GLOSSARY AND CHARACTER LIST FOR AMA

MANU HERBSTSTEIN, 2002

aban
Akan: palace

abosom
Akan: minor deities (singular: obosom)

abusua
Akan: family, kindred, relatives, especially on the mother's side
(plural: mmusua)

ackie
Asante unit of weight for gold dust; one sixteenth of a ounce; see peredwan

adae
Akan: festival day; see akwasidae

adowa
Asante dance

adwuma oo!
Akan: greeting to a person at work

adwuma ye
Akan: reply to the greeting adwuma oo! (literally "work is good")

taggy beads
coloured glass beads of uncertain origin, greatly valued in parts of West Africa

taggo
Brazil: percussion instrument, consisting of two hollow iron cones, beaten with an iron rod

Akan
group of closely related languages including Asante, Fanti and Akuapem Twi

Akoa
Akan: subject; used here as pawn; see donko

Akpeteshie
Akan (borrowed?): alcoholic beverage (usually distilled from palm wine)

akrafó
Akan: male slaves (singular: okra) favoured by their master and destined to accompany and serve him in the next world

akwasidae
Asante festival celebrated every sixth Sunday in which the Asantehene offers food and drink to the ancestral stools

Alafin
ruler of Oyo

Ali Makeri
Hausa blacksmith who settled at Yendi around 1730

aluá
no definition given

âmë
Akan: reply to âgôô; ("come in!")

ampá
Akan: precisely; indeed

ampá?
Akan: is that so? really?

Ananse
Spider-man; trickster hero of Asante folklore

Anansesem
Akan: folklore; stories concerning Ananse

Angola Janga
see Palmares

Asante
West African kingdom and empire with its capital at Kumase; its people; its language. The founding states of the Asante confederation were: Kumase, Asumegya, Kumawu, Mampong, Offinso, Nsuta, Kokofu and Bekwae

Asante Kotoko
Asante war-cry: "Asante porcupine: kill a 1,000; a 1,000 will come."

Kum apem, apem beba

Asantehemaa
Akan: queen-mother of Asante; leading female royal (not necessarily the mother of the Asantehene)

Asantehene
Akan: king of Asante

Asanteman-hyiamu
Akan: assembly of the Asante nation

Asase Yaa
Akan: female spirit of the earth (Thursday born)

ase ase ayo
Akan: Horn call of Koranten Péte. Literally, "It has been said, it has been said, it has been done"

Asen, Akyem and Akuapem
Asen states, tributary to Asante and often in a state of rebellion

Asen-Praso
town on the Pra river at the southern border of the Asante heartland

Askia the Great
Askia Muhammad; ruler of the Songhai Empire c.1493-1528

Atumpan
Akan: royal talking drum of Asante

Awurâ
Akan: lady

Babalorixà/isà
Yoruba: traditional priest

baeta
Port.: baize

bali
facial incision

baobob
tree of the African savanna (Adansonia digitata)

batakari
Akan: heavy cotton smock worn by men in northern Ghana; war-dress

batà
drum

Bedagbam
Bekpokpm name for Dagomba

Bekpokpm
a people of north-eastern Ghana, also known as Konkomba

Bekpokpm
Bekpokpm spirits of the bush

blood flux
diarrhoea

boçal
Brazil: slave recently arrived from Africa and as yet unbaptized

Bosom Tweneboaa
deity of the people of Edina

bra
Akan: come

Bremanhene
Akan: king of Breman

Bron
a people living to the north-west of the Asante heartland
slaves from Cabinda in West Africa

caboceer Port.: West African chief or elder
cabra Brazil: half African, half Tupica
chacha Brazil: cheap rum distilled from sugar waste or molasses
cadeira Brazil: curtailed sedan chair
casa grande Brazil: mansion, home of the senhor de engenho
cassia tropical tree
chocalho Brazil: musical instrument; similar to xague-xague but with
a swelling at one end only
civet nocturnal African mammal of the family Viverridae; called civet cat
civet perfume musky perfume extracted from anal scent glands of the civet cat
Classis supervisory board of the Dutch Reformed Church in Amsterdam
conta de terra type of bead
cowrie Indian Ocean shell formerly used as a currency in West Africa
Crioulo Brazil: creole; African slave born in Brazil

country of the Dagomba
agomba a people of northern Ghana (and their language)
awa-dawa tree of the African savanna
Denkyira Akan state conquered by Asante
dok head cloth
donko, odono slave from Asante's northern hinterland (plural nnonkofoo)
(Entry in Christaller)

