

## Part One: Our Town

### Chapter 21: Madam Ama's Farm and Taxes

### Chapter 22: Honoring Asase Yaa

### Chapter 23: The First Asantehene

### Chapter 24: The Golden Stool and the Outdooring

#### Individuals in the order introduced

Asa, an *odonko* child

Osei Tutu, the first king or Asantehene of the Asante Kingdom

Okomfo Anokye, the priest who advised Osei Tutu

Adjowa Kraa, infant at the outdooring ceremony

#### Akan diety

*Asase Yaa*...Mother Earth

#### General vocabulary

ambassadors

fugitives

regal

sonorous

soul

strewn

#### Twi words and phrases

*Aso* ...hoe

*Maadwo* ...Good evening to one person

*Mema mo adwo* :Good evening to more than one person

*Nkrumah* ...okra

*Nnwira* ...weeds

*Nyadoa* ...garden egg or eggplant

#### Ethnic groups introduced

Akwamu...Akan group friendly to the Asante

Akyem...Akan group that rebelled against the Asante Kingdom

Denkyira...Akan group that had a kingdom before the Asante Kingdom

#### Summary of Chapters 21-24

These chapters describe work on Madam Ama's farm, further investigation of the leopards, the tax collectors' report, and Nana and the council's planning their trip to Kumasi to celebrate the *Odwira* festival.

The outdooring ceremony is held. Elder Kwasi tells the story of the founding of the Asante Kingdom and the descent of the Golden Stool.

#### Comprehension questions

1. What tools do Madam Ama and Elder Kwasi bring to their farm?
2. Why is Elder Kwasi thinking of buying an *odonko* in Kumasi?
3. Who owns the land that Madam Ama farms?
4. What will Elder Kwasi's responsibilities be for Kwame, Akua, and Yaw Mensah when they are grown? Why?
5. What crops do Madam Ama, Kwame, Akua, and the *nnonko* harvest?

6. How and why do they teach Asa words in Twi? Does Akua like doing this?
7. What does Kwame tell his Uncle Kwasi that he wants to do when he's grown? How does Elder Kwasi respond?
8. Why does Elder Kwasi decide to frighten the leopard across the river? What kind of gun does he use?
9. Why does Nana take a group to the river near the crossing at night? Did he accomplish what he hoped to?
10. How do the Akan honor *Asase Yaa* each Thursday? Why do they honor her?
11. How does Nana balance his hope to protect leopards with his responsibility to protect his people?
12. What do the tax collectors report to Nana regarding the population of his district and the amount of gold dust collected in taxes? How is this amount divided?
13. What is the population of Nana's district? How can he inform others of the number?
14. Why does Nana want more free people to move to his district?
15. Who are the Fante and where do they live? What does the Okyeame tell the council about the Asantehene's defeat of the Fante?
16. Why did the Asantehene remain in Fante territory? What implications does this have for the celebration of the *Odwira* festival in Kumasi?
17. How will Nana prepare his people in case the Asantehene calls him to bring soldiers to fight against the Fante?
18. Who will join Nana's delegation to Kumasi? How will they and Nana pay for the trip? Where will they stay in Kumasi?
19. Why does Elder Kwasi tell the story of the first Asantehene?
20. What was Osei Tutu's experience as a hostage of the Denkyira king?
21. Why did Osei Tutu and his servants escape from the Denkyira Kingdom?
22. Who was Okomfo Anokye? How did he help Osei Tutu?
23. How was Osei Tutu able to unite most of the Akan groups to form a kingdom?
24. Why did Asantehene Osei Tutu leave his war smock at home when he planned to fight the Akyem? What happened to him? What did the children learn from his mistake?
25. What symbol did Okyomfo Anokye choose for the Asante Kingdom? How did he make the Golden Stool appear? What does the stool represent?
26. Do Kwame, Kwaku, and Baako plan to see the Golden Stool in Kumasi? Where is the Golden Stool today? Who is the Asantehene today?
27. What takes place at an outdoor ceremony? Why is the ceremony important?

28. Describe the town of Tanoso. How do people live, work, celebrate, and govern the district where the town is located?