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AMERICAN
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gri·ot  (grē-ō , grē ō, grē ŏt)

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n.
A storyteller in western Africa who perpetuates the oral tradition and history of a village or family.

[French, alteration of *guiriot*, perhaps ultimately from Portuguese *criado*, domestic servant, from Latin *creātus*, one brought up or trained, from past participle of *creāre*, to produce, bring up; see [CREATE](#).]

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Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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