

MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK
DIGITAL AUDIO EDITION
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Songs in the Shade of the Olive Tree

FROM MOROCCO, ALGERIA, TUNISIA AND FRANCE

Collected by Hafida Favret & Magdeleine Lerasle

Illustrations by Nathalie Novi

BOOK 1



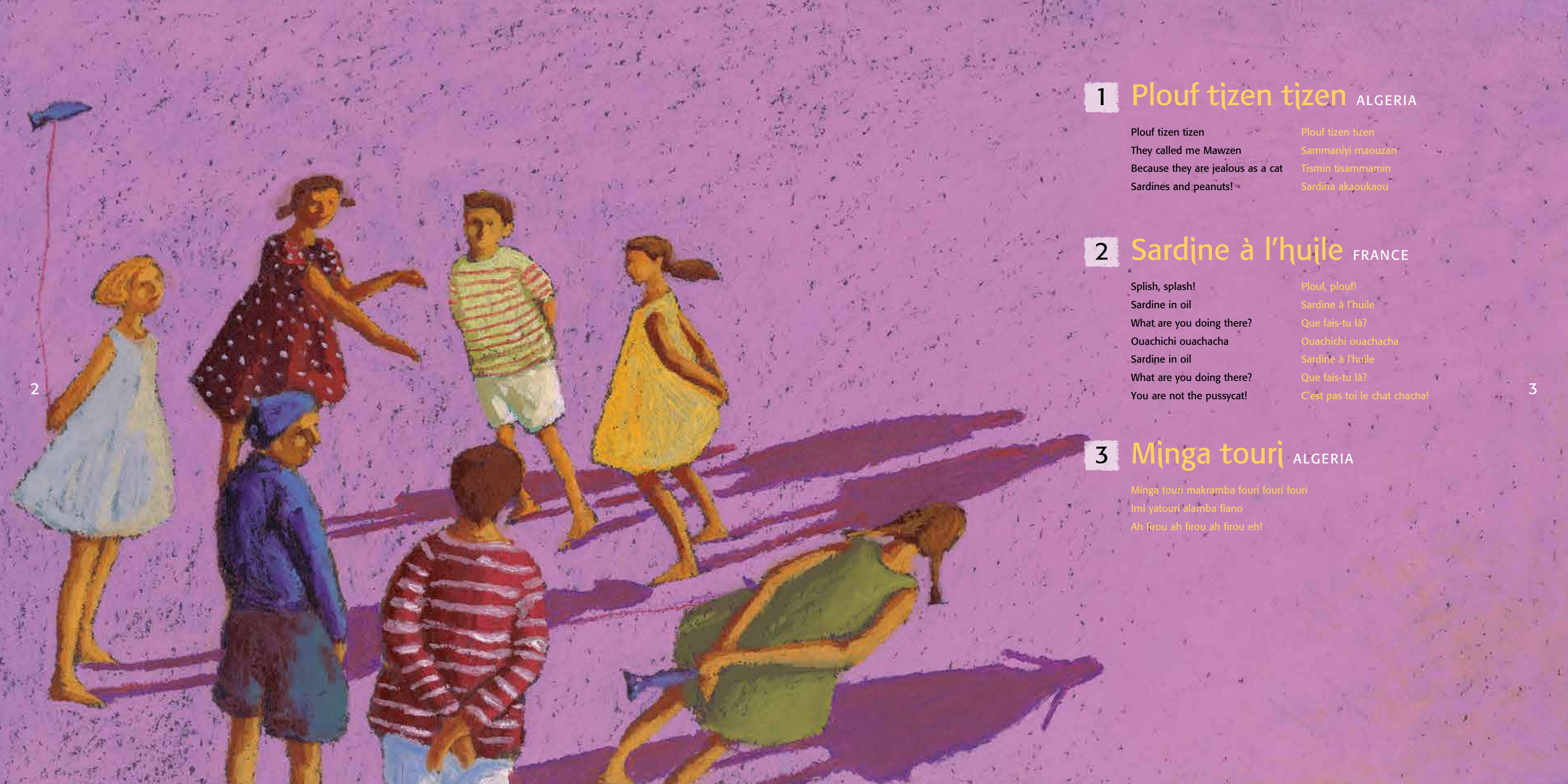
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BOOK 1



1 Plouf tizen tizen ALGERIA

Plouf tizen tizen
They called me Mawzen
Because they are jealous as a cat
Sardines and peanuts!

