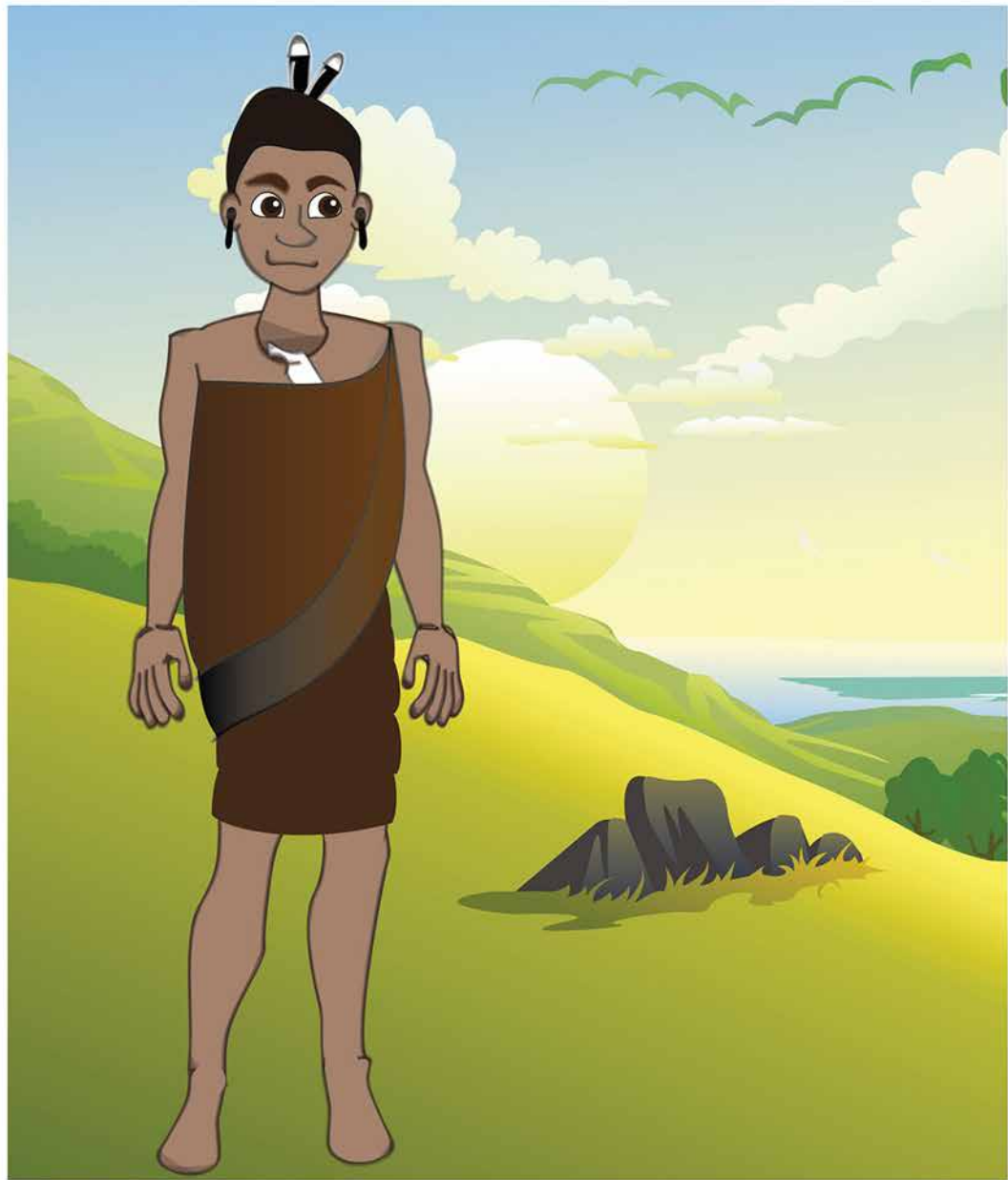


# The East Coast Maiden





Let me tell you now the story about Tūrongo's journey to the East Coast in search of a wife. This took place after Whatihua tricked Tūrongo, leading to his departure in search of Māhinaarangi, a beautiful woman of prestige, from Ngāti Kahungunu, a descendant of Paikea and Porourangi.



Tūrongo left and travelled the length of the land. He descended to Te Matau-a-Māui, arriving at the district of Roto-a-Tara. This lake is in the area of Te Aute, where the village of Kāhōtea stands, the home of Tūaka the father, Te Angiangi the mother and their daughter Māhinaarangi.

