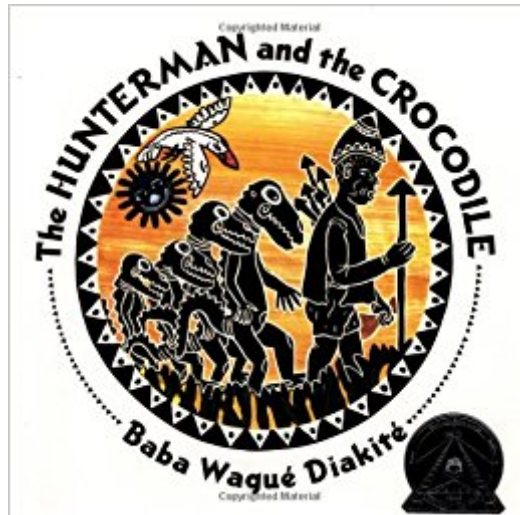


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# The Hunterman And The Crocodile: A West African Folktale



## Synopsis

A hunterman and a crocodile take turns being captive and captor in a humorous folktale that teaches the importance of living in harmony with nature and is illustrated with ceramic-tile paintings.

## Book Information

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Lexile Measure: AD800L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Inc.; 1st edition (March 1, 1997)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 10.3 x 10.3 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,425,451 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #58 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > African](#) #762 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Reptiles & Amphibians](#) #1769 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > African-American](#)

## Customer Reviews

Stunning primitivist paintings make a graceful transition from the ceramic tiles on which they originally appeared to this memorable debut book by an artist and storyteller born and raised in West Africa. Featuring bold, black-and-white animal characters set against earth-toned backgrounds and framed by patterned borders, the paintings give a distinctive spin to this folktale about a contest of wits between a hunter and a crocodile. Donso agrees to return Bamba and family to their river home if the crocodile clan promises not to bite him. Yet once there, the crafty creatures decide they're too hungry to let the hunter go. One by one, animal passers-by refuse to rescue Donso, explaining how Man has exploited their species, taking much from them and giving back nothing. A clever compromise brings the narrative to a satisfying close. With its many animal voices, occasional onomatopoeia and clearly delivered message about the importance of respecting nature, this is a natural choice for a read-aloud, likely to entertain as it teaches. Ages 4-7. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Grade 2-4?A delightful West African version of a well-known folktale motif. After traveling across land on a pilgrimage to Mecca, Bamba the Crocodile and his family need the help of a hunter to return to the river. Bamba has promised not to bite, but once they are halfway across the river the crocodile traps the hunter's hand between his jaws. Only through a clever bargain and the wise words of the many creatures who stop to fault the hunter for his treatment of them does he escape and in the process learns the necessity of cooperating and living in harmony with others. Diakite writes with the smooth classic voice of a traditional storyteller. Painted on ceramic tiles, the full-page illustrations consist of stylized black figures on a pastel blue and orange background. The tale flows easily and beautifully through both the crisp text and exciting pictures. The author's note includes sources for other versions of this story. A lively, readable folktale that deserves a place on library shelves. ?Beth Tegart, Oneida City Schools, NYCopyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

I loved this book! One day an author named Baba Wague Diakite came to our school to talk about his book "The Hunterman and the Crocodile." Each classroom got a copy of the book which I read. Soon I discovered that the story was going to be performed as part of the first school play of the year! Even though my class wasn't in it I got to meet Baba-Wague while working on the set since he lives right down the street from my school! And though I had to see it performed four times( because I was asked to do sound) I never got tired of hearing the same same story. I guess seeing "The Hunterman and the Crocodile" come to life gave the meaning of the story even more meaning. I would reccomend this book to anyone of any age.

The author is a superb artist. I have been collecting this African artist's one of kind ceramics for a number of years so I was excited to find that he wrote and illustrated a book. My seven year old son loves this book. His first grade teacher read the book in class when they were studying the folk stories of the world. The drawings in the book are worth the price of the book.

This is a wonderful African tale of a crocodile family and a hunterman. The story allows for children to really evaluate the way that man treats other beings and it teaches a lesson, of humility, graciousness, love and irony. Alot for a little book, huh? I love it and my son loves it!!!

This is a wonderful children's book. I love it!! We need more authentic authors and illustrators of folk tales from Africa. Where did these drawings come from? They're FABULOUS!!!

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