

TĀNE ME TE WHĀNAU MARAMA

BY MOIRA WAIRAMA

Characters

TĀNE

TANGOTANGO (a brother of Tāne)

WAINUI (wife of Tangotango)

HĪNĀTORE

(phosphorescence)

NGĀ WHETŪ

(stars)

MATARIKI

TE MARAMA

(moon)

TE RĀ

(sun)

22

TANGOTANGO is sleeping. **WAINUI** enters. All other characters except **TĀNE** are waiting at the back of the stage.

WAINUI. Tangotango, e oho! Your brother Tāne is here to see you.

TANGOTANGO. Umm?

WAINUI. Your brother Tāne. He wants to talk to you about our tamariki, te whānau marama.

TĀNE enters.

TĀNE. Kia ora, Tangotango.

Kei te pehea koe?

TANGOTANGO. Kei te pai au.

What do you want, Tāne?

TĀNE. Now that our parents have been separated, we need more light in the world.

TANGOTANGO. What's that got to do with me?

TĀNE. I remembered your beautiful tamariki, the children of light.

TANGOTANGO. You want our tamariki to light up the world?

TĀNE. Just one or two, to put on the chest of our father, Ranginui.

TANGOTANGO. Hmm. Well, it is quite dark, I suppose. All right, then.

(Calls.) Hīnātoke, haere mai.

Go with Tāne.

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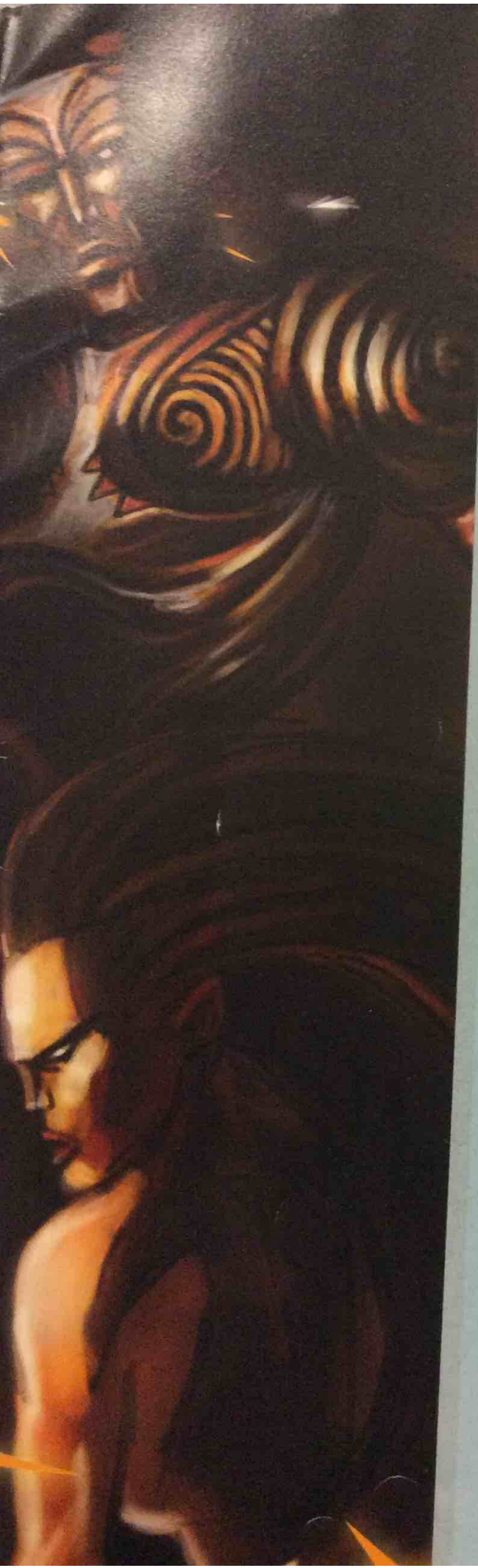
MATARIKI

TE MARAMA

(moon)

TE RĀ

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TANGOTANGO. You want our tamariki to light up the world?

TĀNE. Just one or two, to put on the chest of our father, Ranginui.

TANGOTANGO. Hmm. Well, it is quite dark, I suppose. All right, then. *(Calls.)* Hīnātore, haere mai. Go with Tāne.

TĀNE. Thank you, Tangotango.

TĀNE takes **HĪNĀTORE** and places her in the sky. He looks at her and shakes his head. He goes back to **TANGOTANGO**.

WAINUI (to **TANGOTANGO**). He's back again.

TĀNE. Hīnātoke doesn't shine brightly enough to light the world on her own. Can I have Ngā Whetū?

WAINUI. What? All of them? Even the seven stars of Matariki?

TĀNE. Yes, I need them all to light the world. They will also make our father, Ranginui, look beautiful.

TANGOTANGO. Well, if it's for our father ... (*Calls.*) Haere mai, Whetū ma. Go with Tāne.

TĀNE. Thank you, Tangotango.

TĀNE takes **NGĀ WHETŪ** and **MATARIKI** and places them in the sky.

HĪNĀTORE. Kia ora, Whetū ma. How are our parents?



NGĀ WHETŪ. Kia ora, Hīnātore.

Our parents are well.

