

## ***The River and the Source***

By Margaret Ogala

Reviewed by Cornelius Mumo Willy

***The River and the Source*** is a novel about a lady by the name Akoko, a daughter to the great chief. She is the source of the river where she is married by another chief as a "mikai" meaning first wife. Even though during those times people used to be polygamous, the chief refused to marry another wife and says he is comfortable with Akoko. Akoko is blessed with kids and she is able to survive in hard times. Her brother in law Otieno accuses her of witchcraft while her husband was away and she goes back to her father's home. After her husband came back he was so mad with his brother for what he did to his "Mikai". And he goes for her. Her daughter Awiti is able to access formal education where she meets Owour. They start courting and during that time her mother passes away that makes her accuse Owour for her mother's death. She is able to move on with life. She becomes a teacher and gives birth to several kids where her son Aoro meets a girl by the name Wandia during his university studies. Wandia is the first girl from another tribe "Kikuyu" They later marry and they go on with the River. It's a story full of laughter and tears.

I choose reading it because it's about powerful women and how they tackle change. Such a wonderful story. You will like reading it as i did.