

アナンシと知恵

Anansi and Wisdom

 Ghanaian folktale

 Wiehan de Jager

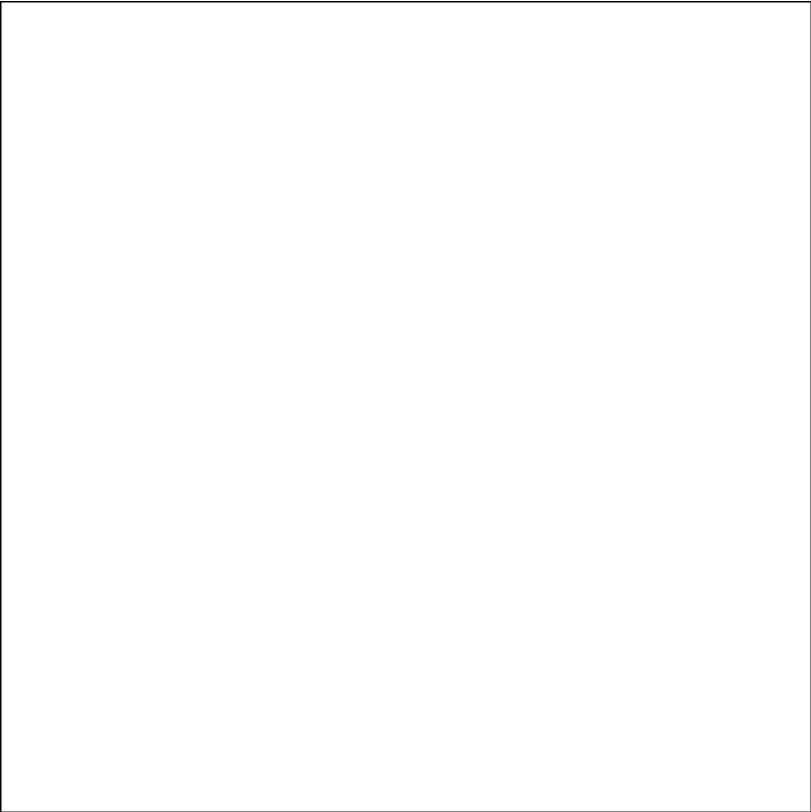
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 Japanese / English

 Level 3

(imageless edition)





昔々、人々は何も知らなかった。彼らは農作物のに植え方も、服の縫い方も鉄の道具も作る方法も知らなかった。空に住んでた神ニヤメが世界のすべての知恵を持っていた。彼はそれを安全に粘土の壺にしまっていた。

...

Long long ago people didn't know anything. They didn't know how to plant crops, or how to weave cloth, or how to make iron tools. The god Nyame up in the sky had all the wisdom of the world. He kept it safe in a clay pot.

ある日、ニヤメは壺の知恵をアナンシにあげることにした。毎回アナンシは壺を覗き込み、何か新しいものを学んだ。彼はそれを楽しんだ。

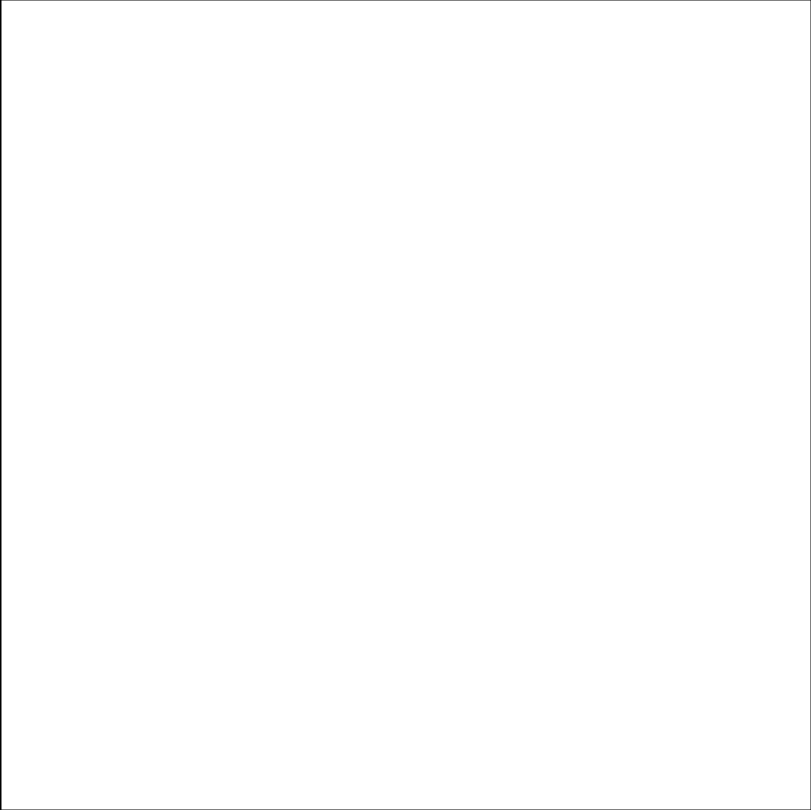
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One day, Nyame decided that he would give the pot of wisdom to Anansi. Every time Anansi looked in the clay pot, he learned something new. It was so exciting!