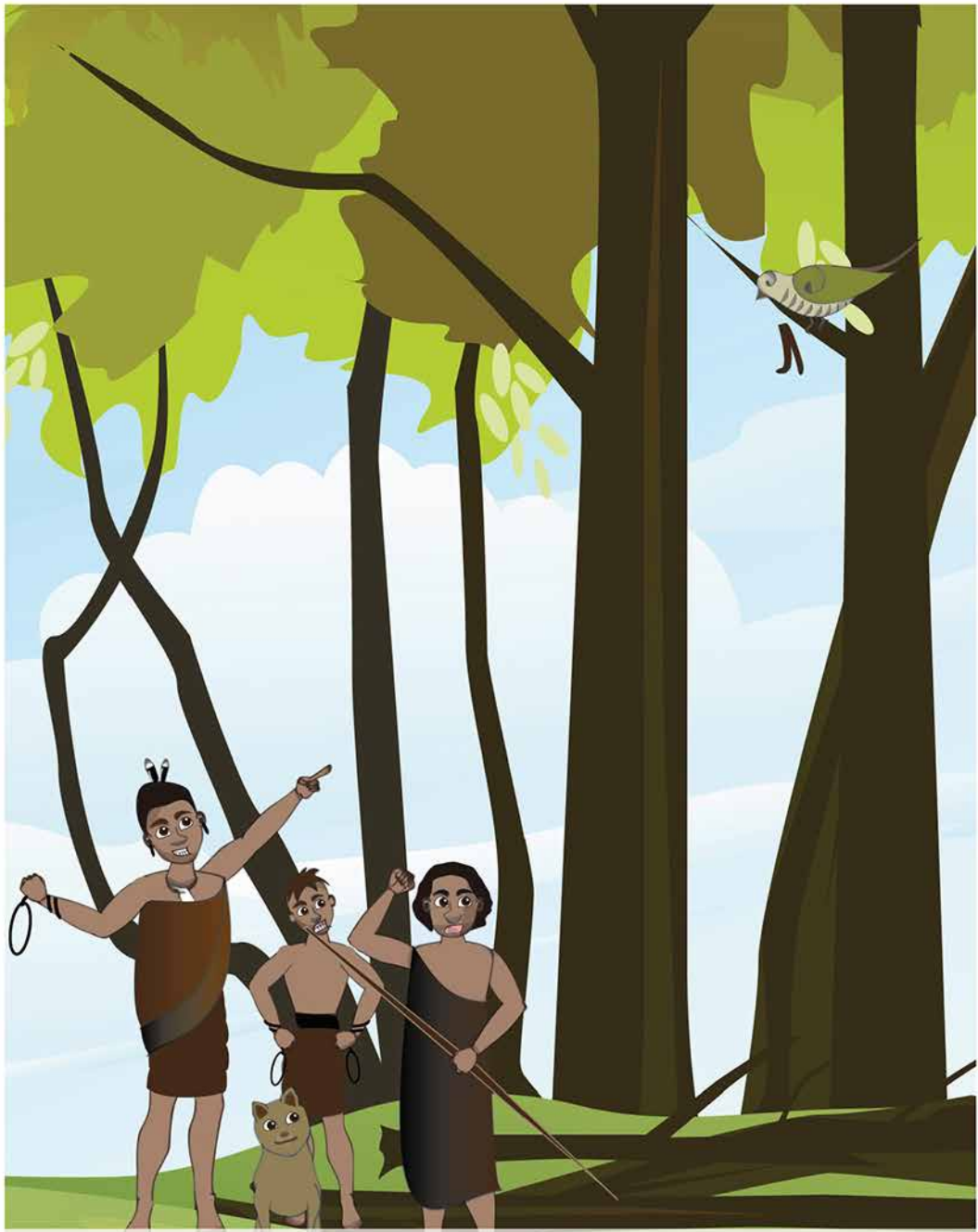


One day, a man arrived, a stranger. It was Tūrongo.





The people were building a house and splitting timber to be used as posts for the new house. Tūrongo went to assist the people as he was skilled at splitting timber and using an axe.



Once he had completed the task he accompanied a group to snare birds in the forest. He was also skilled at snaring.



Māhinaarangi's father, Tūaka, was impressed with Tūrongo's deeds and said to his daughter, 'Tūrongo will make a fine husband for you'. Māhinaarangi looked at Tūrongo and her heart fluttered with excitement. Feelings of affection also arose within Tūrongo for Māhinaarangi. Despite this, the pair did not reveal their desire for one another.



However, each night as Tūrongo would return to his sleeping quarters he would meet a women who wore the sweet scent of the raukawa plant. Tūrongo didn't know it was Māhinaarangi because of the darkness of the night. Time and time again, this would happen each night.