Plouf tizen tizen
Sammaniya maouzan
Tismin tisammamin
Sardina akaoukaou

2 Sardine à l'huile FRANCE

Splish, splash!
Sardine in oil
What are you doing there?
Ouachichi ouachacha
Sardine in oil
What are you doing there?
You are not the pussycat!

Plouf, plouf!
Sardine à l'huile
Que fais-tu là?
Ouachichi ouachacha
Sardine à l'huile
Que fais-tu là?
C'est pas toi le chat chacha!

3 Minga touri ALGERIA

Minga touri makramba fouri fouri fouri
Imi yatouri alamba fiano
Ah firou ah firou ah firou eh!



4 Pāram pāram TUNISIA

Param param, she stole a dinar

Param param, a shiny, round dinar

Param param, and she went to the market

Param param, where she bought a white veil

Param param, but there was a hole in it!

Pāram pāram khanbat dinār

Pāram pāram dinār mdaouar

Pāram pāram oua mchat lasoūg

Pāram pāram oua chrat sifsāri

Pāram pāram mag'ou̇r man tāli

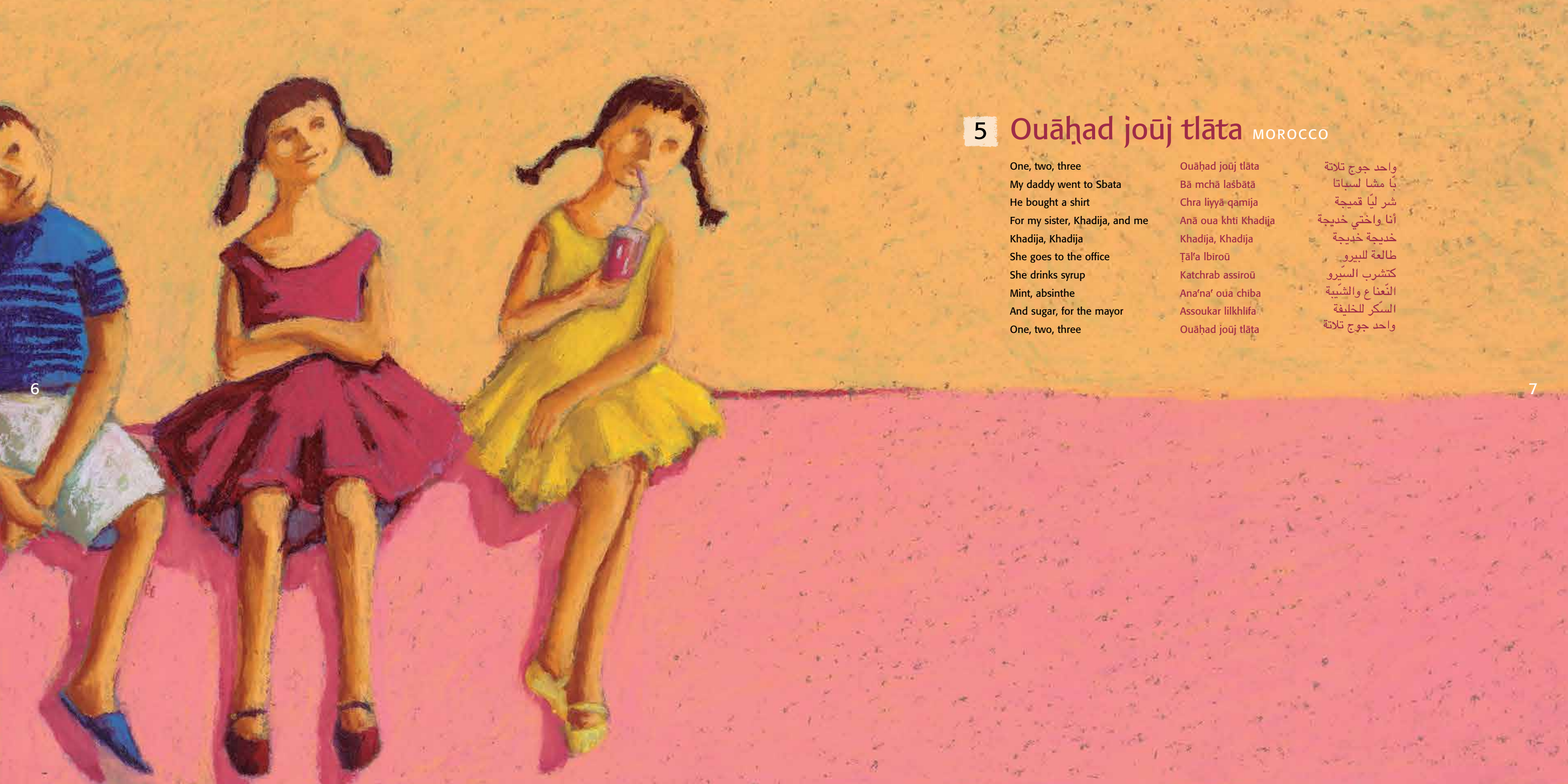
پارم پارم حنبت دینار

پارم پارم دینار مدور

پارم پارم وامشت لسوڠ

پارم پارم واشرت سفساري

پارم پارم مقعور من تالي



5 Ouāḥad jouj tlāta MOROCCO

One, two, three
My daddy went to Sbata
He bought a shirt
For my sister, Khadija, and me
Khadija, Khadija
She goes to the office
She drinks syrup
Mint, absinthe
And sugar, for the mayor
One, two, three

Ouāḥad jouj tlāta
Bā mchā lašbātā
Chra liyyā qamija
Anā oua khti Khadija
Khadija, Khadija
Ṭāl'a lbiroū
Katchrab assiroū
Ana'na' oua chiba
