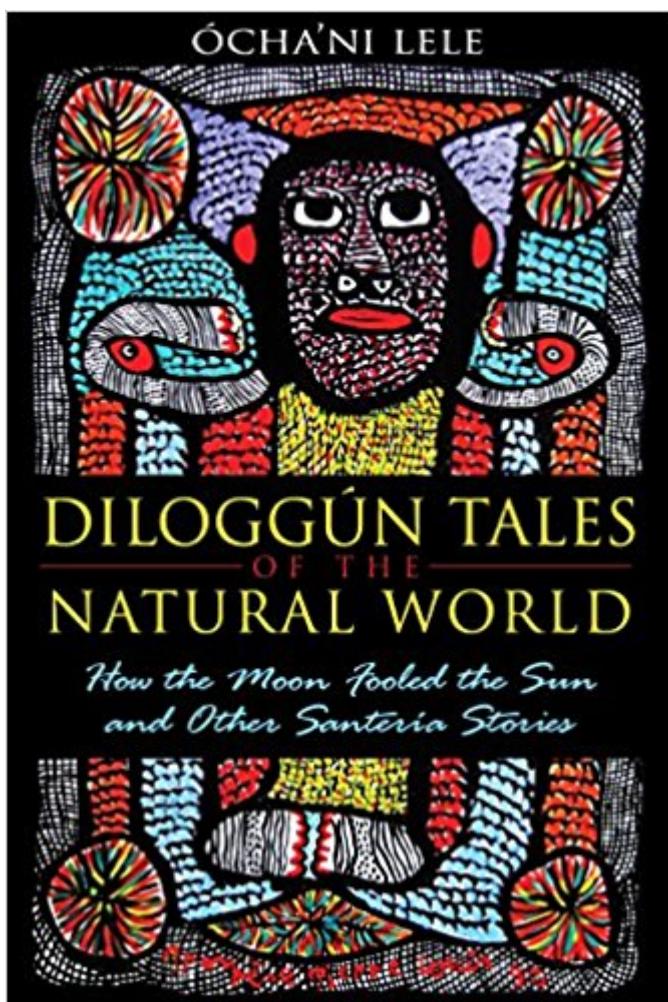


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Diloggún Tales Of The Natural World: How The Moon Fooled The Sun And Other Santería Stories



Synopsis

Sacred myths from SanterÃ-a centered on nature and the natural world ¦ Includes more than 40 myths, stories, and histories from the LucumÃ- tradition ¦ Reassembles the oral fragments from the African diaspora into coherent stories ¦ Demonstrates that the African peoples, specifically the Yoruba, had deep philosophies and metaphysics involving nature and the natural world Since ancient times the Yoruba of West Africa created sacred stories--patakÃ-s--to make sense of the world around them. Upon arrival in the New World, the Yoruba religion began to incorporate elements from Catholic and Native traditions, evolving into SanterÃ-a, and new patakÃ-s were born, adding to the many chapters already found in the odu of the diloggun--the sacred oral teachings and divination system of the Yoruba, or LucumÃ-, faith. Comparable to the myths of ancient Greece and Rome and rich with jewels of wisdom like the I Ching, these SanterÃ-a stories are as vast as the Hindu Vedas and as culturally significant as the parables in the Torah, Talmud, and Christian Bible. Diloggun Tales of the Natural World presents more than 40 patakÃ-s that shed light upon the worldview of SanterÃ-a. Each story in this collection, reassembled from the oral tradition of the African diaspora, is centered on a spiritual principle in nature: the waxing and waning of the moon, solar and lunar eclipses, the phenomenon of shooting stars, the separation of sky and earth, and the origins of the animals and birds who play key roles in SanterÃ-a symbology. Revealing the metaphysics, theology, and philosophy of the Yoruba people, this volume shows these stories to be as powerful and relevant today as they were to the ancient Yoruba who once safeguarded them.

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Customer Reviews

With brilliant and beautiful narratives, *“chaâ™ni Lele* skillfully navigates the complex stories of the ancient Yoruba people. The myths presented in *Diloggõn Tales of the Natural World* are eternal; equally as profound as those of the Greeks and Romans. With a compelling power akin to the I Ching, this work is well overdue. Finally, we have an author willing to serve up the spiritual beauty of ancient Africa at the table of the modern world. Clearly, there is a legacy beginning to unfold. What a blessing! • (Iyanla Vanzant, founder of Inner Visions Spiritual Institute and author of *Peace from Broken Pieces*)

“chaâ™ni Lele gives both the initiated and the layperson a true sense of the marvel and mystery within the *patakÃ-*, the sacred stories of Afro-Cuban *SanterÃ-a*. As with previous works, reading *Diloggõn Tales of the Natural World* is like sitting at the feet of an elder while dramatic stories filled with vibrant characters are woven together to reveal universal truths of human existence. These stories, committed to the page, are an invaluable gift to those of us living long distances from our godparents and spiritual homes. *“chaâ™ni Lele* is turning a vast and rich oral tradition--one book at a time--into an eloquently written one. We give thanks to the orisha themselves for choosing him as their messenger. • (Irete Lazo, author of *The Accidental Santeria*)

At the heart of Ifa, Lukumi, *SanterÃ-a*, and various other Yoruba-influenced traditions in the African diaspora is the *diloggõn*, the complex cowrie-divination ritual by which devotees ascertain the will of the orishas. At the heart of the *diloggõn* are the *patakÃ-s*, stories that elaborate upon and explain the various figures formed by the falling shells. *“chaâ™ni Lele* has put much of this oral tradition in print, offering us an invaluable view into the complexity and beauty of Yoruba mythology and culture. Like most fairy tales, these legends are simple but carry deep and profound truths: *Diloggõn Tales of the Natural World* is a book that has something to offer adherents, scholars, and curious neophytes alike. • (Kenaz Filan, author of *The New Orleans Voodoo Handbook* and *The Haitian Vodou Handbook*)

