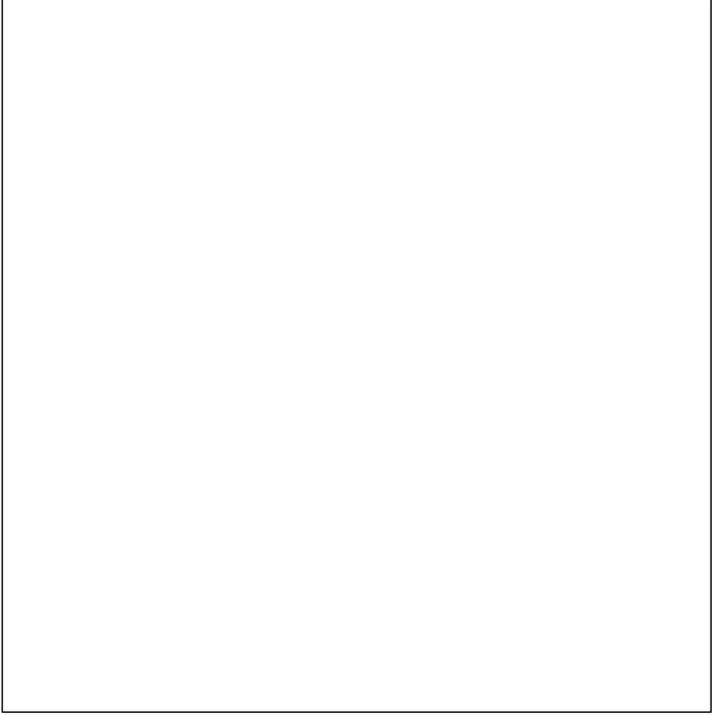




# Children of wax Les enfants de cire



Southern African Folktales   Wiehan de Jager  English / French  Level 2

(imageless edition)



# Storybooks Canada

[storybookscanada.ca](http://storybookscanada.ca)

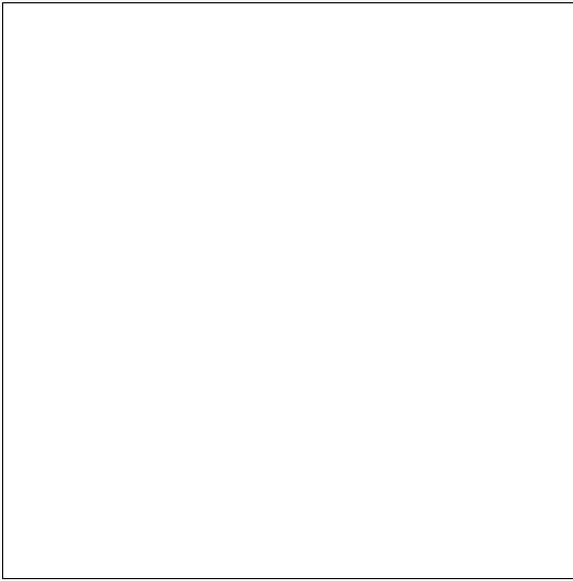
Children of wax / Les enfants de cire

Written by: Southern African Folktales  
Illustrated by: Wiehan de Jager  
Translated by: (fr) Alexandra Danahy

This story originates from the African Storybook ([africanstorybook.org](http://africanstorybook.org)) and is brought to you by Storybooks Canada in an effort to provide children's stories in Canada's many languages.



