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The tale of the War of the North and the South.

This is the tale of that War. Three days the spirits of the North fought with the spirits of the South (to decide) which side should win. If perhaps the spirits of the Northern side (were to win), then they would be supreme (tau-tacka) upon Tancoa; and if the spirits of the Southern side (were to win), then they would be supreme.

Auriaria was the leader of the spirits of the North, and Tangaroo was the leader of the spirits of the South.

At the beginning of the War, Tabakea said to his child Auriaria, "Come hither, for I shall make thee ready. Put on thy corselet of knotted rope, set thy spiked helmet of fish skin upon thy head, strengthen the mesh of thy corselet, and fasten on a belly piece of the hide of a stingray. Tell all the men of thy side that they are to gather here before dawn, for thou shalt be the leader in this War. Behold! my son, thou shalt be strong on behalf of thy side: my desire is that there shall be none to stand against thee on the side of the South. If thou art wounded, thou shalt return hither, that I may tend thee". Such were the words of Tabakea to his child Auriaria.

But Tabakea had another child, Na Areau, whom Auriaria had never seen. When Tabakea spoke to Auriaria, Na Areau was hidden in a basket which hung under the eaves of their house, and he heard all that Tabakea said.

When Auriaria went away, Na Areau came out of the basket and asked his father, saying, "Whither goes Auriaria?" His father answered, saying, "Sir, that is nothing to thee. Be still: lie down!" After a little, Tabakea went away to watch the War.

Then Na Areau got down out of the basket in which he lay, and went to spy on the War. On the first day the spirits of the Northern side had the victory. When the fighting finished, Na Areau ran ahead and returned to the basket in which he lay,

under the eaves of the house.

On the second day of the war he went again to watch the fighting, and he saw that the Southern side was being beaten, for not a single spirit of that side could guard against the throwing stick of Auriaria when he hurled it. So Na Areau went over to the side of the South and visited it. When he came to the spirits of the South he said, "Men, how goes it now?" They answered, "There is not a single man among us who can catch the throwing stick of the leader of the North". Na Areau said, "Go forward! Give me a throwing stick to hurl at him".

So they set him before their host, and Auriaria saw him from the Northern side. Then Auriaria called aloud, "Sir, dost thou desire to do battle?" He answered, "Yes, I desire it". Auriaria knew not that Na Areau was his brother.

First Auriaria hurled his throwing stick, but when he hurled Na Areau leapt over the stick: behold! he was blown backwards into the third rank of warriors by the great wind of the throwing stick. Then he took the stick in his hand and sped forward again to stand before the host: he hurled back the stick at Auriaria; it smote the spiked helmet of his brother, and he fell.

Auriaria's heart was sore against Na Areau; so he arose and hurled at him a second time. But Na Areau ran forward and leapt over the stick that was hurled at him, and caught it in his hand, and stood. Then he hurled back the stick: it smote the shoulder of Auriaria's corselet. Auriaria fell: he lay on the ground; his right side was wounded. So the people of the North side said, "It is enough. Let us fight here no more until tomorrow dawn".

When the fighting finished, Na Areau hastened back to the house, for he did not wish his going to be known to his father Tabakea. When he lay down in his basket under

the eaves, the spirits of the Northern host came in and spoke among themselves: "Who and whence is that man of the South?" "Where does he live?" "What is his father's name?" And their companions answered, "We know not, but when tomorrow dawns let us ask him these things".

When they were gone, Tabakea went to the basket where Na Areau lay, and said, "Sir, was it thou? Didst thou go and hurl from the Southern side?" He answered, "Yes, that was indeed I". His father said, "Look thou, dost thou not know that the chief of our host is thy brother Auriaria?" Na Areau answered nought.

Then Auriaria entered. He said to his father, "Alas! I nearly died at the hand of a certain spirit of the Southern side. That spirit was never seen before". His father said, "What shape of a man was he?" Auriaria answered, "A tiny one (uangiangi), and sooty black (beororo)". Then Tabakea knew surely that it was his child Na Areau: he said, "Though. Thou shalt not be defeated tomorrow".

