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## By the Fireside: Lessons from African Folktales

By Bertha Adjeiwaah Adiwna

America Star Books. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 130 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 5.5in. x 0.3in. Story-telling used to be a very important form of entertainment and a means of educating the youth in many African countries. Stories or folktales were told by the old men and women to the youth. Nature, that is people, animals, places, and sometimes literary characters were the themes of these stories. A literary and cunning character called Anancy or the spider, had many stories told about it, and so these folktales were sometimes referred to as Anancy stories. The settings for the story-telling used to be by the fireside. After a hard days work, usually in the farm, the people would gather around a fire which was usually made in the middle of compound of the house or a big living room in the cool night and tell stories. Most of the stories contained interesting songs and choruses which enabled the people to sing and dance during the story times. These made the story-telling moments very interesting and lively. At the end of each story the teller asked the listeners to identify the lessons in the story. The young people were then advised to incorporate...

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