

UniquelD: 202103271447

Author: Emmeline H. Dewar

Title: [Chimanwanga Stories](#)

SOAS University of London: [Always available.](#)

Description: This story has the [Namwanga](#) text also; the stories come from the Mwenzo mission in Zambia.

The Rabbit and the Deer

Once upon a time a rabbit made friends with a deer.

One day they were very hungry. The rabbit said to the deer, "Tie me up like a bundle loosely, and go and buy groundnuts in the garden where the women are shelling them, that we may eat."

The deer agreed. He tied the rabbit up and went away with him to the garden. He found the womens shelling the nuts and said to them, "I wish you to exchange this rabbit for nuts." One woman said, "Let me buy it." She picked up the nuts and gave them to the deer, while he gave her the rabbit, As soon as he had given it, he went away.

The woman said, "I'll put it aside; when I'm going back I'll take it." She put it at the side of the garden and went on shelling the nuts with the others.

The rabbit afterwards slipped out of his covering and escaped. As the woman was about to go home she said, "I'll go and fetch my rabbit." She went and found it gone. She said to her neighbors, "Somebody has taken my rabbit." They returned.

The rabbit came up to the deer and they ate the nuts together.

Next day, the rabbit said to the deer, "Now let me tie you up and I'll go and buy nuts for us to eat."

The deer agreed. The rabbit made a bundle of him and set out for the garden and bought nuts from the woman. When he had bought, he went away.

The woman put aside the covering a little, saw the deer breathing, and said to the other women, "It is alive."

The women said, "Kill it."

The deer, hearing this, started up in terror but fell down. They killed him with their hoes.

He died.

So goes the story.

Ku mwene chiri.



[African savanna hare by Nik Borrow](#)