

## World of musical wonders

By RASHIDA DHOOMA  
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What can a spider and an elephant teach kids about life?

Plenty, as we see in a new collection of *World Tales: A Mosaic Of Stories And Music From Around The World* by Randy Armstrong and Genevieve Aichele.

Based on original tales from Ecuador, Africa, India and Native America, some have slight, welcome variations to the typical damsel-in-distress narrative.

In *The Magic Lake*, a poor young farm girl goes on an adventure in search of a magic lake at the end of the world to help save her lazy brothers and cure an ailing prince.

*Mzizi's Great Adventure*, set in southern Africa, has a female lead character.

These tales are humorous and engaging. In *The Elephant And The Ant*, set in India, a tiny ant is able to tame a tyrannical elephant ruler.

The sound effects and music — featuring authentic instruments such as the mbira and djembe drum from Africa, and the sitar and tabla from India —

expose children and adults alike to the musical beat of far away lands.

*World Tales* is available on CD for \$14.99 U.S. and on cassette at \$9.98 U.S. plus shipping and handling by calling 1-800-541-9904.

**WORLD TALES ...** Stories and music from around the globe are performed by Randy Armstrong and Genevieve Aichele.



**Kid  
Tested**