West African coastal town; site of Elmina Castle
Elmina Castle slave-trading castle built by the Portuguese at Edina
engenho Brazil: sugar mill, or plantation
Engenho do Cima Upper Plantation
Engenho do Meio Middle Plantation
Enstool elevate to the stool, i.e. install as king (amongst the Akans)
Escravos-Aragao Brazil: Aragao's slave shop

West African Akan people; their states; their language
feitor-mor Brazil: general manager
fly-whisk tool made from the tail of an elephant or a cow, used to keep flies off the head of an important person
fontomfrom Akan: talking drum
fuflu Akan: West African food made by pounding yam or plantain
gameleira branca Brazilian tree (ficus doliaria martius) used by West African slaves for worship as a substitute for the iroko (odum) and nsanda
Ganga-zumba King of Palmares
garapa Brazil: cheap rum distilled from sugar waste or molasses
Golden Stool (Akan: sika dwa) symbol of the unity of the Asante state
Gonja a people living to the north of Asante; their country; their language
gonje African stringed instrument
Grumah state in northern Ghana
guinea-corn sorghum
guiney bird slave newly arrived from Africa

Dry wind which blows from the Sahara across West Africa accompanied by a dusty haze
Hausa people of the West African savanna; their country; their language

Cloth manufactured in the Yoruba area of Nigeria
Ijebu cloth
Imam Muslim cleric
irmandade Brazil: fraternal organization within the Catholic church

Dagbon name for the Asante; also Dagbon musketeers
Kambonse
Kano Hausa town in Nigeria
Katsina Hausa town in Nigeria
Kenkey Ga: boiled maize-bread (=Akan: odokono)
kente Akan: multi-coloured cotton or silk cloth hand-woven in strips
Kokofu Asante state and its capital
Kokofuhene king of Kokofu
kokoko Akan: greeting giving notice of approach; knocking
kola, kola nut reddish, fragrant, nutlike seed of tropical African evergreen plant
Konadu-krom Konadu's town or village. Village named after Konadu
Konkams slaves from the Kongo in West Africa
Konkomba see Bepokpam
Köse Akan: expression of sympathy; sorry
Kpembe  Gonja capital
Kpembewura  title of the Gonja king
Epugnumbu  character in Dagomba history
Kumbong-Na  commander of the Royal Dagomba Archers

**ladino**  
Brazil: slave who has been baptized and who understands Portuguese

lagarto  Brazil: large lizard
lobishomem  Brazil: werewolf-like creature of folklore
loofah  vegetable washing sponge

**Maame**  
Akan?: term of respect used in addressing an elder woman
malam  Muslim teacher
malungo  Brazil: slave who was a fellow-traveller on a slave ship
Mampon  Asante state and its capital
Mamponhemaa  queen-mother of Mampon
Mamponhene  king of Mampon
Mamprusi  people of northern Ghana
Mande  people of the upper Niger river valley; their language
Manso  Fanti town where there was a large slave market
Massapé  Brazil: heavy clay soil suitable for the cultivation of sugar
maté  Brazil: tea-like beverage
milréis  Brazil: unit of currency = one thousand reals
Mina  Brazil: slave from the West African Gold Coast or Slave Coast
Misericórdia  Brazil: Charitable Brotherhood of the Holy House of Mercy
mmá yeňkó  Akan: let's go
mmoaitia  Akan: mythical dwarfs reputed to live in the forest (sing. aboaitia)
mmsua  Akan: plural of abusua, q.v. Families
mónsoré  Akan: plural imperative of sôrê, get up
Mossi, Moshi  People of Burkina Faso and northern Ghana

