



Talking skull

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Once there was a man named Macoc who went to the forest to cut wood. He was building a byre to keep his cattle in.

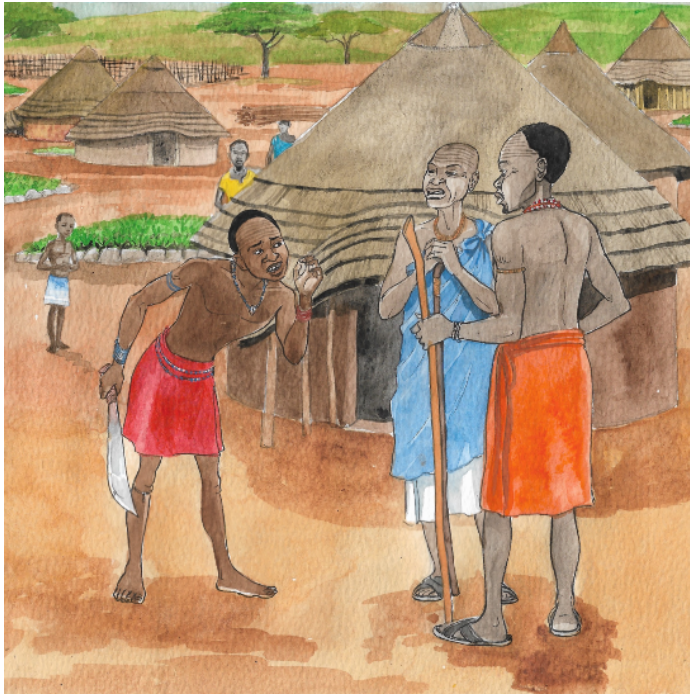
While he was in the forest, he came across the skull of a person who must have died a long time ago.



Macoc kicked the skull and said to it, "You, is it not your tongue that killed you?"

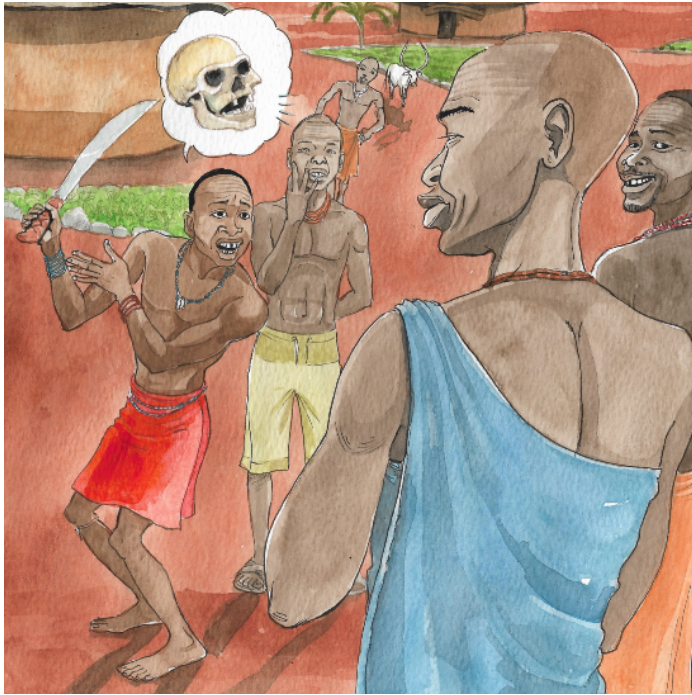
The skull responded to Macoc, "You will be killed by your tongue too!"

Macoc got a fright and ran back to the village.



He was shaking with fear when he arrived. The villagers asked Macoc what had happened.

He replied, "Something strange happened to me in the forest. I came across a dry skull. I kicked the skull, saying, 'You, is it not your tongue that killed you?'"



Macoc continued, "And the skull replied, 'You will be killed by your tongue too!'

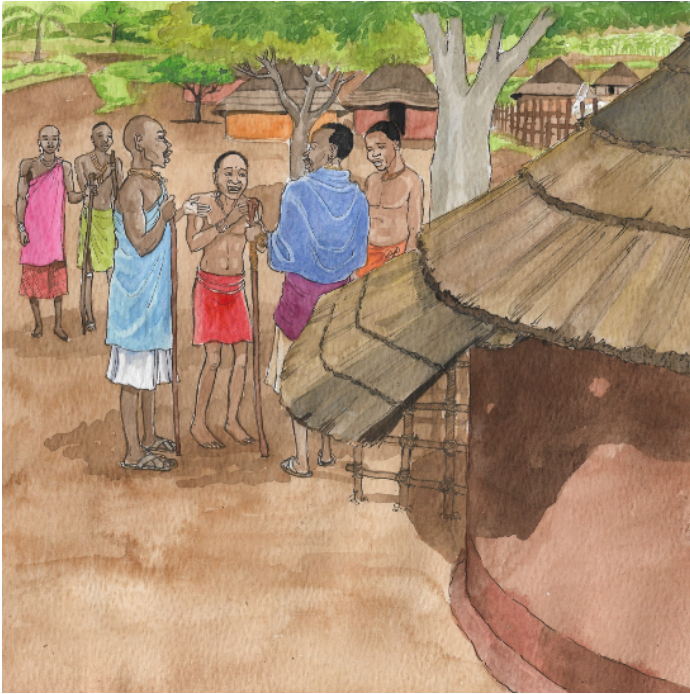
When this happened to me in the forest, I was very frightened. I had to come home without cutting the wood for which I went."