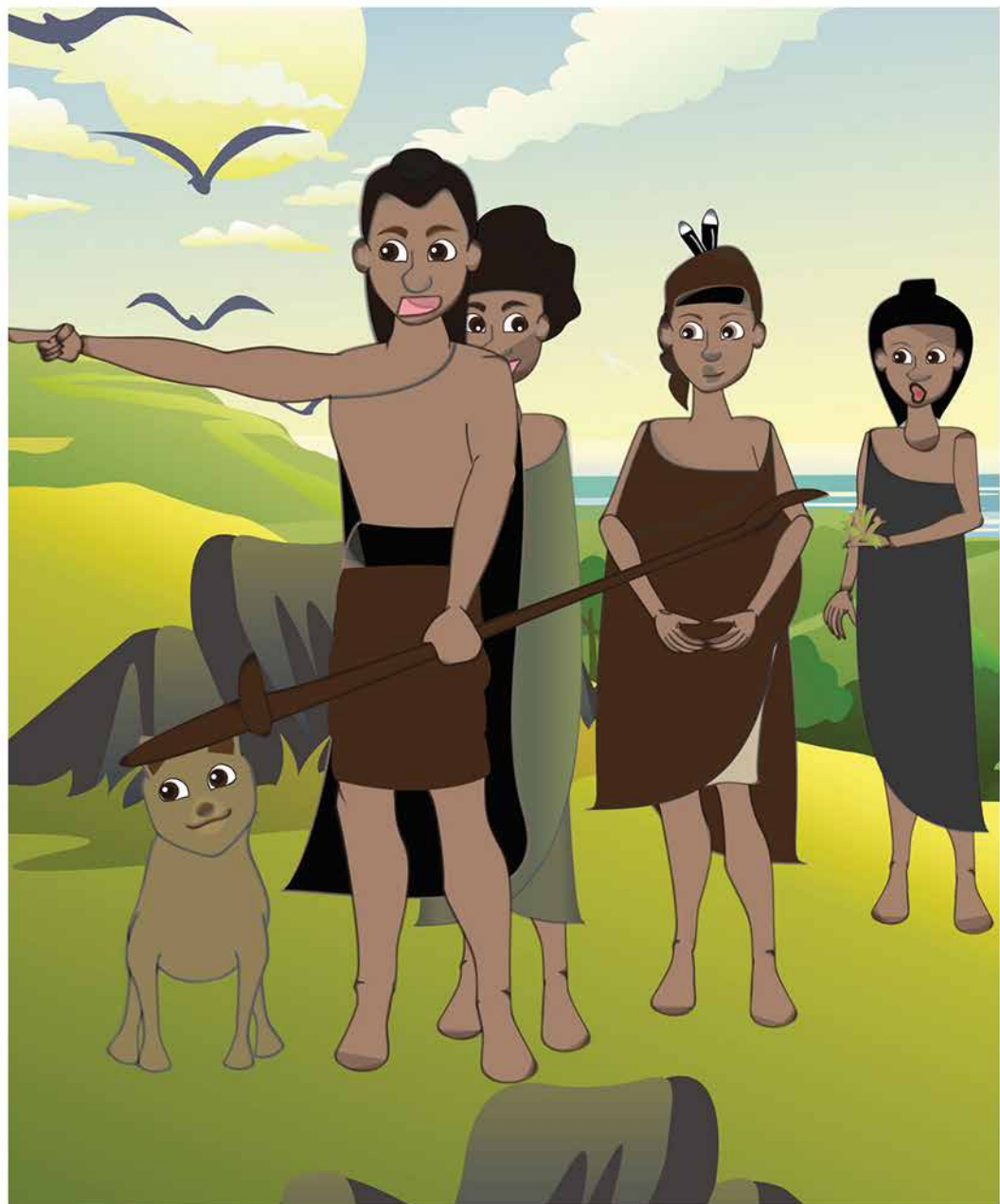




However, one day Tūrongo decided, 'I should go during daylight hours to find out who the raukawa scent belongs to.' And so Tūrongo went, he pretended he was going for a stroll, all the while sniffing the women of the village.



When he approached Māhinaarangi, the sweet scent of the raukawa grew stronger. He moved closer to her, Māhinaarangi then turned to Tūrongo and they embraced one another. The people were overjoyed and Tūaka agreed they should marry.



As time passed, Māhinaarangi became pregnant so Tūrongo returned to his homeland to prepare a home for his new family. But, he left his dog Waitete with Māhinaarangi.