**Na**  
title of Dagomba king
Na Gariba  Dagomba king
Na Gbewa  Dagomba king
Na Yagasi  Dagomba king
Nagô  Brazil: Yoruba
Nakpali  Dagomba frontier town
Nana  Grandfather/grandmother; title of respect for an Akan chief or elder; plural: nananom, ancestors
Nanumba  people of northern Ghana
Nsanda  Ki-Kongo: West African tree, often sacred
Nsuta  One of the founding states of Asante

**Odum**  
Akan: West African tree, often sacred. (Yoruba: iroko)
odwira  Yam festival
ohemmaa  Akan: queen-mother
ohene  Akan: king
oheneba  Akan: royal prince; son of a king
okomfô  Akan: priest
okro mouth  one who gossips
olaria  Brazil: pottery
omankyeame  Akan: royal spokesman
onyame-dua  Akan: god's tree; household shrine
Onyankopon Kwame  Akan: God (Saturday born)
Onyankopon Kwame,  
   Asase Yaa, nananom, Akan: God, Spirit of the earth, ancestral spirits, fathers, mothers
      agyanom, enanom
onponko  Akan: horse
osofo  Akan: priest
Oti  river in north-east Ghana
Oware  Akan: a board game
Owner of the Land  traditional priest

**palauquin**  
a covered litter carried on poles on the shoulders of two or four men. Ceremonial vehicle for an Akan king

Palmares  Os Palmares; Angola Janga; famous seventeenth century quilombo (colony of escaped slaves) in Brazil
peredwan  Asante unit of weight for gold dust; 36 ackies; two and a quarter ounces; see ackie
pini do  Akan: shift up, make room
pito  alcoholic drink made from fermented corn
Predikant  Dutch: preacher
quilombo  Brazil: colony of escaped slaves
Recôncavo  Brazil: sugar growing region in Bahia
saá   Akan: so, thus
safra  Brazil: sugar harvest season
sanku, osanku  Akan: stringed musical instrument
sasabonsam  Akan: mythical ogre of the forest
senhor de engenho  Brazil: master of the sugar mill; owner of a sugar plantation
senzala  Brazil: slave cabin, hovel
sese  Akan: West African tree used for carving
Shangó  Yoruba deity: deified fourth king of Oyo
shea butter  fat obtained from the seeds of the shea tree; used as food, for illumination, for cosmetics and for making soap
Simbew  Fanti town famous for its slave market
skin  symbol of office of a king in many states of northern Ghana
stool  Akan symbol of royal office
Tano  river in Ghana; name of the spirit which lives in the River
tarefa  Brazil: daily task; standard plot of sugar cane
Tempu  Kongo deity
Tindan Na  Guardian of the Land; Bekpokpam priest
Tohajie  semi-mythical ancestor of the Dagomba
tokoo  Asante unit of weight for gold dust; one-sixth of an ackie
Tolon-Na  Commander-in-Chief of the Dagomba King's army
Tsetse  bloodsucking African flies which transmit sleeping sickness to livestock; particularly virulent in the forest zone
tweapea  Akan: stick used to clean one's teeth; the tree from which it is cut
wofa  Akan: maternal uncle; term of respect for an older man
xaque-xaque  Brazil: hollow metal instrument shaped like a dumb bell, with pebbles in each swollen extremity
Ya Na Sitobu  Dagomba king Sitobu
Yendi  Dagomba capital
Yendi-Na  Dagbon: king of Yendi
Zabzugu  Dagomba frontier town
Zamfara  Nigerian town where the Dagomba stayed during their migration to Ghana
Zangina  Dagomba king
Zaria  Hausa town
Zongo  suburb of an Akan town inhabited by people from the north or Muslims
Zuarangu  town in northern Ghana
Zumbi  commanding officer of the army of Palmares

CHARACTER LIST

The principal characters are shown in bold.
An * indicates an historical character.

