



Master Man: A Tall Tale of Nigeria

Aaron Shepard

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Shadusa is strong. In fact, he figures he's the strongest man in the world. He tells his wife, Shettu, "From now on, just call me Master Man." But Shettu says, "Quit your foolish boasting. No matter how strong you are, there will always be someone stronger. And watch out, or someday you may meet him."

When Shadusa learns of someone else calling himself "Master Man," he goes out to set the man straight. But the trouble he gets into is far worse than he or even his wife could imagine.

Read this rollicking tall tale from West Africa to find out who's the real Master Man.

TEACHERS AND LIBRARIANS -- A READER'S THEATER SCRIPT OF THIS BOOK IS AVAILABLE IN AARON'S BOOK "FOLKTALES ON STAGE," OR FREE ON AARON'S WEB SITE.

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Aaron Shepard is the award-winning author of "The Baker's Dozen," "The Sea King's Daughter," "The Adventures of Mouse Deer," and many more children's books. His stories have appeared often in Cricket magazine, while his Web site is known internationally as a prime resource for folktales, storytelling, and reader's theater.

David Wisniewski is the illustrator of the Caldecott Medal book "The Golem" and many more picture books.

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Starred review, The Horn Book
Starred review, Kirkus Reviews
Starred review, School Library Journal

"This tall tale of strength and size packs a double-whammy: while the fresh, funny, and perfectly paced narrative simply screams story hour, the hugely appealing visual presentation will easily win the most reluctant independent reader. With comic-book design and the attendant combination of humor and suspense, Master Man recounts the exploits of a boastful he-man who meets his match -- and then some. . . . The characters in Wisniewski's three-dimensional collage burst through the borders with great animation, and their exaggerated expressions are consistently dead-on. The story's original sources, taken from the Hausa in Nigeria, are documented in a detailed author's note; the unlikely choice of illustrative style for the traditional tale proves unbeatable." -- The Horn Book, Jan.-Feb 2001, starred review

"Caldecott Medalist Wisniewski is clearly the 'Master Man' of paper-cut illustration, powerfully demonstrated again with the delightful illustrations for this traditional tall tale from northern Nigeria. Shepard is a professional storyteller and Wisniewski a former clown and puppeteer, and both understand all the elements of holding an audience spellbound with a successful tall tale. . . . Pull this one out to read to a group of wiggly kids, and show them the power of a masterful picture book." -- Kirkus Reviews, starred review

"Part superhero legend and part pourquoi tale, the lively, well-paced story finds wonderful expression in Wisniewski's cut-paper collages. . . . The characters' bold expressiveness extends the story's humor and farce and will leave kids giggling through repeated readings. Thorough source notes conclude." -- Gillian Engberg, Booklist

"Shepard and Wisniewski have created a book with wide appeal, and reluctant readers will take this title by storm." -- Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

"An oversized good time. . . . People, backgrounds, even words spill over the borders of this comic-strip styled layout in reckless abandon. . . . The pacing is excellent and the narrative is vigorous and humorous." -- Carol Ann Wilson, School Library Journal, Feb. 1, 2001, starred review

"A rollicking, raucous tale. . . . Aaron's prose is, as always, a gift to storytellers. His tales are clean, clear, lively." -- Katy Rydell, Stories, Spring 2001

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From reader reviews:

Sarah Stiles:

This Master Man: A Tall Tale of Nigeria book is just not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you obtain by reading this book is definitely information inside this book incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper you read a lot of information you will get. This specific Master Man: A Tall Tale of Nigeria without we recognize teach the one who reading it become critical in thinking and analyzing. Don't become worry Master Man: A Tall Tale of Nigeria can bring whenever you are and not make your case space or bookshelves' turn out to be full because you can have it with your lovely laptop even mobile phone. This Master Man: A Tall Tale of Nigeria having good arrangement in word in addition to layout, so you will not experience uninterested in reading.

Jonathan Zahn:

This book untitled Master Man: A Tall Tale of Nigeria to be one of several books which best seller in this year, honestly, that is because when you read this book you can get a lot of benefit in it. You will easily to buy this particular book in the book shop or you can order it by way of online. The publisher in this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quickly to read this book, because you can read this book in your Smart phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this reserve from your list.

Richard Sauls:

Precisely why? Because this Master Man: A Tall Tale of Nigeria is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap it but latter it will zap you with the secret it inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who else write the book in such wonderful way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book possess such as help improving your skill and your critical thinking means. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I were you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

Bonnie Gallup:

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