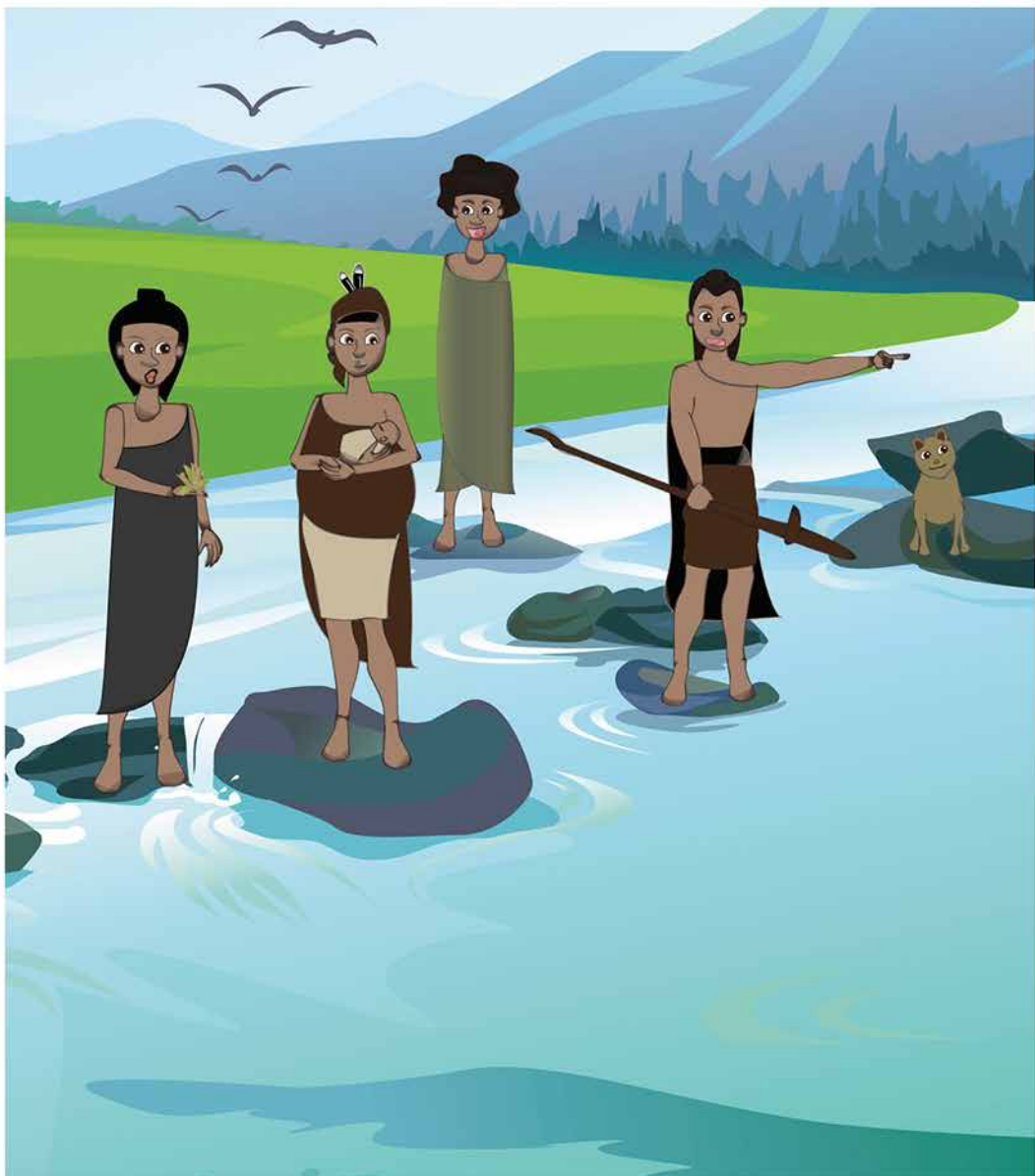


As time lapsed Māhinaarangi and a travel party prepared to journey to Rangīātea, to the home of Tūrongo.





Leaving her home, they travelled through Waikaremoana, through Te Urewera, through Te Moana-a-Toi and through Tauranga Moana. They climbed the eastern ridges of Te Kaokao-roa-o-Pātetere, it was there that Māhinaarangi gave birth to the son of Tūrongo.



It was decided to name the baby after the aromatic scent and the name Raukawa was given. The group continued on, they paused and rested at a particular location and continued on once again. They crossed the Waikato River at Te Kūititanga and eventually arrived at the base of Maungatautari, whilst there they were left behind by Waitete, as he ran to Rangiātea.



When Tūrongo saw his dog he knew Māhinaarangi and the others were near. He followed his dog to where Māhinaarangi, Raukawa and the others were waiting. He arrived at Māhinaarangi and Raukawa, they greeted and embraced each other.

By Paraone Gloyne

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