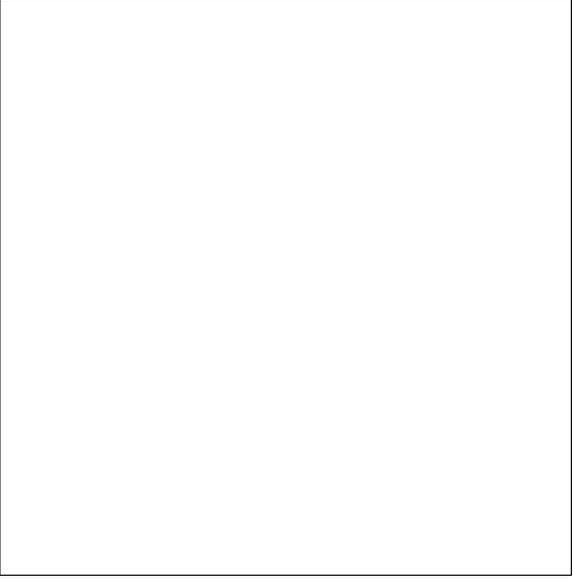
This work is licensed under a Creative Commons [Attribution 3.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0).  
<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0>



Once upon a time, there lived a happy family.

...

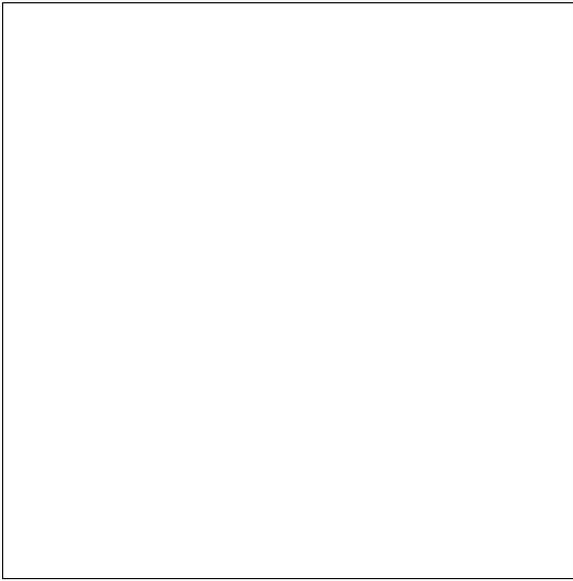
Il était une fois une famille bien heureuse.



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

...

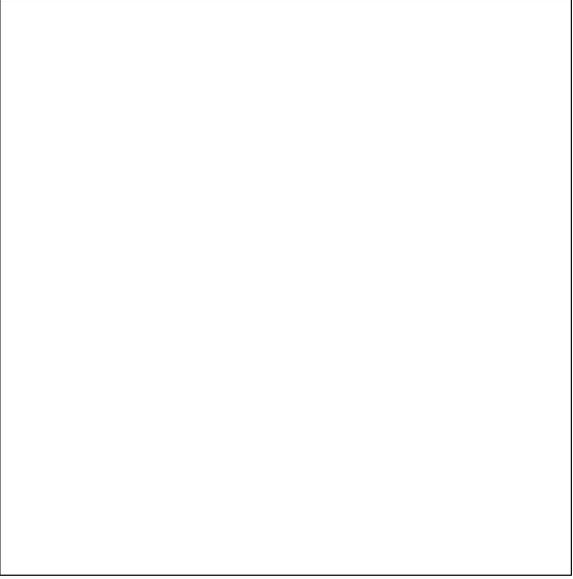
Ils ne se disputaient jamais. Ils aidaient leurs parents à la maison et dans les champs.



But they were not allowed to go near a fire.

...

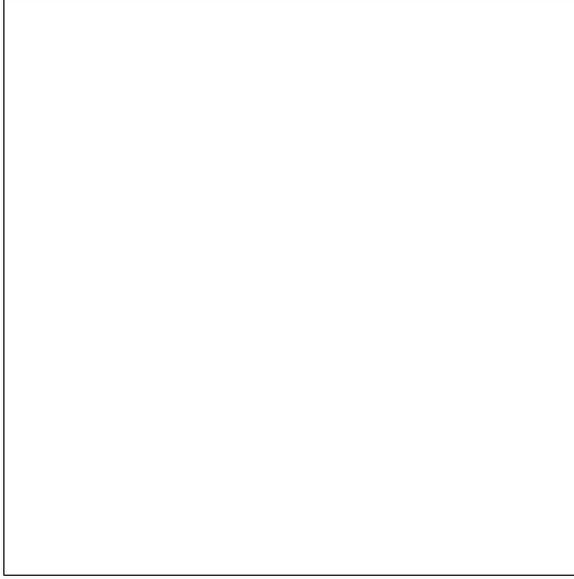
Mais ils n'avaient pas le droit de s'approcher  
d'un feu.



