

Nago Folktales from Bante

Ogidan ati eyε Alatutu

The Turtle and the Alatutu Bird

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Ogidan oo oo ho.	Turtle, oo oo ho.
Awogbagba, awode awo.	The strategy, the big strategy.
Refrain [x2] Ogidan oo oo ho.	Turtle, oo oo ho.
Awogbagba, awode awo.	The strategy, the big strategy.
Kiɔn she la ɔ fεε.	What did they do to you?
Awogbagba, awode awo.	The strategy, the big strategy.
Yago fɔ mɔn mi ɔn.	Stay away from my children.
Awogbagba, awode awo.	The strategy, the big strategy.
Balɔ wo tεε.	Go and handle your business.
Awogbagba, awode awo.	The strategy, the big strategy.
Ogidan oo oo ho	Turtle, oo oo ho.
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Abuo mi.	My brothers and sisters
Alɔ ε baba.	Your story, father.
Alɔ mi lɔ raaa mata mata, ɔta ba ogidan.	My story rolls and rolls and falls on à turtle.
Ogidan wab ε, owasi owasi.	Days pass and the turtle is there.

ɔn wa pɔ to bɛ i.	The size of the community is growing.
Ogidan nko kali eyan ɔn ewo edale iye ndale ke sɛdɔ fɛɛ.	One day the turtle said to his community, we are going to find out who is committing acts of betrayal in our place.
Beyi ka fɔli alɔ olowɔn kalɔ beyi nde oni ohun kalɔ.	Going around everyone in the community refused to contribute to this project.
O she bɛ titi, onian fɔ pɔ.	Everyone had been asked without anyone accepting.
Alukututu de fɛgɛɛ, oni owun koba lɔ.	Suddenly an alukututu bird accepted to participate in the project and stepped forward.
Oni wɔ ɔkɔ kajo lɔ sɔ dɔ fɛ.	The turtle said that you have accepted so we'll go together.
Eyi ɔn debɛ ɔn kedoju ugu, ɔn ke dɔ fɛ lɔ minininini.	When they arrived at the place, the savannah was out of sight.
Ogidan ati Alukututu, alukututu ni baba kalɔ lɔ dɔ fɛ.	The alukututu bird proposed to the turtle that they were going to hunt.
Ogidan ni bisi ohun korika ka fo kalɔ titi gbo, oni kɔlɔ ohun kowa.	The turtle says that it doesn't have the wings to fly around to survey the entire savannah, so it told the bird to go.
O nde , ofo lɔ, ade ɛ opatu.	The bird was going around, there, it killed a gazelle and put it around its neck.
Owa gɛ lorigi, oni ogidan oo ho.	The bird placed it on a tree then and sang the turtle's name.
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Oni εtu melo lohun kogbe komu lɔ fu ɔmu ɔn.	The bird told itself that the gazelle was not enough to send for her children to eat.
Ajε eran laku nihun kojε.	It's necessary to kill another larger animal.
eyin alɔ, ode opee, okunrin fu bε.	For that, the bird left again for the hunt, it again sang the name of the turtle.
Oni eran koto, oni kogbe lɔ fɔmɔn hun.	It informed the turtle that it had killed something too small and told (turtle) to take it for its children.
Owa pa εkun, eran laku.	At the net hunt, it killed a big lion.
Oni ogidan oo oo ho.	It said turtle oo oo ho.
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Oni ɛran ɛkun koto hun, kogbe komu lɔ fu ɔmɔn ɛ.	The bird said that the lion was not enough and asked the turtle to take it for his children.
Titi bɛ nipa ɛran lɔ.	This bird had killed many animals in this way.
Ode owa gɛ nbi gɛɛ.	The bird came back to where it sat to hunt
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Oni ɛtu melo lohun kogbe komu lɔ fu ɔmu ɔn.	The bird said that the gazelle was not enough to be sent to feed its children.
Ajɛ ɛran laku nihun kojɛ.	A larger animal is necessary.
ɛyin alɔ, ode opee, okunrin fu bɛ.	For that, the bird left again to hunt, it sang to the turtle.
Oni ɛran koto, oni kogbe lɔ fɔmɔn hun.	It told the turtle that it was too small and told (turtle) to take it for its children.
Owa pa ɛkun, ɛran laku.	At the next hunt, it killed a big lion.
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Oni ɛran eyi kɛ koto hun.	It told the turtle that the animal it killed was too small and told (turtle) to take to give to its children.
Ope siwo, oduo ope okunrin fu wɛ.	The bird again sang to the turtle.
Oni ogidan wa koje ninu ɛran ye loni.	It said next that the turtle should eat thie big animal.
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Oni ɛran ɛfun koto hun.	It told the turtle that this animal was too small for it to be enough.
Ofolo, Alukututu nde, olo tititi.	The bird went back to hunt for a long time.
Ode gbo ode wewe kori ɛran.	It hunted this time without killing anything.
Ojo de ojo koda, titi ile mu.	There was rain for the entire evening early morning.
Oni ɔhun kolo nle.	It decided to put an end to hunting.
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Yago fo mon mi ɔn.	Stay away from my children.
Awogbagba, awode awo.	The strategy, the big strategy.
Balo wo tɛɛ.	Go and handle your business.
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**Eyi hun de Ogi dan biyi kogbalohun,
eyi to hun kogbalohun.**

At the end of the story the turtle said
that they had grabbed the animals on
their way and threw them in the river.

Aye pa ogi.

This was a huge surprise to everyone.

Ke ni idi aru m?

What is the message of my story?

**Bo wa nje amaji ni ajenja, nfo fe ni fe,
idale le wo feni she nkan, iku opa
gudu gudu e fe, jibiti kosi foo,
bolojibiti iwa gilapo, idi ala mi nin.**

When you have a plan with two, it's not
good to betray the other one. If you
betray them, you will have
consequences.