



Ko te Pūrākau o Tipa

Cover Art:

Ko Maukatere toku maunga,
Ko Waimakarere toku awa,
Ko Tuiahiwi toku marae,
Ko Ngāi Tūāhuriri toku hapu,
Ko Ngai Tahu toku iwi,
Ko Aidan Geraghty toku ingoa,

Aiden is a young aspiring artist studying graphic design at Otago Polytech who wanted to contribute to the project because of his drive and appreciation for Māoritanga and his belief that the starting place for human rights should be undeniable equity

Figure 17. The cover to Ko te Pūrākau o Tīpa is a pastel sketch of a young Māori man with feathered top-knot and facial moko beneath which, the silhouette of a solitary figure stands at the back of a carved waka (canoe). A kaihautu, in charge of all of the paddlers.

Ko te Pūrākau o Tipa

Toia te waka (he ha), toia te waka (he ha), ka tahi, ka rua, ka toru, toia ra.

At the back of the waka next to the taurapa stood Tipa, a young excitable tane, with more than a glint of mischief in his eye and energy abound.

It was his turn to navigate the waka to the next island to fish for the whānau and it was his turn to be the kaihautu which meant he was in charge of all the paddlers on the boat. They listened to his calls that would guide the waka to its destination.

Tipa knew like the other young men that being chosen to lead the waka was a wero given to each of them when the time was right and the kaumatua felt they were ready to be tested.

Tipa had been waiting to prove himself to those old wise ones. He wanted them to know he could do this as he had been dreaming about leading his people and being the best navigator he could be. No one in his whānau had done this and he wanted to prove that he could.

Tipa's mum had struggled to look after Tipa when he was a small baby due to Tipa being unwell. She tried but Tipa's illnesses were just too much for her to manage and he was fostered out to an elderly couple they became his Tāua and Poua and they lived in another part of the whenua. Tipa didn't know his father very well so his Poua became his Papa also and taught him respect and whakapapa.

As Tipa grew his troubles became hard to control. He struggled to learn at the kura. He couldn't keep up with the other tamariki, they made fun of him and this made Tipa very angry and very sad. He wanted to play outside and be adventurous he wanted to explore his world not sitting down all day and made to be still. Tipa loved being

with his Poua and going with him to the Marae, attending pōwhiri and tangi. He learnt te reo Māori, tikanga and kawa from his Poua. This made Tipa feel calm and proud.

Tipa's could not contain himself any longer and it was his adventurous side that led Tipa into more mischief, more than he could handle. Tipa entered a darker side of his world

and explored rongoa kino. Tipa thought he could escape some of his challenges by taking rongoa kino and he found out he was wrong when he was captured by another iwi and became their prisoner.

He felt so sad whilst incarcerated, he thought about his life, his whānau and his choices he had made that led to him being captured. He met others like himself who he befriended and they too were trying to improve their lives. Some got into fitness and were an inspiration to Tipa and others he knew he needed to stay away from because they led him into more danger.

When Tipa's Poua passed away his world came tumbling down. Tipa found it hard to live when the person he considered his toka (rock) had left through the tatau pōhutakawa. But in the depths of his pouritanga (sadness) he remembered what his Poua told him and that was to honour his whakapapa. Keep learning his Māori and tautoko his whānau. Kia kaha, kia maia, kia toa!

Tipa has started his mission to join his mother and spend time with her. He is ready to reunite and cherish her as a mother and improve his relationships with his siblings. They are a little wary of Tipa and his past, but he wants to let them know he is ready for new adventures but this time these adventures involve looking after his tinana, his hinengaro, his whānau and ultimately his wairua.

Tipa has struggled with relationships: with his parents, his brothers and sisters and with partners. He is open to new relationships with other people like himself that have some challenges in life and those who have less challenges. He loves meeting people and getting close and intimate with them if they do too. The thought of having little Tipa's running around excites him and scares him at the same time. Oh the things he can teach them about life, whakapapa and being Māori. Tū ihi, tū wehi, tū mana!

Tipa is now in charge of the waka, guiding his crew to the next destination. Calling the commands and feeling in control as the upcoming kaihautu!

Toia te waka, he ha, toia te waka, he ha! Ka tahi, ka rua, ka toru, toia ra!