. Lomongin, the famous rainmaker, talked to his gods.

People gathered outside his home, anxiously waiting for a message of hope.



When he came out, he assured people that the creator was going to give them rain soon.

They would be able to plant their crops.



We could not go shopping because all the shops were across the river.

Children couldn't go to school because schools were across the river.



And, we had another problem! We saw crocodiles swimming everywhere.

This had never happened before. We were confused.



Children played outside as we waited for the rains.

Later that day, we saw big white clouds in the far east. I knew they were rain clouds.

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People were still thinking about what the rain-maker said.

Mother shouted loudly, "There! The clouds are now dark. Come inside."



Everybody had prepared for planting. But now they could not plant. People of my village had longed for rain. Now they did not want it anymore.

We had no bridge to cross on. Many had no homes.



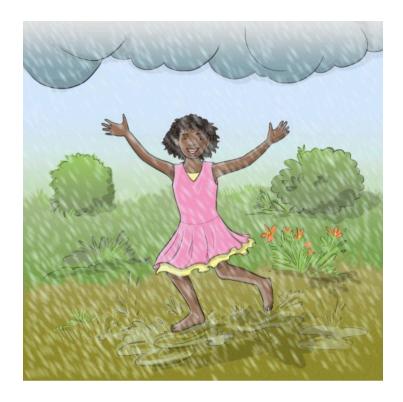
Houses were washed away by floods.

What was a blessing, was now a disaster for us.



The rain poured down.

It poured, and poured, and poured!



We had waited for the rains! At first we rejoiced.

But the rains did not stop.



There was water everywhere.

The bridge linking our village to the mainland was washed away.