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

...

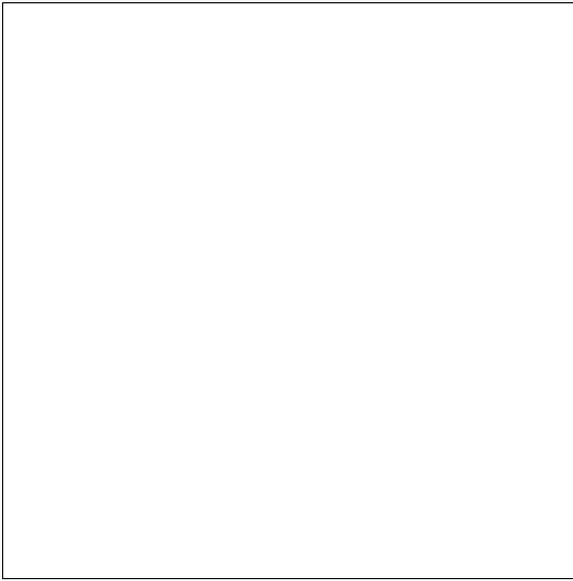
Ils devaient faire tout leur travail pendant la  
nuit. Puisqu'ils étaient faits de cire !



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

...

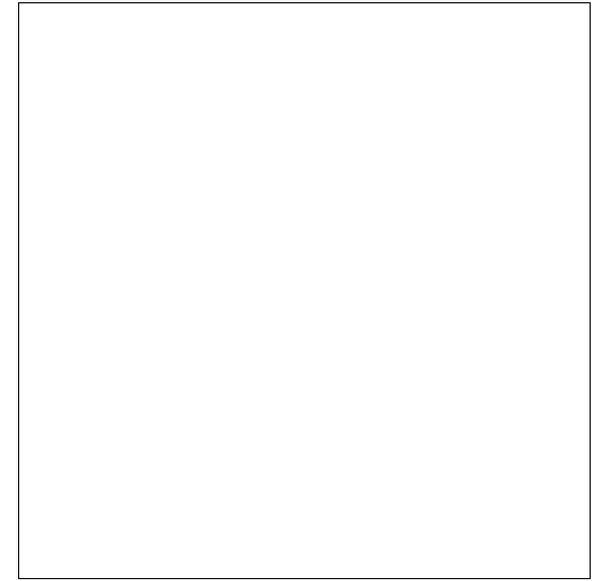
Et lorsque le soleil se leva, il s'envola vers la  
lumière du matin en chantant.



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

...

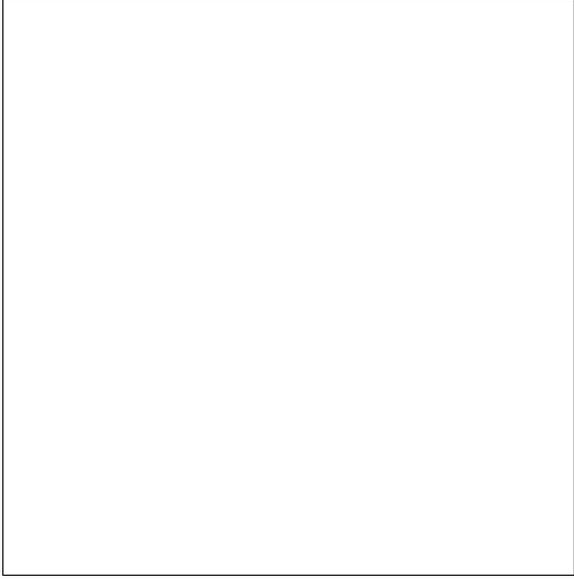
Mais un des garçons désirait se promener au soleil.