強欲なアナンシは思った、高い木の上に壺を置いておけば安全だ。そして独り占めすることができる！彼は壺を長い紐でお腹に巻いた。木を登り始めた。しかしずっと膝の間で壺が跳ねて木を登ることは難しかった。

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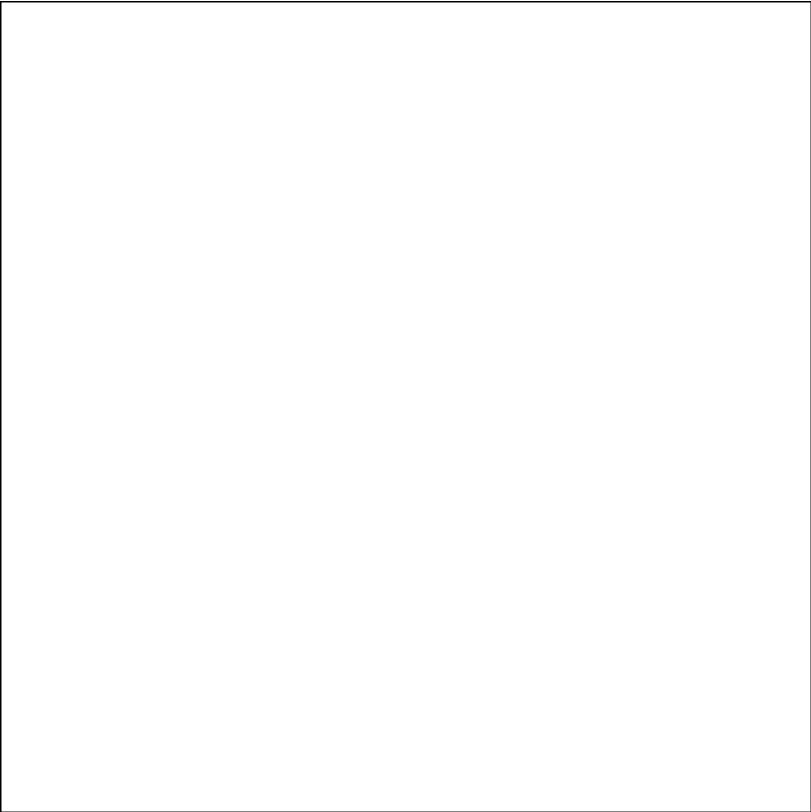
Greedy Anansi thought, "I'll keep the pot safe at the top of a tall tree. Then I can have it all to myself!" He spun a long thread, wound it round the clay pot, and tied it to his stomach. He began to climb the tree. But it was hard climbing the tree with the pot bumping him in the knees all the time.



ずっとアナンシの若い息子は木の下で木を見ながら立っていた。そして彼はお腹の代わりに背中に壺を結んだ方が簡単ではないか？と言った。アナンシは背中に結び登った。それはとても簡単なことだった。

...

All the time Anansi's young son had been standing at the bottom of the tree watching. He said, "Wouldn't it be easier to climb if you tied the pot to your back instead?" Anansi tried tying the clay pot full of wisdom to his back, and it really was a lot easier.



すぐに木の頂上に着いた。しかしそこで彼は止まり考えた、僕はすべての知恵を持っていると思っていたが、自分の息子の方が賢いじゃないか！アナンシはこのことについて怒って、壺を木からほうり投げた。

...

In no time he reached the top of the tree. But then he stopped and thought, "I'm supposed to be the one with all the wisdom, and here my son was cleverer than me!" Anansi was so angry about this that he threw the clay pot down out of the tree.

壺は壊れて地面にバラバラに割れた。その知恵はみんなに自由に共有された。そうやって人々は農業や服の作り方や、鉄製の道具の作り方、そして他の知恵も学ぶことができた。

...

It smashed into pieces on the ground. The wisdom was free for everyone to share. And that is how people learned to farm, to weave cloth, to make iron tools, and all the other things that people know how to do.



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