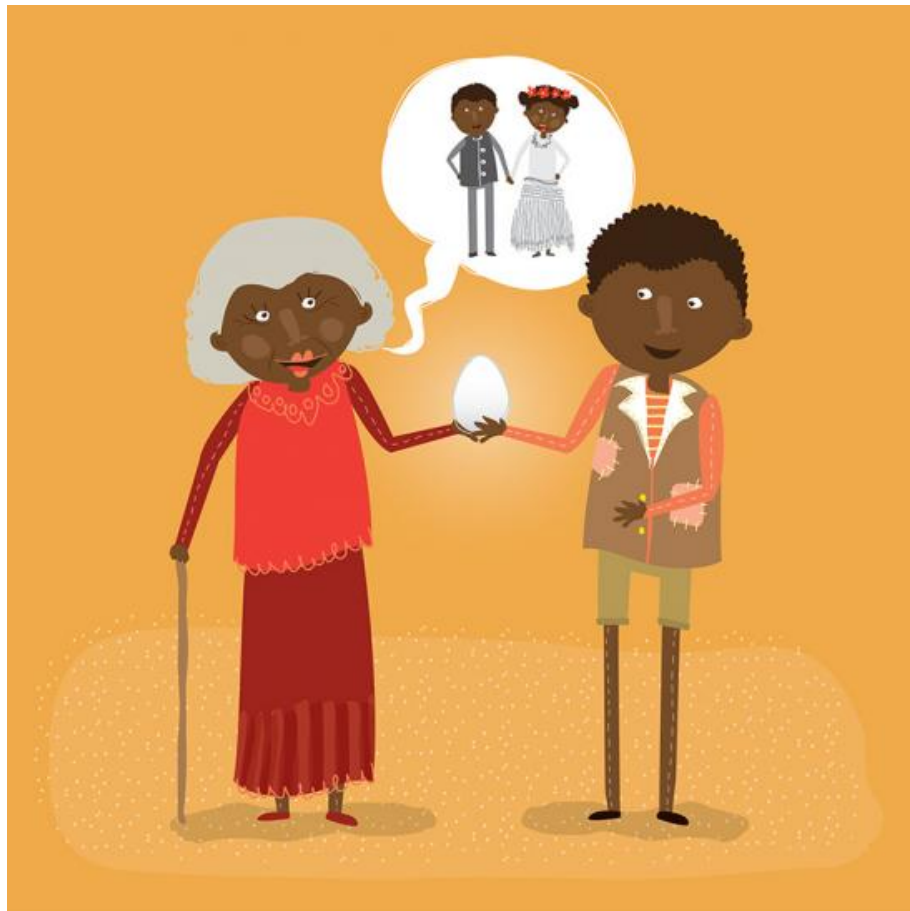


An egg for bride wealth

Nambi Sseppuuya
Community Resource
Centre
English





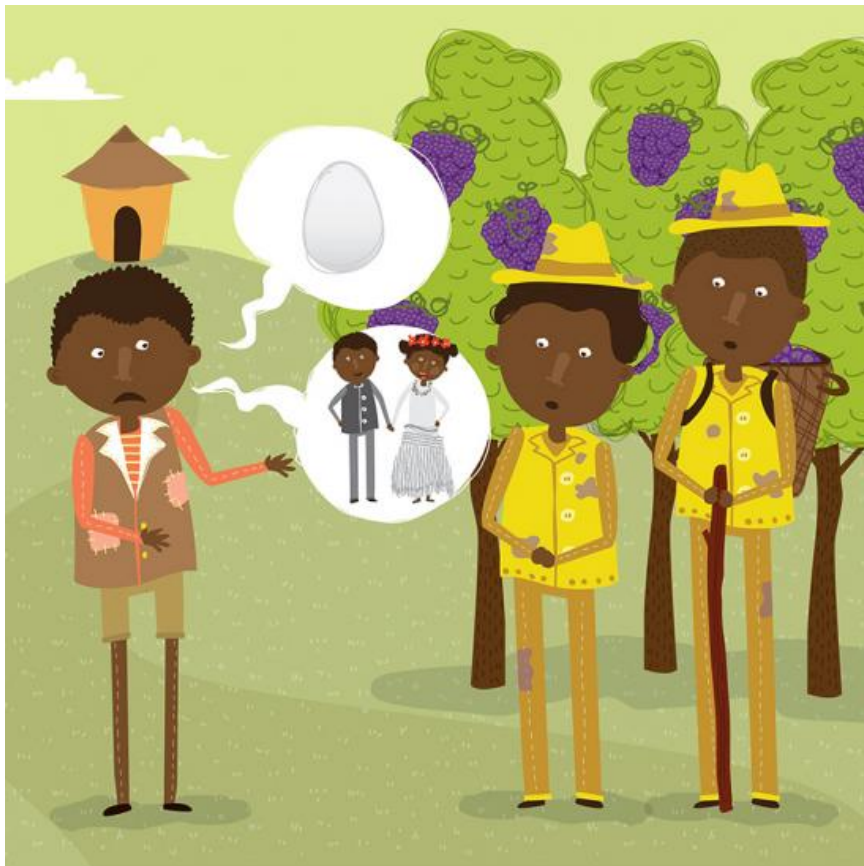
Once upon a time, there was an old woman who loved her grandson very much.

She gave him an egg as a gift. She said, "From this egg you will get bride wealth for your marriage when you are of age."

And the boy went on his way.

First he met some blackberry gatherers who asked him for the egg. They used it to shoot at the berries and it broke.





The boy cried,
“Ei...Ei...Ei! You have caused trouble
for me!
The egg was not mine.
It belonged to my grandmother.
And grandmother didn’t give it to
me for nothing.
She gave it to me to get bride
wealth.”

So the berry gatherers gave him the stick they used to bring down the berries.
And the boy walked on.





Next the boy met some builders who asked him for his stick. They used it to build a house and it broke into pieces.

The boy cried,
“Hee...Hee...Hee! You have caused
trouble for me! The stick was not
mine, it belonged to the berry
gatherers.
And they didn’t give it to me for
nothing.
They gave it to me in place of my
egg.
The egg was not mine.
It belonged to my grandmother.
And grandmother didn’t give it to
me for nothing,
She gave it to me to get bride
wealth.”





So the builders gave him a bundle of grass for thatching. And the boy walked on.

Next the boy found a herdsman who asked for the boy's bundle of grass. The herdsman gave it to the cow and the cow ate it all up.





The boy cried, “E...E...E! You have caused trouble for me! The grass was not mine. It belonged to the builders.

The builders did not give it to me for nothing. They broke my stick. The stick was not mine. It belonged to the berry gatherers.

And they didn’t give it to me for nothing.

They gave it to me in place of my egg.

