

Invocation of the Creator

By the Yoruba people (translated by Ulli Beier)

He is patient, he is not angry.
He sits in silence to pass judgment.
He sees you even when he is not looking.
5 He stays in a far place—but his eyes are on the town.

He stands by his children and lets them succeed.
He causes them to laugh—and they laugh.
Ohoho—the father of laughter.
10 His eye is full of joy.
He rests in the sky like a swarm of bees.

Obatala—who turns blood into children.