AFRICA

FAMILY

Ama  the heroine, known as Nandzi in the earlier part of the story; later known as Pamela, as Ana das Minas and as “One-Eye”
Nandzi  see Ama
Pamela  see Ama
Ana das Minas  see Ama
“One-Eye”  see Ama
Nowu  Nandzi’s four year old brother, son of Tabitsha and Tigen
Tabitsha  Nandzi’s mother, Tigen’s junior wife
Tigen  Nandzi’s father, Tabitsha’s husband
Sekwadzim  Tabitsha’s father, Nandzi’s maternal grandfather
Kwadzi  Tabitsha’s youngest baby
Satila  Nandzi’s betrothed
Itsho  Nandzi's favourite lover
Latia  Nandzi's second lover
Bato  Tigen's senior wife

YENDI (Dagomba capital)

Abdulai  commander of the Bedagbam slave raiders
Issaka  Bedagbam slave raider
Damba  Bedagbam slave raider
Suba  young boy, captured Bekpokpam slave
Koranten Péte*  Asante consul in Yendi, commander of the central division of the Asante army. (1720?-1810?)
Demonkum*  Chief of Those-Who-Sit-Before-the-Na, Chief of the Guns
Na Saa Ziblim*  the Ya Na, king of Dagbon (i.e. the Dagomba king)
Galdilima*  chief of the Dagomba king's eunuchs
Na Gariba*  former king of Dagbon
Minjendo  female Bekpokpam slave; companion of Nandzi
Akwasi Anoma  Asante official; "the ornithologist"

KPEMBE (Gonja capital)

(un-named)  the Kpembewura, ruler of east Gonja
Sharif Imhammerd*  emissary of the ruler of Fezzan

KAFABA (Gonja entrepôt)

Jaji  young slave girl, saved by Nandzi from Akwasi Anoma's attentions

KUMASE (Asante capital)

Osei Tutu*  first Asantehene, (d. 1717)
Opoku Ware*  second Asantehene, ruled c. 1720 - 1750
Kusi Obodum*  third Asantehene, ruled 1750 -1764
Osei Kwado*  fourth Asantehene (king of Asante), ruled 1764 -77
Osei Kwame*  fifth Asantehene, ruled c 1777 - 1803 (see Kwame Panin)
Konadu Yaadom*  Asantehemaa (queen-mother of Asante), 1752?-1809; younger sister of Akyama; maternal aunt (or mother?) of Kwame Panin; mother of Amma Serwaa and Opoku
Akyama*  disgraced former Asantehemaa; mother (or aunt?) of Kwame Panin (q.v.)
Kwame Panin*  nephew (or son?) of Konadu Yaadom; son (or nephew?) of the disgraced Akyama; the future Asantehene Osei Kwame (q.v.)
Amma Sewaa*  elder sister (?) of Kwame Panin
Opoku*  infant son of Konadu Yaadom
Ntoo Boroko*  Kokofuhene, aspirant to the Golden Stool on the death of Osei Kwado
Konkinti*  Chief Executioner of Mampong
Adabo*  son of Kusi Obodum (q.v.)/Chief Surveyor of Nuisance and Master of Those Who Keep the Roads Clear
Mensaa  Asante musketeer
Okomfo Tantani  traditional Asante priest ("fetish" priest)
Abena Saka*  Mamponhemaa (Queen Mother of Mampong), wife of Koranten Péte (q.v.)
Esi  female Asante pawn; friend of Ama
Atakora Mensah*  Mamponghe (king of Mampong)
Kyei Kwame  Kokofuhene (King of Kokofu) aspirant to the Golden Stool on the death of Osei Kwado
Dzimwa  Bekpokpam diviner