Macoc's revelation shocked everybody because no one could believe what he said.

But he insisted that the story was true.

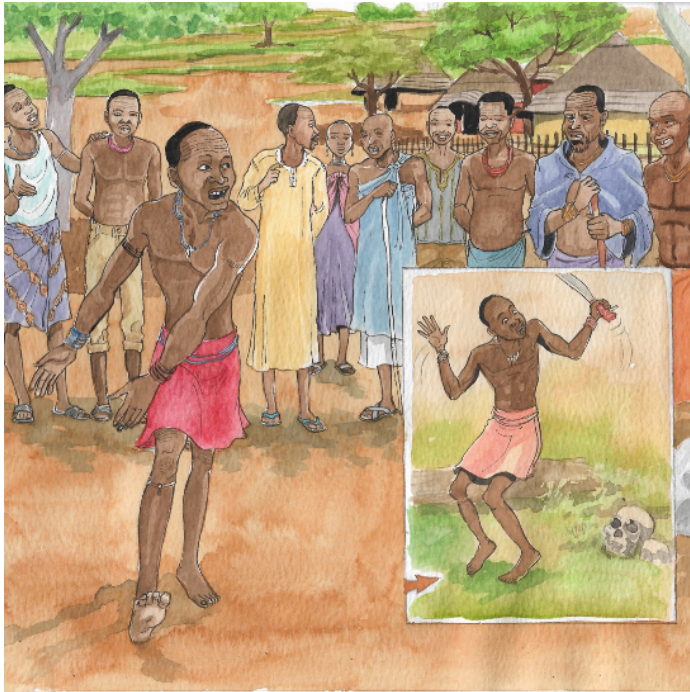
Macoc said, "If you people do not believe me, I am ready to accompany you to the forest where I found the dry skull."



After a long argument, people advised Macoc to tell his story to the village chief.

They all went to the chief together.

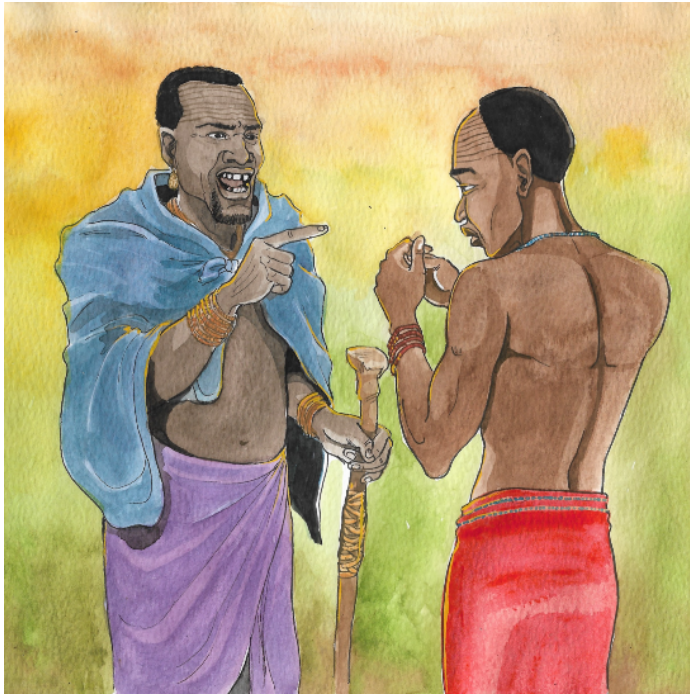
When Macoc arrived at the house of the chief, he was asked to repeat his story, and he did.



The chief called for more people to come to listen to Macoc's strange story.

