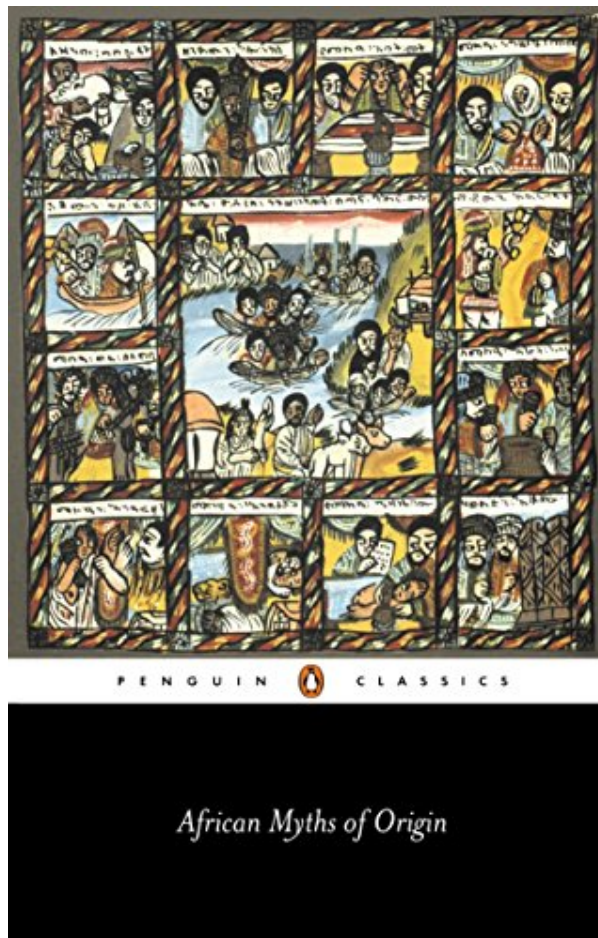
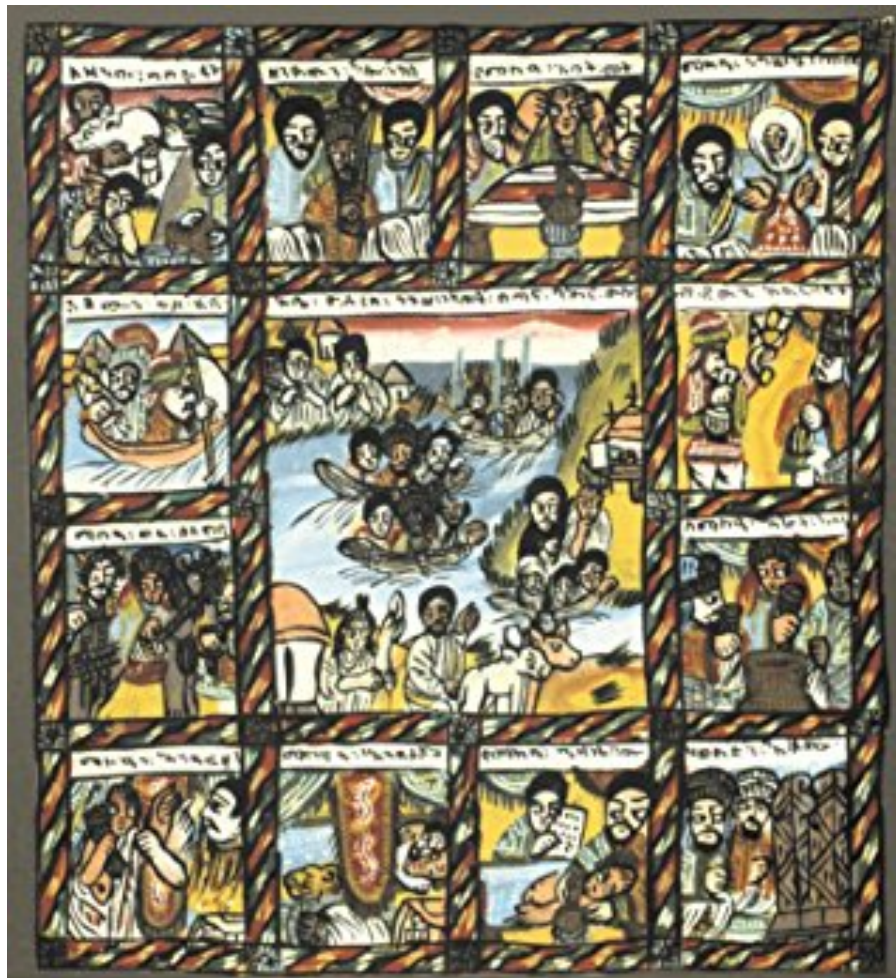


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## About the Author

Stephen Belcher was born in Cairo, Egypt, and spent much of his childhood in Africa and Europe. He holds a doctorate in Comparative Literature from Brown University and has taught in the history department at Pennsylvania State University. He is the co-editor (with John W. Johnson and Thomas Hale) of *Voices from a Vast Continent: Oral Epics from Africa*, and the author of *Epic Traditions of Africa*. He is currently teaching at the University of Kankan in the Republic of Guinea.

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