ELMINA

Esi  female Asante pawn; friend of Ama
Sven Jensen  Danish Chief Merchant at Elmina Castle; second in command and successor to Pieter De Bruyn
Pieter De Bruyn  Director-General (Governor) of the Dutch West India Company at Elmina Castle; also known as Mijn Heer
Mijn Heer  see Pieter De Bruyn above
Elizabeth De Bruyn  deceased wife of Pieter De Bruyn
Augusta  alias Efua Kakrabaa; Fanti trader in Edina (Elmina town); former wife of Pieter de Bruyn
Efua Kakrabaa  see Augusta
Effiba  Augusta's slave girl
Hendrik Van Schalkwyk  Minister of the Dutch Reformed Church, Preacher and
### The Love of Liberty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role or Relation</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arbutnaw (Smith)</td>
<td>Chief Officer on <em>The Love of Liberty</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roy Bruce</td>
<td>seaman on <em>The Love of Liberty</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>George Hatcher</td>
<td>seaman on <em>The Love of Liberty</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>David Alsop</td>
<td>seaman on <em>The Love of Liberty</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Knox</td>
<td>seaman on <em>The Love of Liberty</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Knaggs</td>
<td>seaman on <em>The Love of Liberty</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Butcher</td>
<td>surgeon on <em>The Love of Liberty</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>William Williams</td>
<td>nephew of Captain David Williams; passenger on <em>The Love of Liberty</em>; later British Consul in Salvador</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kwakuwoyung</td>
<td>Akan boy; slave on <em>The Love of Liberty</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kwaku's mother</td>
<td>slave on <em>The Love of Liberty</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mara</td>
<td>young girl, slave on <em>The Love of Liberty</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tomba</td>
<td>slave from the Upper Guinea coast, slave on <em>The Love of Liberty</em></td>
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</tbody>
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### America

**Salvador (Brazil)**

- **Roberto**: slave of Fanti origin, employed at the Aragão auction house
- **Luiza Fernandez**: slave of Fanti origin in the Aragão auction house; employed as a prostitute
- **Josef Vellozo**: slave at the Engenho de Cima; boatman

**Engenho de Cima (Brazil)**

- **Fifi**: Fanti slave at the Engenho do Meio
- **The Senhor**: owner (senhor de engenho) of the Engenho de Cima
- **The Senhora**: wife to the Senhor
- **Narcia**: female house slave at the Engenho de Cima
- **Esperança**: old creole female slave at the Engenho de Cima
- **Jacinta**: female slave without hands at the Engenho de Cima
- **Vicente Texeira**: bookkeeper at the Engenho de Cima
- **Jesus Vasconcellos**: General Manager, or feitor-mor, at the Engenho de Cima
- **Father Isaac Pereira**: Catholic chaplain at the Engenho de Cima
- **Alexandre**: Mulatto son of the Senhor
- **Miranda**: daughter of the Senhor and the Senhora
- **Bernardo (Kofi)**: Fanti slave at the Engenho de Cima; chief carpenter
- **Ignacio Gomes**: free man, half Tupi, half Kongo; tanner and leather worker at the Engenho de Cima
- **Tomás**: Hausa slave at the Engenho de Cima; blacksmith
- **Olukoya**: Yoruba slave at the Engenho de Cima; slave driver; Babalorixa (Olukoya = the Lord champions the cause of the suffering)
- **Ayodele**: wife of Olukoya
- **Wono**: Yoruba slave at the Engenho de Cima; wife of Josef Vellozo Gregório
- **Ewe (Gege)**: slave at the Engenho de Cima; recaptured absconder
- **Benedito**: old Crioulo slave at the Engenho de Cima; catechist
- **Luis dos Santos**: slave at the Engenho de Cima; wag
- **Pedro**: slave at the Engenho de Cima; underdriver
- **Micaela**: slave at the Engenho de Cima; child
- **João-João**: character in a story; the lobishomem in human form
- **Pedro**: character in Christina's story; childhood friend of Francesca
- **João**: Portuguese name of Tomba (q.v.)