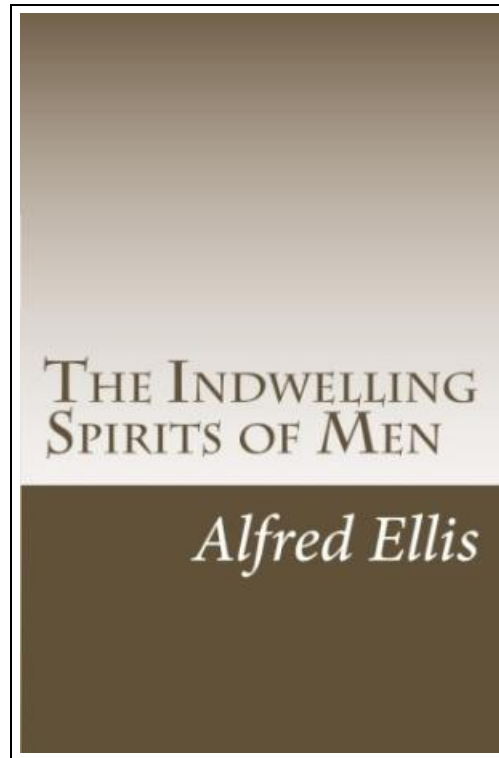


The Indwelling Spirits of Men (Paperback)



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Reviews

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(Dr. Willis Walter)

THE INDWELLING SPIRITS OF MEN (PAPERBACK)



Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Alfred Burdon Ellis Military officer and author, listed as a Colonel and a Major of the 1st West India Regiment. IN the process of collecting the folklore of West Africa, but chiefly that of the Gold Coast, I have found several tales which are evidently the West African variants of some of the stories collected in the Southern States by Mr. Joel Chandler Harris, and published under the title of Uncle Remus, and a comparison of the two sets may be of some interest to American readers, besides affording an example of the extent to which folklore is affected by change of environment. The role of Brer Rabbit is filled on the Gold Coast by the Spider {Anansi}, and on the Slave Coast by the Tortoise {Awon), who is doubtless the prototype of the Terrapin in Uncle Remus. In both districts the Hare figures in the tales, and possibly Brer Rabbit is the Hare amid new surroundings, but in West Africa Long Ears rather takes the place of Brer Fox, as he is usually outwitted by the Spider and the Tortoise. So large a number of the folklore tales of the Gold Coast have the Spider for their hero that the title Anansi sem, Spider stories, is now the generic native name for all folklore tales whatever, no matter what the subject may be; and this designation survives in the British West Indies in the name Nancy stories, which is there applied by the negro to his local folklore. The supply of slaves for the British West Indies was drawn almost exclusively from the Gold Coast, so that al], or almost all, of the existing folklore of those islands is...



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