

Sixth Sense



grrrr
what is this
i hear in my ear
voices I've not heard before
a strange tongue
death and war
in the winds of time
te ao hurihuri
the world turns
what is this
sailing towards me
across the sea
i stand on the shore
i am unsure
i am Te Kurī a Pawa

Apirana Taylor

Note: Pawa was a Ngāti Porou explorer. His name can also be spelt Paoa.

“6th Sense” is one of four paintings by Steve Gibbs that feature in “A Hoe!”
(*School Journal*, Level 2, June 2018).

The paintings are about the first meeting between Māori and Europeans, which took place at Turanganui-a-Kiwa/Gisborne in 1769. This poem is Apirana Taylor’s response to the painting.

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by Apirana Taylor

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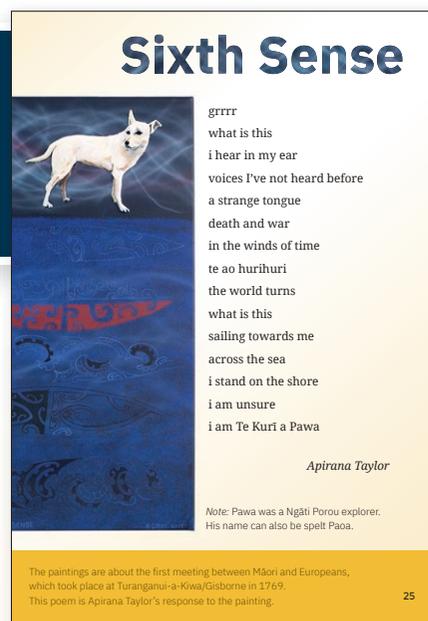
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