Assoukar lilklifa
Ouāḥad jouj tlāta

واحد جوج تلاتة
بأ مشا لسباتا
شر لياً قميجة
أنا واختي خديجة
خديجة خديجة
طالعة للبيرو
كتشرب السيرو
النعناع والشيبية
السكر للخليفة
واحد جوج تلاتة



6 Hadā lī sraq lǧāja Dab alfār dbībātou TUNISIA

This one stole a hen
This one hid it
This one roasted it
This one ate it
And this one said,
"Give me a little
Or I'll tell the owner"

Hadā li sraq lǧāja
Oū hadā likhabbāhā
Oū hadā liqlāhā
Oū hadā liklāhā
Oū hadā liqāl :
A'tiouni chouiyā
Oūalla nqoul Imoulähā

هدا لسرق الجاجة
وهذا لخبأها
وهذا لقلأها
وهذا لكلاها
وهذا اللّی قال :
« أعطیوني شویاً
ولأ نقول لمولأها .»

The mouse tiptoes, tiptoes, tiptoes up
And that's where she hides her babies

Dab alfār dbībātou, dab alfār dbībātou
Hnā khabbā oulidātou

دب الفار دبیباته ، دب الفار دبیباته
هنا خبأ ولیداته

7 Un gros lézard est passé par là FRANCE

A large lizard came by
This one saw it
This one killed it
This one cooked it
This one ate it
And the little one said,
"Hey! What about me?"
Tickle, tickle, tickle!

Un gros lézard est passé par là
Celui-là l'a vu
Celui-là l'a tué
Celui-là l'a cuit
Celui-là l'a mangé
Et le petit qui dit:
- Et moi on m'a oublié!
Guili, guili, guili!

8 Tīta tīta tīta TUNISIA

Tita tita tita!

My father brought back a little fish

Little fish fried in oil

It sizzles on the small plate

The cat digs

Through the bones

Looking for food for her kittens

Tita tita tita!

