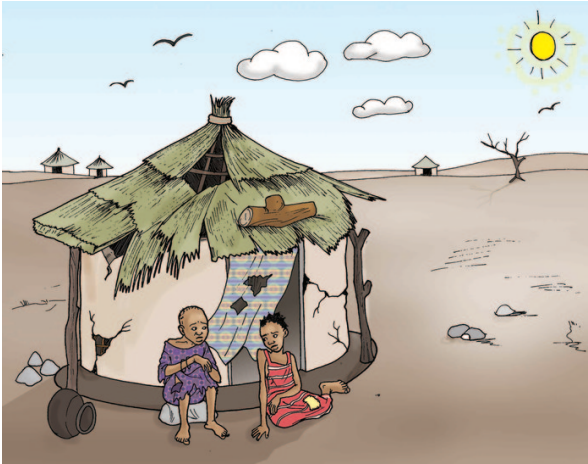


The girl who got rich

Salaama Wanale
English





Once upon a time, there lived two sisters, Nelima and Nambuya.

Their parents were dead. They lived on bare land.

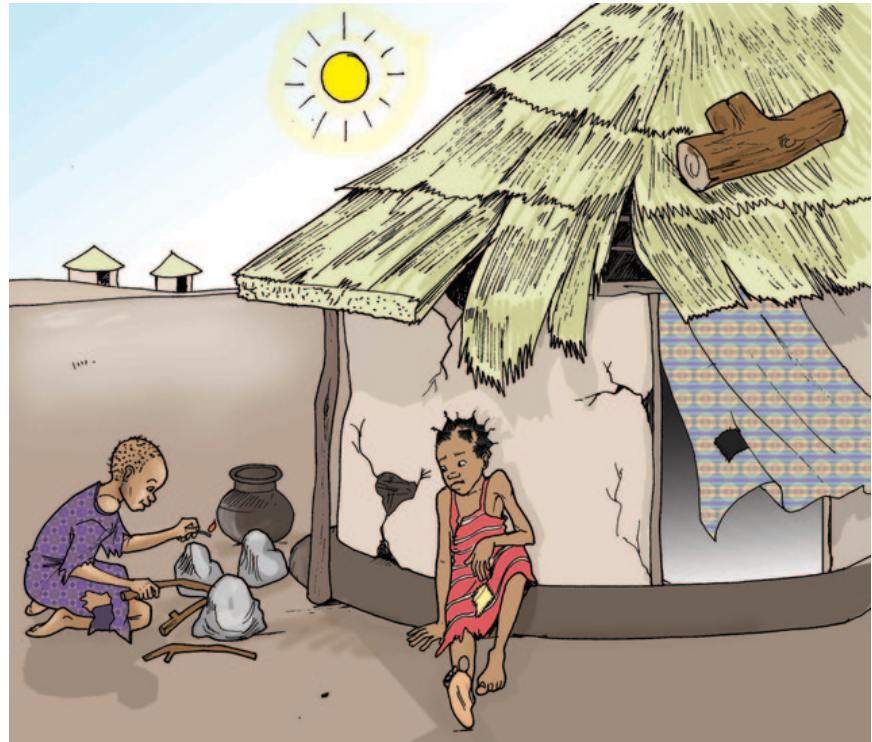
There was neither rain nor crops to eat.

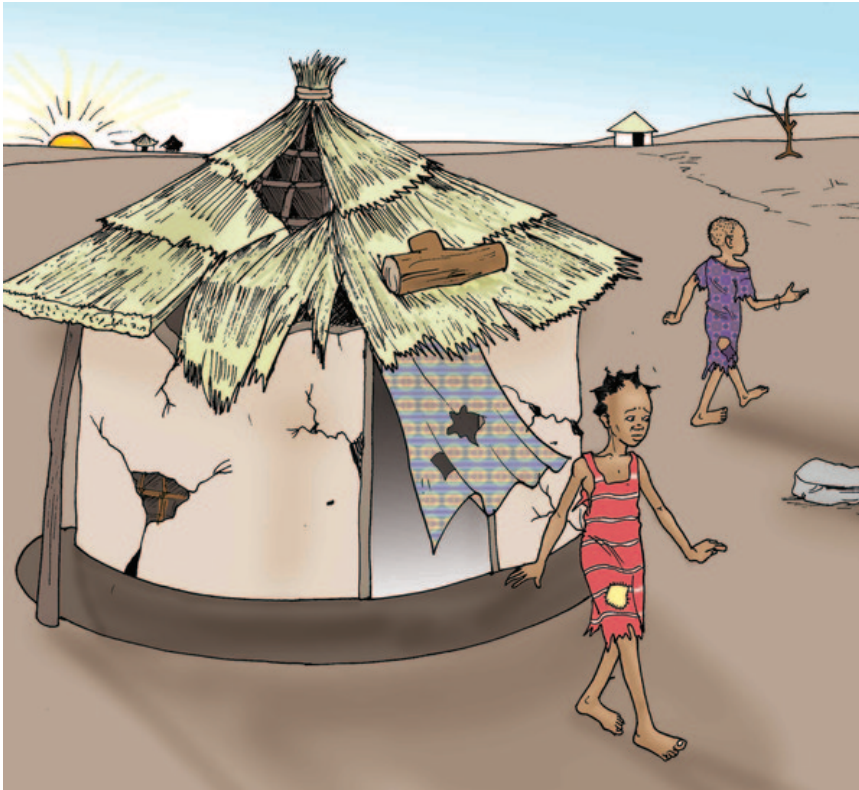
Whoever wanted food had to go a long distance to find any.