TĀNE looks at **NGĀ WHETŪ**

and shakes his head. He

returns to **TANGOTANGO**.

WAINUI. You again? What now?

TĀNE. It's still too dark. And

Ngā Whetū need someone to

look after them. Can I

have Te Marama?

WAINUI. I suppose Ngā Whetū

are trying to knock each

other out of the sky, are they?

TANGOTANGO. Maybe they do need

looking after. (*Calls.*) Haere

mai, Marama. Go with Tāne.

TĀNE takes **TE MARAMA** and

places her in the sky.



TE RĀ. Oh, no! I'll never be close to my brothers and sisters again.

WAINUI. Look, Tangotango. Our tamariki are so beautiful.

TANGOTANGO. Yes. If we want to see them, we only have to look up to Ranginui.

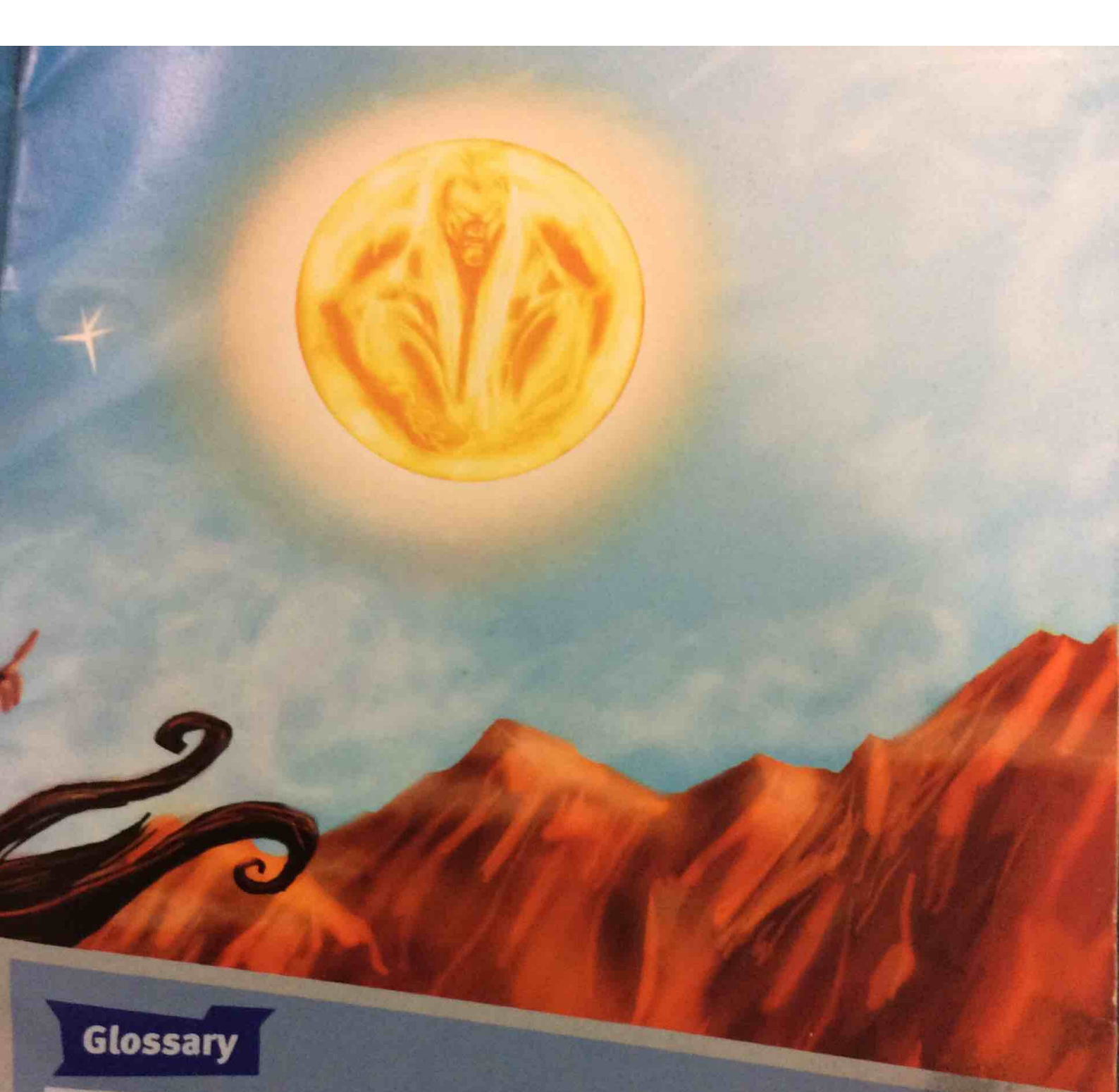
TĀNE. Ka pai. Now we have Te Rā to light the world. And we have Te Marama and Ngā Whetū to make Ranginui look beautiful and to guide the waka across the seas. *(To the audience.)*

Titiro atu ki Te Whānau Marama.

ALL bow.

illustrations by Jacob Luamanuvae





Glossary

e oho!
hīnātore
wainui
ngā whetū
te marama
te rā
te whānau marama

wake up!
phosphorescence
ocean
the stars
the moon
the sun
the children of light