Bābā jāb ḥouita

Mouqliyya bazouīta

Oua ṭājin ytahtach

Oua lqaṭoūs ymachmach

Machmach fi 'ḍimātou

Ya'tī laoulidātou

تينة تينة تينة

بابا جاب حويطة

مقلية بزوية

والطاجين يتشتش

والقطوس يمشمش

مشمش في عضيماته

يعطى لوليداته

9 Bīsiklat klat klat ALGERIA

The bicycle has eaten

Bīsiklat klat klat





10 Aṭas aṭas amimmi ALGERIA

Sleep, my baby, sleep
 Sleep, my little one
 Sleep, my child, grow up, my pretty girl
 Sleep, my baby, grow, my sweet one
 Sleep, my child, grow up, my pretty girl
 The most beautiful of all
 Sleep, my baby, sleep
 Sleep, my sweet baby

Aṭas aṭas amimmi
 Aṭas aṭas aylli
 Aṭaṭas mimmi atimghoūr yalli
 Aṭaṭas yalli atimghoūr mimmi
 Aṭaṭas mimmi atimghoūr yalli
 Atimghoūr yalli afiftiz yiouni
 Aṭas aṭas amimmi
 Aṭas aṭas aylli

أطس أطس أممي
 أطس أطس أيلي
 أظطس مممي أظظفور يلي
 أظطس يلي أظظفور مممي
 أظطس مممي أظظفور يلي
 أظظفور يلي أظظف تز ييوني
 أطس أطس أممي
 أطس أطس أيلي



11 Ykħallik! y'allik! TUNISIA

May god keep you!

May he lift you up to the peak of his grace!

May he protect you from your enemies' taunts!

May he give you a home and children!

Ykħallik!

Y'allik!

La tchammat la'dā fik!

Tabdā bdārak oua drārik!

يخَلِّيك !

يعلِّيك !

لا تشممت لعدا فيك !

تيدا بدارك وادراريك !

12 Boūghanja ALGERIA

Boughanja uncovered his head
May god wet his head!
Fall, rain, fall
I am safe in my shelter!

Boūghanja 'arra rāsou
Yā rabbi ychammakh rāsou
Yā chtā ṣabbi ṣabbi
Ouanayā rāni mkhabbi

أشّتا تا تا تا تا ،
أصْبِي صَبِي صَبِي !
أوليدآتك في قَبِي ،
أبآك داه الريح ،
أمك تجري وطيح .

13 Ahtā tā tā tā tā MOROCCO

F-f-f-fall, rain
Fall, fall, fall, rain!
Your children are in my hood
The wind has blown your father away
Who runs and falls? Your mother!

Ahtā tā tā tā tā
Aṣoubbi ṣoubbi ṣoubbi
Aoulidātak fi qoubbi
Abāk dah arriḥ
Amouk tajri oua ṭiḥ

أشّتا تا تا تا تا ،
أصْبِي صَبِي صَبِي !
أوليدآتك في قَبِي ،
أبآك داه الريح ،
أمك تجري وطيح .

