

19.

GFA: What we have here is [reads drum language]. Two warriors met: *Tɔgbuiga*, the overall chief of the war, the real war leader, and his enemy, *Dzonadzedzi*. *Tɔgbuiga* jumped on the other one, defeated him. The rest of *Dzonadzedzi's* people had nothing to do; they could only pack up and move on.

DL: If your champion has been defeated . . .

GFA: . . . then you have to get back. You have nothing to do.

DL: You don't have a victory parade if your team lost. Is that in the song or the drumming?

GFA: That is in the song, an Afā song.

DL: And why did you put the sogo-kidi drum on that song?

GFA: Because of the war part of it. When *Tɔgbuiga* defeats his enemy, he should jump on him.

DL: You have written, "Come by yourself." Explain that. I understand the English, but I don't know what it is trying to say.

GFA: At this point *Tɔgbuiga* has come to declare that the guy has been dealt with. The warrior who pretended to be the stronger person has been defeated by someone who he doesn't think is going to be powerful enough to do it.

DL: So "Come by yourself" means, "You can stand alone because you are the champion?"

GFA: Exactly. When your leader is taken, you have been totally defeated. That is why they always hide the leaders. During our tribal wars, the moment they got your leader, you were done. You are totally the loser. You could retaliate, but you won't have strength because the person who had the focus, the one for whom you fought, is no more. Once he is killed, you will all lose interest unless someone who has the same kind of power, focus, and leadership can intervene to act right away. Other than that, you are defeated.