

The Bride Price

Buchi Emecheta

Retold by Rosemary Border

Glossary

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English	Description in English	Spanish
aja	a Nigerian word for a special kind of dance	tipo de baile nigeriano
birth	the act or time of being born	nacimiento
cassava	an African vegetable from which bread can be made	mandioca
childbirth	the act of giving birth to a child	parto
christen	to give a name to someone or something	bautizar
Christian	someone who believes in Jesus Christ	 cristiano
come to no good	to get into trouble or have a bad life	acabar mal
comfort (v)	to give help, kindness, etc. to someone who is unhappy	consolar
degree	a certificate given by a university	título universitario
doll	a toy in the shape of a person	muñeca
funeral	the ceremony when a dead person is buried	funeral
gong	a round piece of metal which makes a loud ringing noise when it is beaten	gong
gourd	a large, hollow fruit with a hard skin, sometimes used for carrying liquids	calabaza
gradually	happening slowly and evenly (not suddenly)	gradualmente, poco a poco
graveyard	a place where dead people are buried	cementerio
houseboy	a boy or a young man in Nigeria who works as a servant for his relations	serviente
hut	a house made of wood and grass or leaves	cabaña

English	Description in English	Spanish	English	Description in English	Spanish
inherit	to receive money or other things which belonged to someone who has died	heredar	slave	a servant who is owned by another person and who can be bought and sold	esclavo
ink	a black and coloured liquid used for writing	tinta	sociology	the study of societies and human behaviour	sociología
join in	to take part in something as a member of a group	afiliarse, hacerse socio	spirit	the part of a person that is not the body; some people believe the spirit lives after the body dies	espíritu
joy	great happiness	alegría	stove	something which produces heat for cooking on (in this story a wood fire in a fireplace)	cocina
kidnap (v)	to take someone away and keep them prisoner	secuestrar	strength	being strong	fuerza
longingly	showing a very strong wish	con anhelo, con ansia	suspicious	having a feeling that something is wrong	receloso, suspicaz
Ma	mother (a name usually used by children)	mamá	swell (past participle swollen)	to become filled with liquid and/or air and become larger	inflarse, hincharse
marry somebody off	to arrange a marriage for somebody (usually a daughter)	hacer casar, organizar una boda para alguien	tablet	a solid medicine, usually in small round pieces	pastilla
mattress	a large, flat bag filled with something soft, used on a bed for sleeping on	colchón	tradition	a custom or habit which has been followed for many years	tradición
medicine man	an African doctor who uses magic to harm people or to make them well	curandero	veranda	a long, open platform with a roof along the outside of a house	galería, terraza
mourn	to cry and be sad for someone who has died	lamentarse	virgin	a girl who has not yet been to bed with (made love with) a man	virgen
native	belonging to the place or country where a person was born (in this story African, not European)	nativo	waste (v)	to spend or use something (e.g. money or time) in a useless way	malgastar
nut	a fruit with a very hard skin	nuez	yam	a vegetable, a little like a potato	batata, ñame
Obi	a Nigerian word for a chief (a head man)	(en nigeriano) jefe			
ogbanje	a Nigerian word meaning "living dead" (a person who is alive but not very healthy)	(en nigeriano) persona viva pero con estado de salud precario			
operation	the cutting of the body by a doctor in order to remove or mend something in a sick person	operación			
powerful	very strong or important	poderoso			
respect (n)	behaving politely towards someone older or more important	respeto			
respect (v)	to show respect for somebody	respetar			
scholarship	money given to a clever person to pay for his or her education	beca			
shame (n)	blame or bad opinions caused by somebody's bad behaviour	vergüenza			
shilling	a silver coin in Nigerian money	chelín			
shot (n)	the firing of a gun	disparo			