

## Story 20: The Olokum and God

Story shared by: *Fernando*

Representing: *Cuban and lives in Belgrade.*

### The Story:

Olokum, the evil spirit, was having a conversation with God. They sat above the Earth, watching the daily happenings in God's kingdom. As they observed, Olokum said to God, "Look at what they're doing—how badly they behave! They're committing vile acts against one another. And worst of all, the greatest offence—they're neglecting you and your legacy."

God looked at Olokum, his heart heavy and burdened, and replied, "I know this, I know it all. But as their creator, I understand them, and I don't want to punish them."

Olokum, the royal heir hungry for God's power, sensing that God seemed like a tired father and ruler, knew just the right words to say: "You don't know if any of them will ever become like you, and from what I see, they are far from your light. Renounce your throne, abandon them. Release them from your divine protection—and let me rule!"

Olokum stood up, towering over the holy father, and began to weave his fantasy of power: "I will punish them. I will crush them under my great foot and mould them into what they must become. They will be forced to understand their arrogance and sin, and from the ashes of their downfall, the most righteous will rise to build a world worthy of your sacred reign—of course, under my strict supervision as the executor of your divine will."

This is how great fires in Cuba have started...