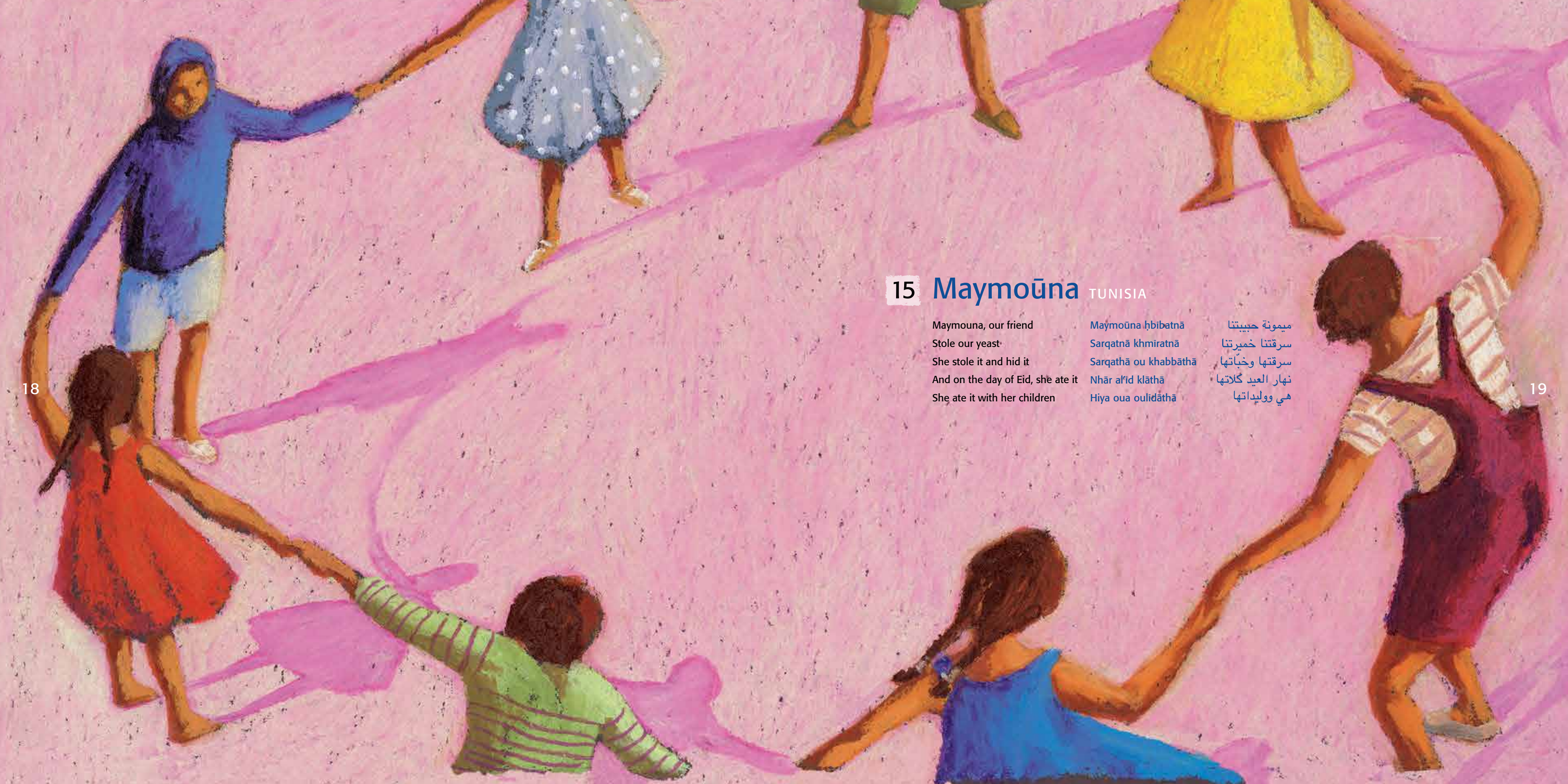
14 Yā mṭar khālti TUNISIA

My aunt's rain
Falls on my braid
My braid is wet
With oil and olives
Gayma, rain goddess
Send us lots of rain!

Yā mṭar khālti
ṣoubbi 'alā goutāyti
Goutāyti mablouā
Bazzit oua zitoūnā
Gāyma yā gāyma
Nchā.llah taṣbah 'āyma

يا مطر خالتي
صبِّي على قَطَايْتِي
قَطَايْتِي مبلولة
بالزيت والزيتونة
قايمة يا قايمة
انشأ الله تصبح عايمة





15 **Maymoūna** TUNISIA

Maymouna, our friend
Stole our yeast
She stole it and hid it
And on the day of Eid, she ate it
She ate it with her children

Maymoūna ḥbibatnā
Sarqatnā khmiratnā
Sarqathā ou khabbāthā
Nhār al'īd klāthā
Hiya oua oulidāthā

ميمونة حبيبتنا
سرقتنا خميرتنا
سرقتها وخباتها
نهار العيد كلاتها
هي ووليداتها



About the songs

This collection features 15 counting rhymes, nursery rhymes and traditional songs from the Maghreb. Early childhood is represented particularly well with lullabies and songs that encourage movement and finger games.

The repertory, passed from generation to generation through a common oral tradition, includes numerous variations and places a great deal of importance on improvisation – which accounts for some differences between the lyrics in the book and the versions sung on the album. Also, these nursery rhymes are generally associated with a number of cultural anecdotes and gestures.

In cultures around the world, children use such songs to count, enumerate or designate someone to lead a game. These songs often contain alliterations, assonances, wordplay and willingly have fun with rhythm and strange sounds. Not to mention that they allow children to bypass the adult way of speaking.