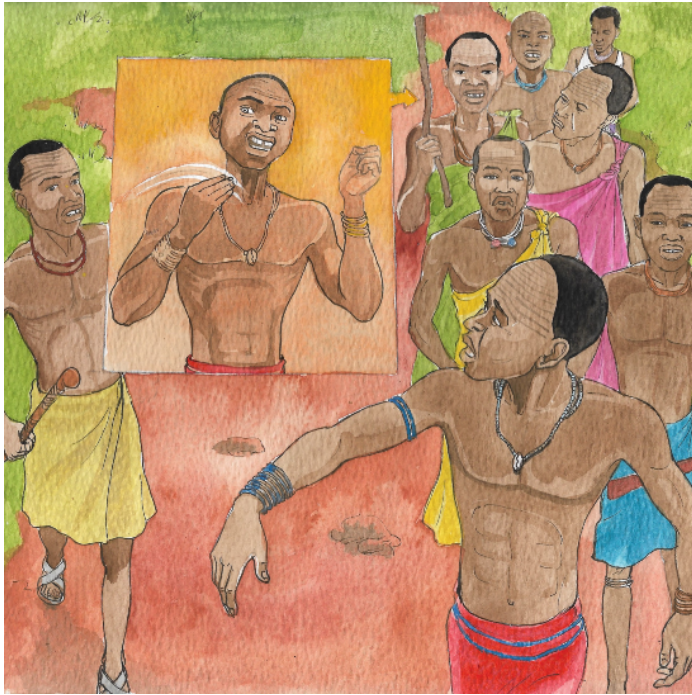
When these people came, Macoc was asked to repeat what he had said to the others.

When these people heard Macoc's story, they too were shocked.



As a result, the chief asked Macoc to accompany the people to the forest where he claimed he saw the talking skull.

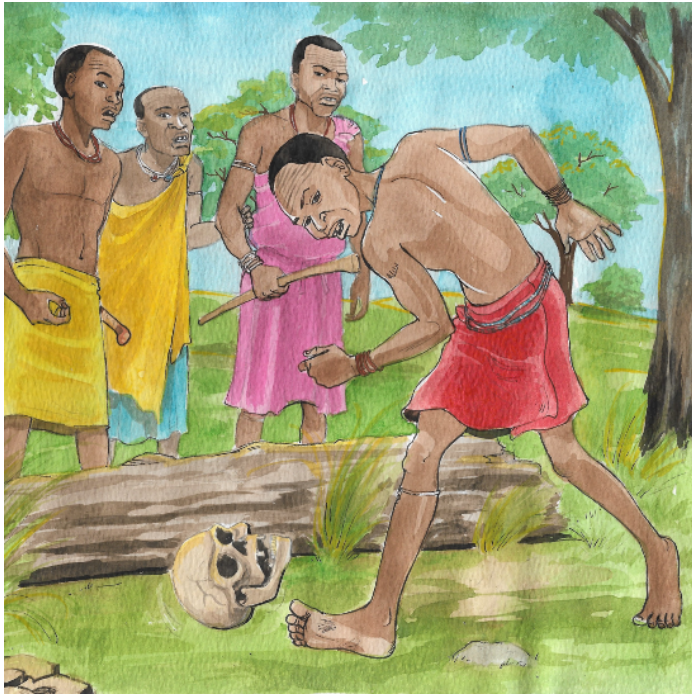
The chief asked Macoc, "If your story turns out to be a lie, what should the people do to you?"



Macoc replied, "Let them kill me if I am lying!"

So, the chief sent the people off to the forest together with Macoc.

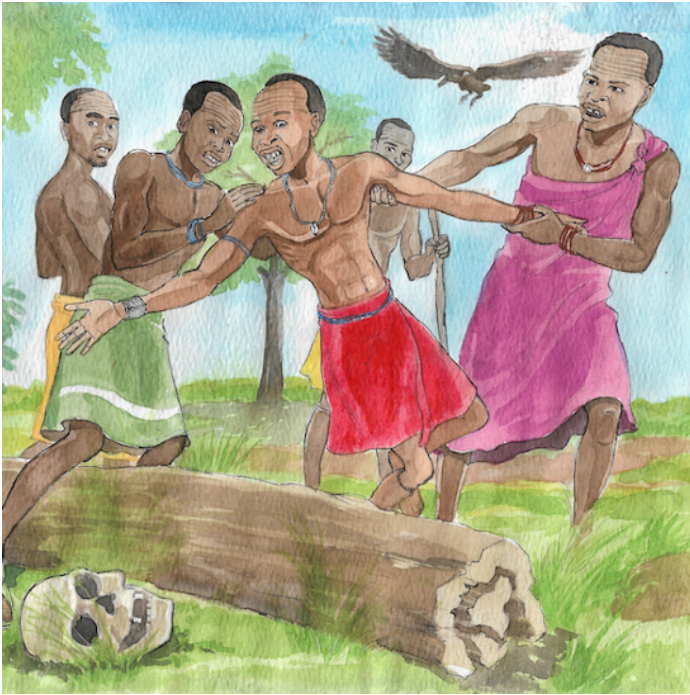
They agreed that if the skull did not talk, the people would kill Macoc.



The people arrived in the forest, and Macoc found the dry skull.

He kicked the skull saying, "You, is it not your tongue that killed you?"

But the skull was silent.



Macoc kicked the skull again, and again.

The skull did not say a word. The people became very angry with Macoc because he had lied to them and to the chief.

They killed Macoc in the forest.



After Macoc was dead, the skull said to him, "Didn't I tell you that you too would be killed by that tongue of yours?"

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Language - English

Level - Longer paragraphs

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Source www.africanstorybook.org