When the next day dawned, the side of the North made ready, and so also did the side of the South, for that was the last day of the War. Tabakea took Auriaria apart, where Na Areau could not hear his words, and said, "Look thou, today is the last day of the War. Thou shalt endeavour to secure the victory for thy side of the North. When thou goest into battle, watch for that man: if he again fights for the Southern host, this shall be thy way with him. Do not seek to hurl throwing sticks at him, for he is powerful in magic and cannot be killed by weapons. Only seek to make him laugh. When he laughs thou shalt watch him: he will cover his mouth with his hand; thus shalt thou know him, for he cannot laugh with open mouth: he is ashamed, because his teeth are filthy like black stones, and so he covers his mouth with his hand. When thou seest that such is his way, thou shalt arise and chase him swiftly; and when thou hast caught

him, thrash him, trample upon him, drive him forth from the midst of the host of the South".

At dawn Auriaria arose with his host. And behold! Ha Araou appeared again on the side of the South. When Auriaria saw that man at whose hands he had nearly died the day before, he said to the people of his host, "Look, men. Let us go closer to our enemies. See, the leader of the Southern side, the very man at whose hands I nearly died yesterday. Let us leave him standing and go closer to our other enemies".

Auriaria said again, "On this day we shall reverse our defeat of yesterday. We shall use no fighting today: we shall put on the manner of mad folk, for we shall seek a way of making him laugh, the leader of the Southern side. If he laughs, we shall be victorious".

Auriaria said this remembering the words of his father Tabakea. Then he and his host went forward to the host of the South, but they went not fighting: they went with singing and dancing. And behold! the host of the South saw them, and said, "What is the matter with them?" They said again, "Is this the way to fight a battle? Here are mad folk". They were convulsed with laughter. Most of all laughed the leader of the Southern side, and when he laughed he covered his mouth with his hand.

While Ha Araou was busy at laughing, Auriaria ran forward to catch him; but when he saw Auriaria, he ran towards the house of Tabakea, to seek his hiding place in the basket which hung under the eaves. He entered first into the house and got up into the basket. After him entered Auriaria. Their father Tabakea was in the house before them.

When Auriaria entered, he questioned Tabakea, saying, "Where is that man who entered here before me? Tell me, that I may kill him". Tabakea answered, "My son, I beg

thee not to be angry, for that is thy brother. His name is Na Areau: there he lies in the basket which hangs under the eaves. It is enough. Love him. Anger is over and done".

It was only after this that Auriaria knew that he had a brother named Na Areau. When his father told him about his brother, he went out of the house and returned to the War. He came to his host: he said, "The War is done. That man at whose hands I nearly died yesterday is my own brother: I am heavy-hearted through him". The men of his host said, "Where now is that man?" He answered, "I have left him in our house, him and our father Tabakea".

When he had spoken of Na Areau with his host, Auriaria went to Tangaroo, the leader of the Southern host, and thus spoke he: "The War is now ended. Look thou, thou shalt be supreme in the South: there shalt thou be King". So Tangaroo became King of Tamoia from that time, a mighty name among the Kings of the Southern side (of the world). The Kings of Tamoia to this day are of the family (barones) of Tangaroo of old.

When Auriaria had finished speaking with Tangaroo after the War, the two hosts returned to their sides (of the world). Tangaroo and his host returned to the South, and Auriaria and his host returned to the North.

These were the Leaders of the hosts of the South -

Tangaroo was the King;

Tau-karawa was the giver of judgments;

The old men were Bakatoabe, Ngikoangoo, Rorontika, Na Abave, Romatea, Teatuaburu, Ururua, Doirabe, Teborae, Baitabanga.

These were the Leaders of the hosts of the North -

Auriaria was the King;

Te-iti-ni-karawa was the giver of judgments;

The old men were Tabu-ariki, Riiki, Tabakea, Bakoo, Ningoningo, Nei Tituabine. This was a numerous company,

and all were revered as spirits by our forefathers. There were some among these spirits whose progeny has lived to this day, both in the North and in the South.

As for Na Arcau, when that War was done his father Tabakee said to him, "Thy son, thy brother is angered against thee. It is enough. Go, leave this place. Go to a distant place: look upon chiefs and kings under heaven. Have thy way with them, and exercise thy thought and thy skill upon them. In whatsoever place thou art, be not dismayed at anything, for there is nothing that thou shalt lack and nothing that can slay thee. Fear not a single thing that brings death, for nothing can slay thee. Thou shalt not die at the hand of any giant or spirit under Heaven".

So Na Arcau left, and his brother Auriana was king of the North.