Nelima was a humble, quiet and helpful girl.

Her sister Nambuya was proud and did not listen to advice.

She did not care about other people.





One day, the two sisters woke up and found that they had nothing to eat.

They had to look for food.

So Nelima and Nambuya went off in different directions.



Meanwhile, there lived an old woman called Netasile.

She was believed to be a giver of riches.

Netasile had leprosy and her body was full of sores.

Nambuya came across this old woman, who called her, “My daughter, how are you? Where do you come from? Where are you going?”





Nambuya answered all the questions.

Then the old woman said, "Come carry me to my house and I will tell you what to do."

Nambuya was rude to the woman.

She said, "I would rather die than touch those dirty sores of yours."

The old woman kept quiet and wished her a safe journey.





Nambuya walked until she reached a place where there were millipedes, snakes, caterpillars and many other insects.

She was very tired and weak because she had not eaten anything.

When she sat down to rest, these creatures began to bite her.



On her journey, Nelima came to the same woman.

She was happy to see Netasile, being the first person she met since starting her journey.

The old woman called her and asked the same questions.

Nelima agreed to carry Netasile to her house.

“You have done what many have failed to do,” said the old woman.

She gave Nelima a stick and told her to go back home, where she would find everything she wanted.



Nelima was very grateful and thanked the old woman.

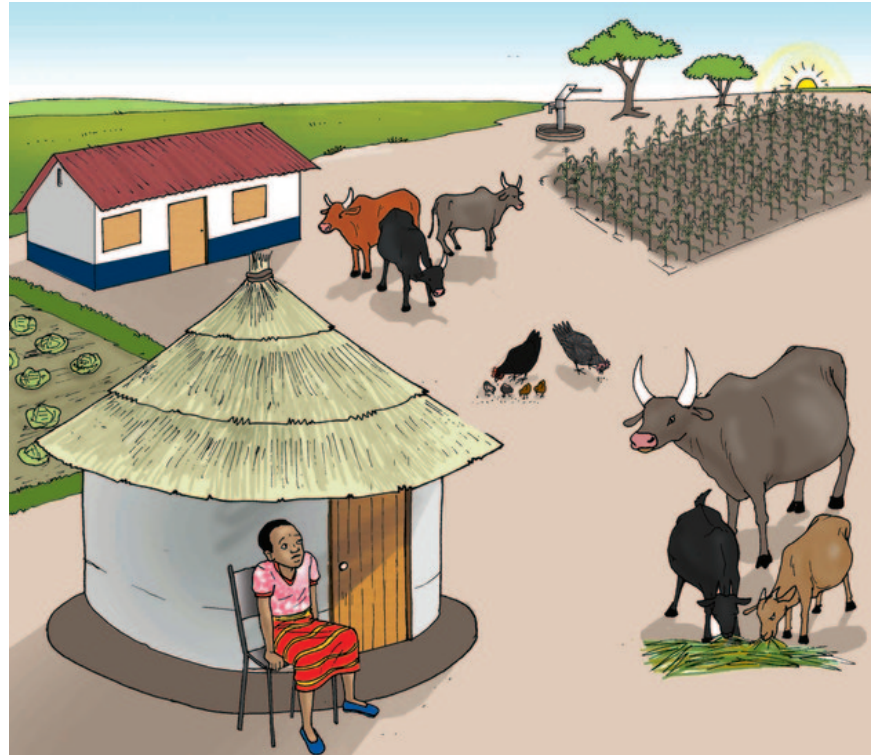
She ran back home and found a new house with everything in it, and a lot of food.

She became the richest woman in the land.



But she mourned for the loss of her sister.

She said, "One who did not listen to advice ended up in an elephant's mouth."



The girl who got rich

Writer: Salaama Wanale

Illustration: Mango Tree

Translated By: Salaama Wanale

Language: English



© African Storybook Initiative, 2015



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