1 Plouf tizen tizen ALGERIA

Singer Hafida Favret

This Kabyle nursery rhyme, which evokes the passion of love and jealousy, is transformed by children into a simple game of elimination. The lyrics recount the story of a young man who brings peanuts and sardines in oil to prove his love to his young wife (following the Kabyle tradition). Her mother and sister witness this act and, out of jealousy, take their revenge by changing his nickname from *zan* (the handsome one) to *maouzan* (the ugly one).

2 Sardjine à l’huïle (Sardjine in oil) FRANCE

Singers Juliette Hoarau **and** Quentin Hoarau

This French nursery rhyme plays with sounds like “ouachichi ouachacha” to evoke certain words in the Arab language.

3 Mjinga tourj ALGERIA

Singer Hafida Favret

In all cultures, children’s songs are characterized by a sense of the absurd. This nursery rhyme is one example, as it means precisely nothing. Like the French *Amstramgram* or English *Eenie, meenie, miney, moe*, it consists of made-up words and a succession of amusing sounds, often borrowed from foreign languages (*minga touri* may have Italian resonances, for example). Children adore these wild nursery rhymes that possess the allure of magical formulas.

4 Pāram pāram TUNISIA

Singer Hafida Favret

This song tells the story of a young thief who is justly punished: with the dinar she stole, she purchases a *sifsari* (a traditional, large white veil Tunisian women wear when they go out)... but there is a hole in the back of it. What a shame: everyone stares at her!

The nursery rhyme provides the melody for a game played by two children standing face to face. Each child claps their hands together, then slaps their thighs, then the hands of the other, alternating from right to left. As in the case of all lateral games, children can invent increasingly complex patterns by accelerating the flow of the words.

5 Ouāḥad joūj tlāta (One, Two, Three) MOROCCO

Singers Azzedine, Aziza Ouaïcha, Jamila Ouaïcha, Dina Souidi, Mohamed Souidi **and** Oumnia Souidi

This number rhyme represents a pattern that exists in all languages. Two children stand face-to-face: each slap their thighs (*ouāḥad*), then clap their hands (*joūj*), and finally slap each other’s hands, doubling the tempo for the final slap (*tlā* for the right hand and *tlāta* for the left). The final doubling accentuates the pronunciation, accelerates the flow of words and varies the tempo. Lyrics rhyme Arabic numbers with the names of Moroccan cities and neighbourhoods (e.g. Rabat, Sbata). Children can also change the rhymes and invent new verses.

Another Algerian nursery rhyme, Ouāḥad joūj zoubida, rhymes numbers with female first names (Zoubida, Rabia, Yamina, Satouta, which means little witch, etc.). This nursery rhyme is sung while skipping rope.

6 Hadā lī sraq lǧāja / Dab alfār dbj̄bātou (This One Stole a Hen / The Mouse Tiptoes Up) TUNISIA

Singer Hafida Favret

Both of these songs accompany finger and tickling games that are very popular in Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, as well as in France. As “Hadā li sraq lǧāja” is recited, the singer takes the child’s fingers one by one, wiggles them and folds them closed, starting with the thumb.

In Dab alfār dbibatou, again, all of the child’s fingers are closed before finishing with a tickle. The singer gently walks their fingers up the child’s arm and then accelerates the recitation and the movement, finishing by tickling the child’s underarms. In certain variations, the mouse is replaced by an ant.

7 Un gros lézard est passé par là (A Large Lizard Came By) FRANCE

Singers Aziza Ouaïcha, Jamila Ouaïcha, Dina Souidi, Mohamed Souidi **and** Oumnia Souidi

While reciting “Un gros lézard est passé par là” est passé par là, the singer outlines the shape of the child’s hands and then caresses them, zigzagging like a lizard: above, below and between the child’s fingers. The singer then takes the child’s fingers one by one, starting with the thumb (“This one saw it”). They finish with the little finger and then tickle the palm of the child’s hand (“And the little one said, ‘Hey! What about me?’ Tickle, tickle, tickle!”). The tickling can move onto the child’s chest and under their chin, as in the case of “Round and Round the Garden Goes the Teddy Bear.”

8 **Tīta tīta tīta** TUNISIA

Singer Hafida Favret

For this hand game, the young child sits facing an adult, on their lap, or on a chair. The adult sings the nursery rhyme while clapping their hands in the rhythm *tī-ta tī-ta tī-ta bāba jāb houita*. In certain versions, this game refers to “Diki diki”, a well-known song that has inspired a great deal of children’s folklore. It evokes the celestial rooster who, at dawn, calls on all the roosters on Earth to start crowing in the morning.

