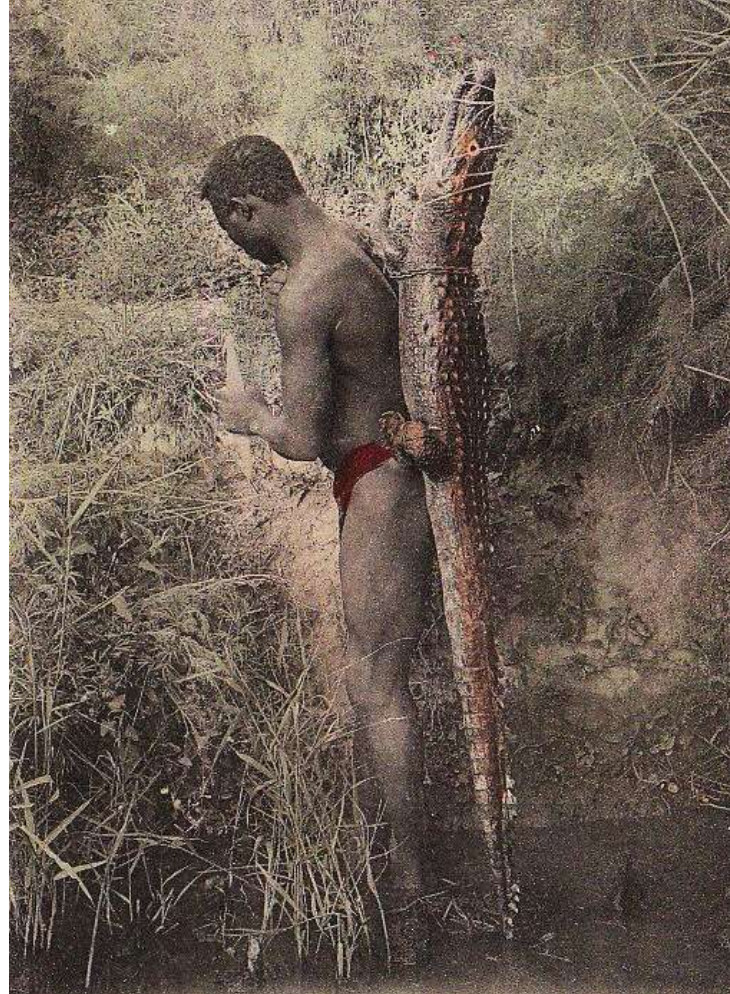


Mtumba



Creeping warily through the jungle, Mtumba stopped every few seconds to listen to the sounds around him. He had strayed into the habitat of the giant piranha lizard, which, like its river-dwelling cousin, sometimes made a meal out of human fles ... *what was that?!* A slithery noise prompted Mtumba to whirl around. There was nothing there. But he had the feeling that something was following him. A chill ran down his spine. Or wait. That wasn't a chill. It was ... *lizard drive!* Mtumba turned all the way around and shrieked in terror! Then he recognized his kid brother, Bob, laughing uproariously in his piranha lizard costume. He had a good mind to wipe that stupid grin off of the kid's face with his suddenly soiled loincloth when another, more realistic reptilian hiss emanated from the nearby underbrush. At once, Mtumba was on his feet and racing away, knowing he only had to outrun his brother. A moment later, an anguished human cry from where he'd just been proved him right!