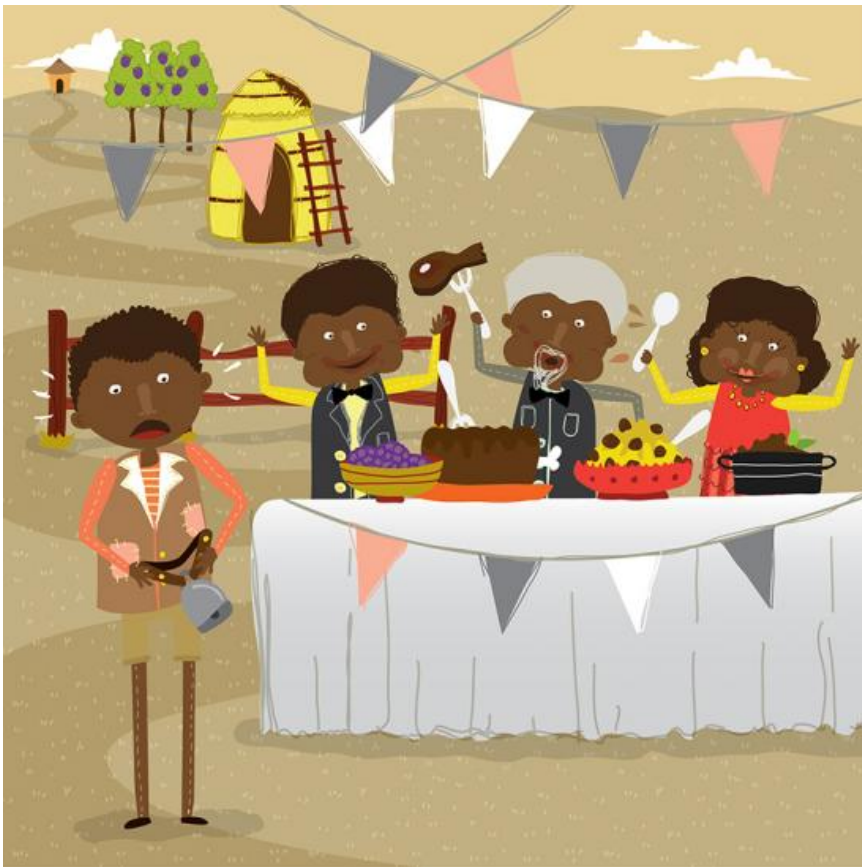
The egg was not mine. It belonged to my grandmother.

And grandmother did not give it to me for nothing.

She gave it to me to get bride wealth.”

So the herdsman gave the boy his
cow.
And the boy walked on.





While on his way home, the boy came across a marriage celebration.

The bride's family asked him for his cow.

He gave it to them.

And they slaughtered it and ate it all.

The boy cried, "Ei...Ei...Ei! You have caused trouble for me! The cow was not mine. It belonged to the herdsman.

The herdsman didn't give it to me for nothing.

He gave it to me in place of my bundle of grass.

The grass was not mine. It belonged to the builders.

The builders didn't give it to me for nothing. They broke my stick.

The stick was not mine. It belonged to the berry gatherers.

They didn't give it to me for nothing. They gave it to me in place of my egg.

The egg was not mine. It belonged to my grandmother.

And grandmother didn't give it to me for nothing,

She gave it to me to get bride





Then the bride's family said, "We have nothing left to pay you. But let us give you the bride for you to take."

And so, the saying came to pass that, "What goes round comes around!"

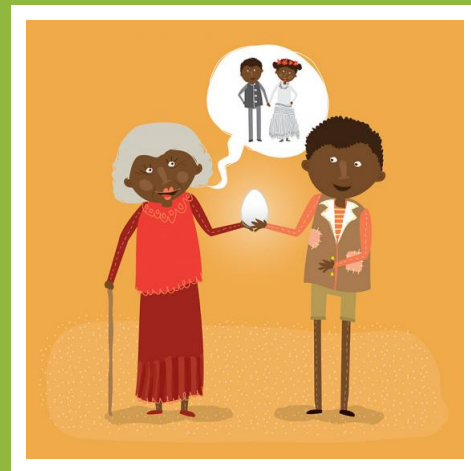
An egg for bride wealth

Writer: Nambi Sseppuuya Community Resource Centre

Illustration: Wiehan de Jager

Translated By: Maganda Isa and Cornelius Gulere

Language: English



This story was developed and versioned by members of the Ugandan Community Libraries Association (www.ugcla.org).

© Text: Ugandan Community Libraries Association;

Illustration: African Storybook Initiative, 2014



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) Version 3.0 Unported Licence

Disclaimer: You are free to download, copy, translate or adapt this story and use the illustrations as long as you attribute or credit the original author/s and illustrator/s.

Saide 
South African Institute
for Distance Education

www.africanstorybook.org
A Saide Initiative