9 **Bīṣīklat klat klat** (The Bicycle Has Eaten) ALGERIA

Singers Aziza Ouaïcha, Jamila Ouaïcha, Dina Souidi, Mohamed Souidi and Oumnia Souidi

In the case of this nursery rhyme, the wordplay rhymes the word *bīṣīklat* (borrowed from the French word *bicyclette*) with the Arab word *klat*, which means “she has eaten.” The result is a completely absurd sentence that is uttered faster and faster as the song continues. The verbal tongue twister is associated with a motor game: lying on their backs, children pedal their feet in the air. In the region of Tlemcen in Algeria, children also sing this nursery rhyme to accompany the bouncing movements of their rolling toys, made from empty cans.

10 **Aṭas aṭas amīmmī** (Sleep, My Baby, Sleep) ALGERIA

Singer Hafida Favret

This very melodic, traditional Kabyle lullaby plays on the repetition of the relaxing “m” and “s” sounds, the accumulation and improvised linking of tender words and, finally, the harmony of the sounds *tasa* (liver) and *atas* (sleep). It should be noted that, throughout the Arab world, the liver – like the heart in other cultures – symbolizes maternal love. When a mother loses her child, she says her liver has burned.

11 **Ykḥallīk! y’allīk!** (May God Keep You!) TUNISIA

Singer Hafida Favret

Bouncing songs, in which an adult imitates the galloping movement of a trotting horse, are universal sensory-motor games that help children develop spatial awareness and improve their balance. The child sits on the adult’s knees, firmly held by the hands, and tries to stay upright without falling, while being bounced up and down to different rhythms, faster and faster, often with a mock final fall or toss in the air.

English bouncing songs are generally prosaic (“This is the Way the Gentleman Ride,” for instance). On the other hand, those from the Maghreb are often more poetic: praise is addressed to god, appealing to his mercy and generosity. Adults sing them to protect the child from the evil powers all around and the dangers lying in wait and help the child grow. These invocations are omnipresent when the adult takes a child into his arms. Bouncing songs from the Maghreb can also be turned into lullabies.

12 **Boūghanja** ALGERIA

Singer Hafida Favret

“Boūghanja” and the following songs “Achtā tā tā tā tā” and “Yā mār khālti” are all incantations for rain. When the countryside becomes too dry or when water is needed for seeding, a widespread custom throughout the Maghreb involves making a wood or straw figure (a scarecrow in Algeria, a puppet in Morocco and a braided doll in Tunisia) and carrying it through the fields while singing and dancing as a way to summon rainfall. The procession ends with a celebratory feast where children are given sweets... and the beneficial rain eventually falls! Traces of this custom can also be found in cities, as in the case of the Maman Tangou procession in Tunis.

13 **Achtā tā tā tā tā** (Fall Rain) MOROCCO

Singers Aziza Ouaïcha, Jamila Ouaïcha, Dina Souidi, Mohamed Souidi and Oumnia Souidi



14 **Yā mṭar khāltī** (My Aunt's Rain) TUNISIA

Singer Hafida Favret.

15 **Maymoūna** TUNISIA

Singer Hafida Favret

The jubilant music for this short song, which accompanies a mimed round dance, is very popular. It tells the story of Maymoūna, who stole yeast so her children could eat leavened bread and doughnuts on the day of Eid al-Fitr (the festival that marks the end of Ramadan). No one condemns her and the children sing this story, filled with humanity and reverence, with a great deal of joy and tenderness.



The nursery rhymes in this collection have been transcribed in Latin characters based on the musical recording that accompanies the book. A version in Arabic characters has been provided as well. The English translation is intended to be relatively faithful, but does not follow word for word.