A must-read for any student of spirituality. Like paintings of the wall of a cave, these stories illuminate a rich history of oral traditions with thought provoking tales of faith and humanity. Ochaniâ™s parables invoke another world... • (Darryl Stephens, author of *Shortcomings* and actor)

This is a major scholarly achievement, which also happens to have great appeal as a unique consumer product. • (Retailing Insight, August 2011) . . . a wonderful and long-overdue addition to the worldâ™s mythology and cultural history. • (Spirituality-and-Religion.com, October 2011)

“chaâ™ni Lele writes in the lyrical style of the storyteller. The collection is a string of pearls, seemingly simple, but each has its

own luminous beauty. The book is of value to practitioners of Santeria, but also highly recommended to anyone who enjoys folktales from around the world. It's a goldmine for storytellers and for those who include storytelling in rituals or at campfires. Read silently or aloud, this is a marvelous story collection. • (Elizabeth Hazel, Facing North April 2012) *œ* Anyone interested in the folk tales and oral traditions of other cultures should snap up this book. Contained within are charming stories of personified natural forces, foolish mortals and gods of all levels of power and wisdom. Think Aesops' fables with a Yoruban twist. • (Witches' Almanac, December 2013) *œ* "chaâni Leleâ's Diloggón Tales of the Natural World is a historic glimpse into the beauty and power of the Lukumi religion. Readers will not only find this book educational and inspirational but deeply transformative. • (Ifalade TaâShia Asanti, senior book reviewer at Urban Spectrum newspaper) *œ* Diloggón Tales of the Natural World is essential reading for anyone interested in the myths and superstitions of Cuba and the Caribbean. This book is entertaining and extremely informative, especially when explaining the role religion played during and after the African slave trade. • (Xaviant Haze, author of The Suppressed History of America)

SPIRITUALITY / RELIGION *œ* With brilliant and beautiful narratives, "chaâni Lele skillfully navigates the complex stories of the ancient Yoruba people. The myths presented in Diloggón Tales of the Natural World are eternal; equally as profound as those of the Greeks and Romans. With a compelling power akin to the I Ching, this work is well overdue. Finally, we have an author willing to serve up the spiritual beauty of ancient Africa at the table of the modern world. Clearly, there is a legacy beginning to unfold. What a blessing! • --Iyanla Vanzant, founder of Inner Visions Spiritual Institute and author of Peace from Broken Pieces

Since ancient times the Yoruba of West Africa created sacred stories--patakâs--to make sense of the world around them. Upon arrival in the New World, the Yoruba religion began to incorporate elements from Catholic and Native traditions, evolving into Santerâ, and new patakâs were born, adding to the many chapters already found in the odu of the diloggón--the sacred oral teachings and divination system of the Yoruba, or Lucumâ, faith. Comparable to the myths of ancient Greece and Rome and rich with jewels of wisdom like the I Ching, these Santerâ stories are as vast as the Hindu Vedas and as culturally significant as the parables in the Torah, Talmud, and Christian Bible. Diloggón Tales of the Natural World presents more than 40 patakâs that shed light upon the worldview of Santerâ. Each story in this collection, reassembled from the oral tradition of the African diaspora, is centered on a spiritual principle in nature: the waxing and waning of the moon, solar and lunar eclipses, the phenomenon of shooting stars, the separation of sky and earth, and the origins of the animals and

birds who play key roles in SanterÃ-a symbology. Revealing the metaphysics, theology, and philosophy of the Yoruba people, this volume shows these stories to be as powerful and relevant today as they were to the ancient Yoruba who once safeguarded them. Â“CHAÂ™NI LELE has been immersed in the underground culture of orisha worship since 1989. He made Ocha in 2000 and was crowned a priest of Oya. His other books include Teachings of the SanterÃ-a Gods, The Secrets of Afro-Cuban Divination, ObÃ- : Oracle of Cuban SanterÃ-a, and The DiloggÃºn: The Orishas, Proverbs, Sacrifices, and Prohibitions of Cuban SanterÃ-a. He lives in Winter Park, Florida.

Ocha'ni Lele brilliantly weaves the many Patajis, (similar to parables in the bible), as eye opening stories that anyone can relate to and learn from. Besides a learning and inspirational tool, the stories are delightful and entertaining. It's difficult to put the book down in the middle of one of the Patajis and will leave you with a much better understanding of life's lessons. There are many different situations the characters and Santos, (Saints) find themselves in, paralleling the situations we find ourselves in, how they work to resolve the situation and the ultimate consequence of their actions.

I am absolutely enjoying this book! I have been a devotee of the religion for over a decade and this book reminded me that there are still apatajis (Yoruba creation stories) that I have to learn. Ekuse (I greet your work)Â“cha'ni Lele. As an iyawo, going from devotee to keeper of the tradition, I appreciate and value your works. They help open discussions, break down barriers and give new perspectives to age old principles. Thank you sir!

I have his whole series of books wonderful Divine young man teachers classes also his books are straight to the point very helpful in this divine religion.

Amazing author. Would definitely recommend to anyone who wants to learn in depth.

Good book

This is one of the newest books in my collection, but I love it. I am not all the way through it yet. I highly recommend it as part of your collection. Well written, and very easy to get lost in.

This book is a great concept book however it is incomplete. There is no representation of ALL Odu's of the Dilogun. This is what made it incomplete

good

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