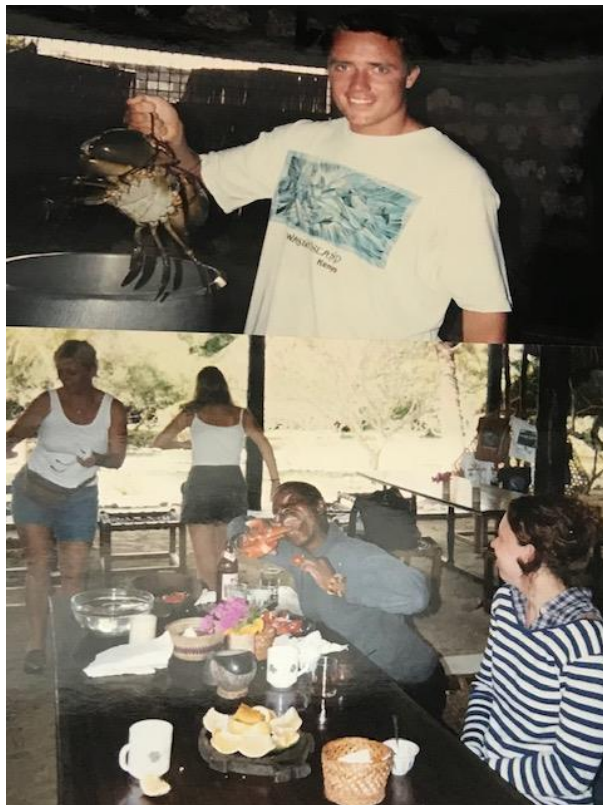




Photo for FIA Lesson #6: A Restaurant on *Wasini* Island

The setting for Story #6, The Creativity Story: “Fia Makes the Sun Shine,” is one of the restaurants on *Wasini* Island. It was fun to Google Wasini Island and to see there are many attractions, including several restaurants! Although I don’t know the name of the restaurant we went to as a part of our Wasini Island Tour, I do know that we had a wonderful time! My apologies to my Vegan and Vegetarian readers – but I just love hard shell crabs. And the crabs at this restaurant were so big and so tasty! The fun part of the tour was, when we arrived, it was cloudy and hazy – and somewhere in the middle of our crab feast, the sun came out! And immediately, I imagined a tall tale “Fia Makes the Sun Shine” – with talking clouds and a grumpy sun . . . I even included the little goats that I saw scampering on the island. In this story, Fia uses her memories and her imagination to leave the cloud where she is floating with Nana Bea and go to Wasini Island where she makes new memories. Fia returns to the cloud to tell Nana Bea a Tall Tale that she makes up herself!

The photos below are from my visit to the restaurant – look at the size of that crab!



FIA Lessons by Lonnetta M. Gaines written for the AACRC/African American Cultural Resource Center
Betty J. Johnson North Sarasota Library Website: BettyJJohnsonFriends.org
Ask for *Fia and the Butterfly: 7 Stories for Character Education* at your library or purchase the book at:
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**Lesson #6 – Reading The Creativity Story
“Fia Makes the Sun Shine”**

pp. 83-94, *Fia and the Butterfly: 7 Stories for Character Education* by Lonneta M. Gaines

A Saying to Remember for The Creativity Story

I cultivate joy, laughter, and hope. I activate my artistry in my own special way.

AUTHOR’S NOTES

Repeat the Saying to Remember, write it down and share it with others. The Saying to Remember for The Creativity Story reminds you that everyone has a spark of creativity – we just have to find it and help it to grow!

The *setting* for The Creativity Story is Wasini Island where the highpoint for me was eating at one of the Island’s restaurants where they served steamed crabs. I love steamed crabs and these were the biggest and the best that I’ve ever eaten! More about that later, because that meal inspired my story.

Getting to Wasini Island was a part of the experience. We sailed to the island on a small ship called a *dhow*. Muhammad, the ship’s captain, was skilled and inspired our confidence. Before getting to the island, we stopped and went snorkeling. I had snorkeled before, so I was willing to give it a try. Although snorkeling near Kenya was exciting, it was also a little sad – the coral reefs had been affected by Global Warming and had lost much of their signature color. This was 1999. Mother Nature keeps warning us to be aware and to take care . . .

It was July in Kenya which meant that the weather was a little chilly – we had to wear our jackets – and on this day, it was also overcast. But then, amazingly, in the middle of

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our feast of steamed crabs, the sun came out! Well, I immediately thought of a tall tale! In my imagination, the sun peeked through the clouds in order to see how many crabs I was eating – I did eat a lot! – and there was my story!

In my Tall Tale, “Fia Makes the Sun Shine,” I personified the clouds and the sun, giving them personalities and human voices. And then, I had fun, with Bold Cloud and the other Clouds looking down on the Island, seeing Fia eating so many Crabs, and starting a whisper campaign to entice grumpy Sun to come out from behind the clouds to see how many crabs Fia was eating. And that’s how Fia made the sun shine!

There’s always something to think about in my stories. In The Creativity Story, I want you to think about how you can make your dreams come true. Activating your creativity is a first step. That’s what Fia learns when she tells her tall tale.

Create your own Tall Tale in FIA Activity #6. Enjoy!!!

Extra Credit (smile). Answer the twelve questions at the end of the story (pp 91 & 92). Complete the Character Development Activities (pp 93 and 94).



Name: _____ **Date:** _____

FIA Activity #6 – “The Creativity Story”

Write Your Own Tall Tale

Directions: Use your own words to fill in the blanks below, and write your own tall tale!

One day, I decided to _____ . This was going to be so much fun! At first, I was a little nervous because _____
_____, but then, I took a deep breath and _____ . Wow! This wasn't at all what I had expected, but I was still _____ . I looked up into the sky, and couldn't believe that _____
_____ . One of my friends saw me, and I said _____ , can you believe that? Well, my friend was amazed, and actually, so was I, but that didn't mean it didn't really happen, because it did!!!