Arabic characters	Latin characters	Sound equivalent
ء	'	vocal attack as in "arm" in German
ا	a	as in "âne" in French, between "on" and "an" in English
ب	b	as in "bee"
پ	p	as in "pipe" (dialectal)
ت	t	as in "turtle"
ث	th	as in "thing" or "thank you"
ج	j/dj	as in the 's' in "pleasure", or as in "joy"
ح	h	glottal stop, slight pause between sounds
خ	kh	as in "Bach" in German, or the Scottish "loch"
د	d	as in "down"
ذ	dh	as in "this"
ر	r	as in "perro" in Spanish
ز	z	as in "zebra"
س	s	as in "simple"
ش	ch	as in "sharp"

Arabic characters	Latin characters	Sound equivalent
ع	'	sound articulated at the level of the pharynx with a great deal of friction
غ	gh	similar to French 'r' as in "rouge"
ف	f	as in "falcon"
ق	q	"k" pronounced by lifting the tongue
ك	g	as in "green"
ك	k	as in "can"
ل	l	as in "little"
م	m	as in "mama"
ن	n	as in "none"
هـ	h	as in "hat"
و	ou/w	as in "oops" or as in "wee"
ي	i/y	as in "yak"

ظ ط ض ص
These sounds do not have an English equivalent. They are pronounced by pushing the tongue back emphatically.



Song selection, notes and vocal coordination **Hafida Favret and Magdeleine Lerasle** • Illustrations **Nathalie Novi**
Record Producer **Paul Mindy** • Musical arrangement **Jean-Christophe Hoarau and Paul Mindy** • Musicians **Chris Hayward**
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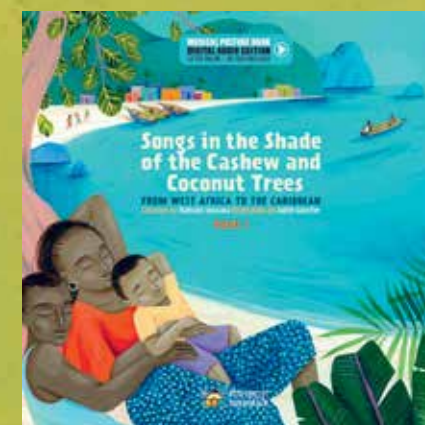
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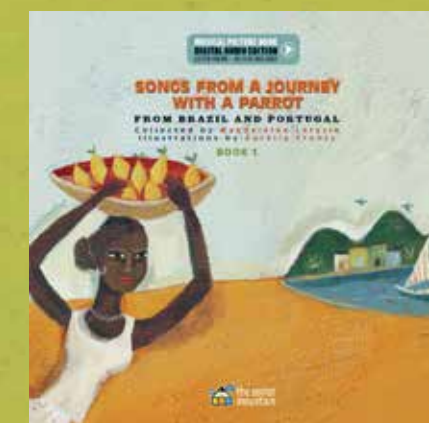
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Songs in the Shade of the Olive Tree

Presented in Arabic, Berber and French, this collection of lullabies and nursery rhymes from Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia draws children into a musical journey across North Africa, from the Sahara Desert through the Atlas Mountains to the Mediterranean Sea. In 15 songs about everyday life, children learn of the importance of rain, the communal aspects of meals, and the consequences of inappropriate behaviour. This uplifting, enchanting collection features traditional songs performed by women, men and children, and recorded with indigenous acoustic instruments. Capturing the meeting of ancient and modern styles, it's an absolute delight to musical ears. Lyrics are provided in Arabic and translated into English, followed by notes on each song's origin and cultural context.

1	Plouf tizen tizen	ALGERIA	2:11	9	Tīta tīta tīta	TUNISIA	2:30
2	Sardīne à l'huile	FRANCE	2:12	10	Bīsjikat klat klat	ALGERIA	2:16
3	Mīnga tourī	ALGERIA	2:13	11	Aṭas aṭas amīmmī	ALGERIA	2:56
4	Pāram pāram	TUNISIA	2:10	12	Ykhallīk! y'allīk!	TUNISIA	2:24
5	Ouāḥad jouj tlāta	MOROCCO	2:59	13	Boūghanja	ALGERIA	2:51
6	Hadā lī sraq līja / Dab alfār dbībātou	TUNISIA	2:48	14	Achtā tā tā tā tā	MOROCCO	2:35
7	Un gros lézard est passé par là	FRANCE	2:31	15	Maymoūna	TUNISIA	2:45
8	Yā mṭar khāltī	TUNISIA	2:25				

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