

Animal Village

Nelda LaTeef

Animal Village has been named as one of the best independent books of 2018 by the Independent Book Publishing Professionals Group.

Animal Village is an authentic folk tale from the Zarma culture of West Africa about a tortoise who saves her village from the ravages of drought with wisdom passed down from an “old story.” Nelda LaTeef’s colorful and strikingly brilliant montage of illustrations, in acrylic and collage, captures the richness and vibrancy of the sub-Saharan culture from which the story springs.

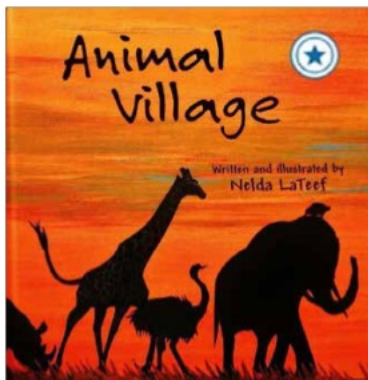
The story is especially relevant to sub-Saharan Africa as it focuses on the devastation of drought and the importance of received knowledge. With its dual themes of wisdom and grit, the book happily entertains while it teaches the importance of hard work and persistence as keys to success.

“In her book, Animal Village, such mighty lessons Nelda LaTeef teaches the young and those of us who are not so young. Listen to the ‘old stories’ passed down from ‘the ancestors;’ it is always better to pull together rather than stand against each other; keep at a task until it is done; and everything is possible, by and by.”

- **Johanna Betsch Cole**, Director, Smithsonian National Museum of African Art

“LaTeef is an author/illustrator to watch... World folktale collections should welcome this beautifully illustrated volume.”

- **Kirkus Reviews**



While living in the Republic of Niger, **Nelda LaTeef** traveled by Land Rover to the fabled city of Timbuktu. Her children’s picture book, *The Hunter and the Ebony Tree*, received the **Storytelling World Honor Award**. It was translated into Italian, Korean, and Gaelic; and the illustrations showcased at the Society of Illustrators in New York and the McLean Project for the Arts. LaTeef studied at Harvard University and her book, *Working Women for the 21st Century: Fifty Women Reveal Their Pathways to Success*, was selected as recommended reading for young adults by The New York Public Library. She lives with her family in Virginia.

36 pages | 265 x 280 mm | 2017 | Sub-Saharan Publishers, Ghana
Hardback: 978-9988-647-46-9 \$16.95/£10