




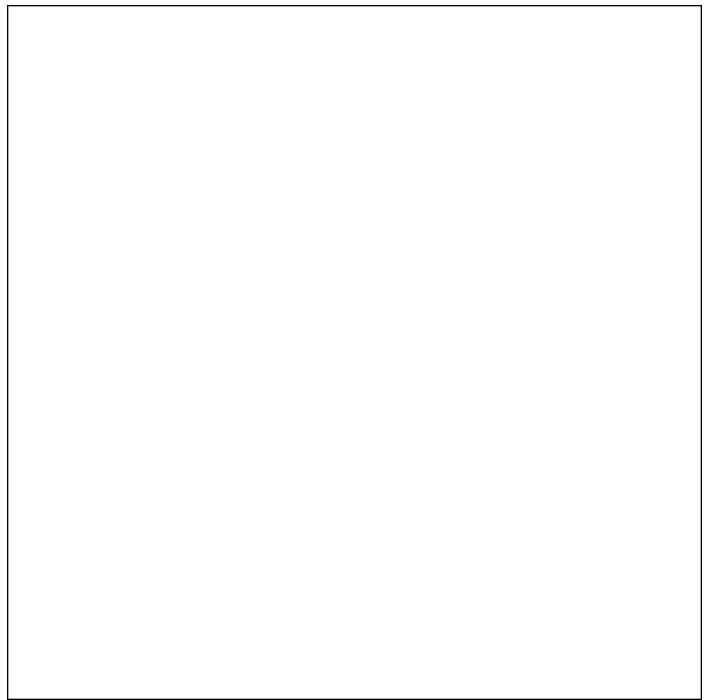




(imageless edition)

 Southern African Folktales
 Wiehan de Jager
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 French / English
 Level 2



Les enfants de cire
Children of wax



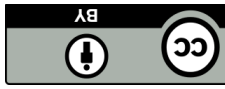
香港故事書

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Les enfants de cire / Children of wax

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This story originates from the African Storybook (africanstorybook.org) and is brought to you by 香港故事書 in an effort to provide children's stories in 香港's many languages.



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Il était une fois une famille bien heureuse.

...

Once upon a time, there lived a happy family.



Ils ne se disputaient jamais. Ils aidèrent leurs
parents à la maison et dans les champs.

...

They never fought with each other. They helped
their parents at home and in the fields.



Mais ils n'avaient pas le droit de s'approcher
d'un feu.

...

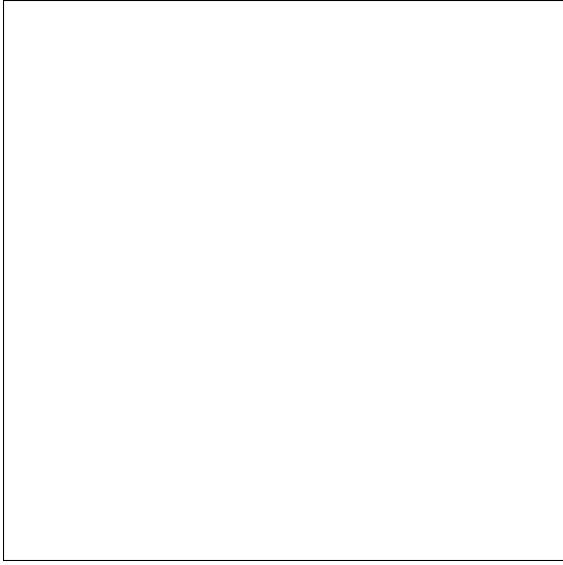
But they were not allowed to go near a fire.



Ils devaient faire tout leur travail pendant la nuit. Puisqu'ils étaient faits de cire !

...

They had to do all their work during the night. Because they were made of wax!



Et lorsque le soleil se leva, il s'envola vers la lumière du matin en chantant.

...

And as the sun rose, he flew away singing into the morning light.



Mais un des garçons désirait se promener au soleil.

...

But one of the boys longed to go out in the sunlight.



Ils apportèrent leur frère l'oiseau jusqu'au sommet d'une montagne haute.

...

They took their bird brother up to a high mountain.



Un jour son désir était trop puissant. Ses frères
l'avertirent...

...

One day the longing was too strong. His
brothers warned him...



Mais ils firent un plan. Ils façonnèrent le
morceau de cire fondue en oiseau.

...

But they made a plan. They shaped the lump of
melted wax into a bird.



Mais c'était trop tard ! Il fondit au soleil brûlant.

...

But it was too late! He melted in the hot sun.



Les enfants de cire étaient si tristes de voir leur frère fondre.

...

The wax children were so sad to see their brother melting away.