

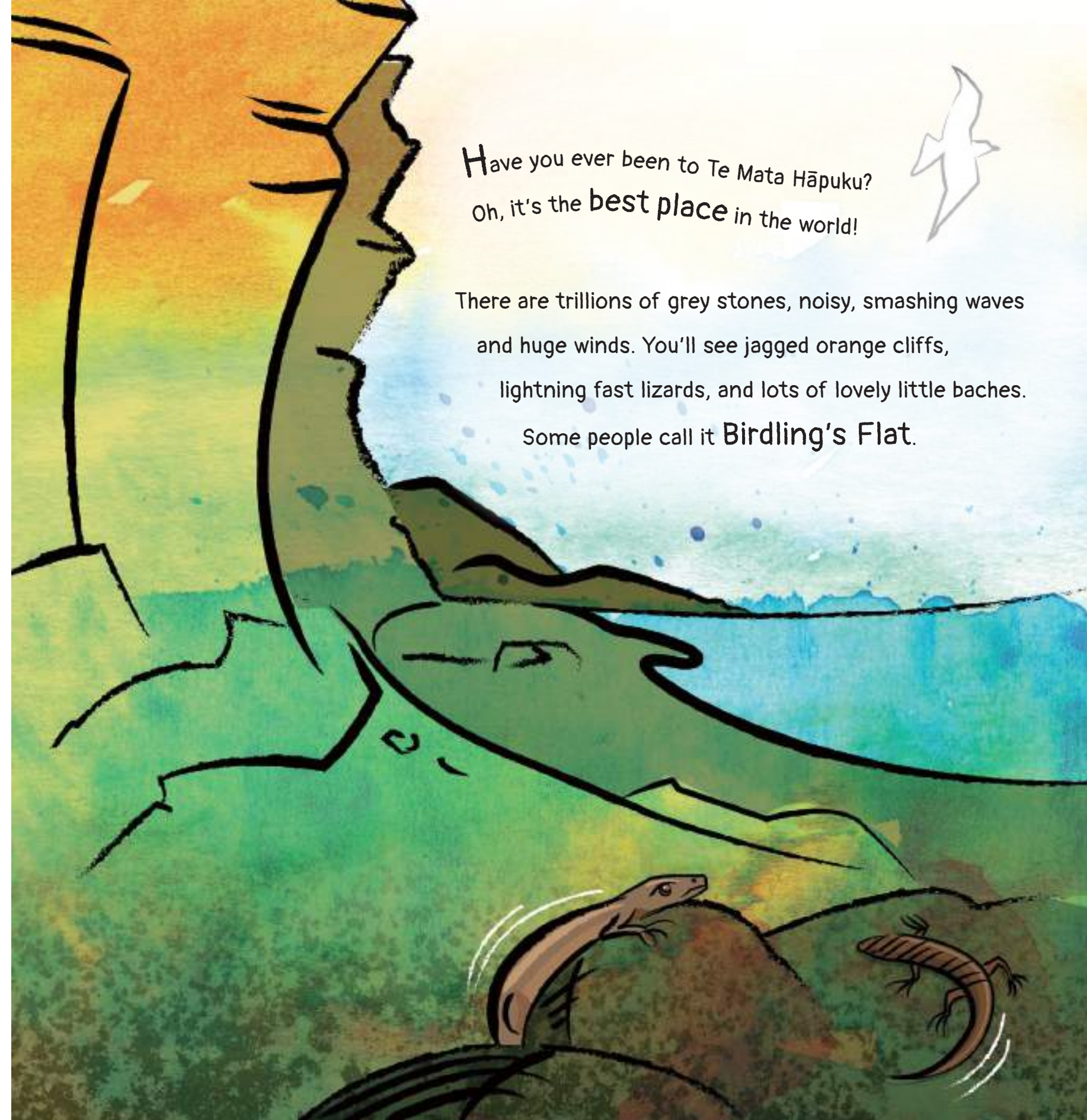
The **KAI STARS** of  
**MATARIKI**  
TUPUĀNUKU and TUPUĀRANGI



Written by  
**MIRIAMA KAMO**

Illustrated by  
**ZAK WAIPARA**

**SCHOLASTIC**  
AUCKLAND SYDNEY NEW YORK LONDON TORONTO  
MEXICO CITY NEW DELHI HONG KONG



Have you ever been to Te Mata Hāpuku?  
Oh, it's the **best place** in the world!

There are trillions of grey stones, noisy, smashing waves  
and huge winds. You'll see jagged orange cliffs,  
lightning fast lizards, and lots of lovely little baches.  
Some people call it **Birdling's Flat**.



Te Mata Hāpuku is a magical, wild, windy place,  
famous for its kai, but there are no shops there.



“Who needs shops?” Grandma says. “The kai is all around us!”

Te Rerehua and Sam often visit Grandma and Pōua in their **tumbly** little house  
at Te Mata Hāpuku. It’s right next to a **big lake** – Te Roto o Wairewa. Even though  
the lake is shallow and silent, it’s very busy beneath the glassy surface.





At night, the children and their grandparents wrap up warmly. Into the **wailing**  
**wind** they head, shining torches and **crunching** across stones to the lakeside.

There, beneath the glittering stars, they hook out eels with their gaffs.  
Before long, the stony, shallow pit is full of **sliding, slippery** eels.  
The next day, Pōua will hang them in the whata to dry in the wind.

*They're* **so delicious.**





One night, when they went eeling, Grandma, Te Rerehua and Sam lay on the stones looking up at the masses of stars upon stars. Grandma sighed happily. "It'll be a longer night of eeling than usual, tamariki mā. Matariki is just a few months away, so we need to stock up and get ready for our Matariki feast."

*"Ooo, a feast!" Te Rerehua exclaimed, her eyes shining.  
"What's the Matariki feast for?"*

"Matariki is when we stop our mahi and focus on whānau," Grandma said.

"We plan for the future and give thanks for all our blessings."

*"Like chocolate and cake?" suggested Sam.*

Grandma laughed. "Kāo. I mean like each other. And we thank the Matariki kai stars. Last Māori New Year we focused on Waitī and Waitā, but this year we're thanking two special stars for all the kai that comes from the earth and the sky."