They took their bird brother up to a high mountain.

...

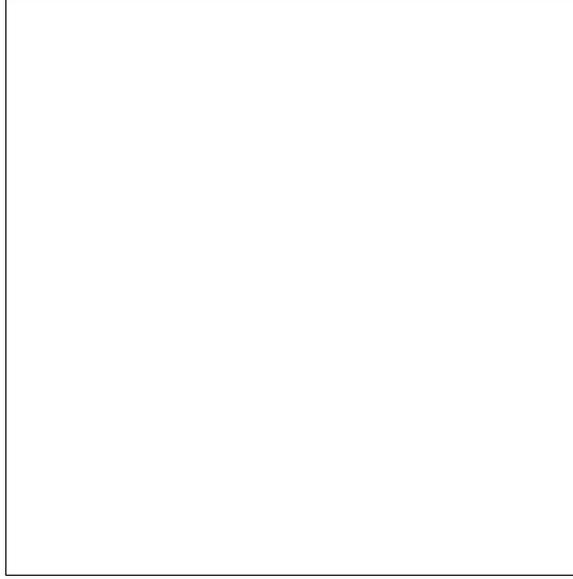
Ils apportèrent leur frère l'oiseau jusqu'au sommet d'une montagne haute.



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

...

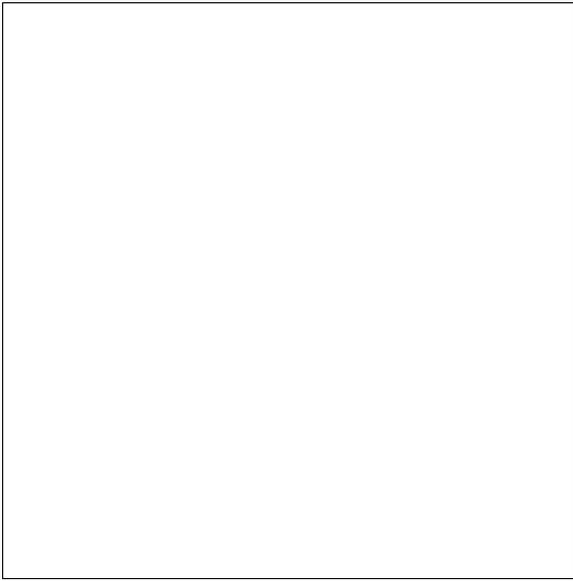
Un jour son désir était trop puissant. Ses  
frères l'avertirent...



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

...

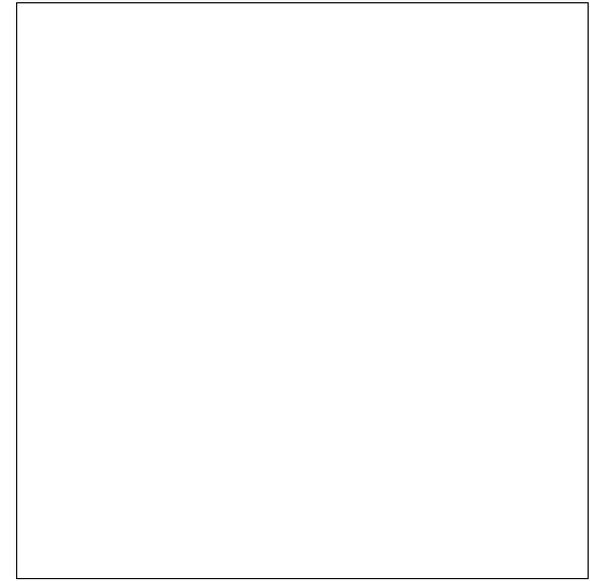
Mais ils firent un plan. Ils façonnèrent le  
morceau de cire fondue en oiseau.



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

...

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



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

...

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