



The **STOLEN STARS** of **MATARIKI**

MIRIAMA KAMO
ZAK WAIPARA



Debut from Miriama Kamo –
A Matariki story

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Printing	Full colour
Binding	Hardback/Paperback
Format	250 x 240 mm
Extent	32 pp
Age	3-7 years
Lexile	Read aloud

Behind dusty orange hills, where the sky stretches down to the sea, there's a magical, wild, windy place called Te Mata Hāpuku.

Sam and Te Rerehua love to visit their Grandma and Pōua at Te Mata Hāpuku (aka Birdling's Flat). They like to collect agate from the famous gemstone beach and go eeling late at night with their grandparents. While lying on the stony banks looking up at the stars, Grandma tells the children stories, with a backdrop of whipping wind, flashing torchlight, and the splash of Pōua's gaff in the water.

But one night, Grandma notices something mysterious. Someone has stolen some stars from the sky. And then the patupaiarehe come out to play on the beach ...

Can Sam and Te Rerehua save the Matariki stars?

- Miriama Kamo is an award-winning journalist and well-known TV newsreader and presenter of TVNZ current affairs programmes *Sunday* and *Marae*
- This magical story is inspired by childhood memories of holidays with her grandparents
- Kamo writes a lyrical tale of haunting beauty, matched with the atmospheric illustrations of Zak Waipara
- In a quirky twist, when Scholastic asked Zak to illustrate this book, they discovered he was already familiar with the remote Birdling's Flat, having visited there as a child with his family, and that his brother, the renowned musician Tama Waipara, is a dear friend of Miriama's!
- Some think that in Māori tradition the Matariki constellation originally comprised nine stars, rather than the seven usually associated with the constellation (also known as Pleiades or The Seven Sisters)
- Also available in Te Reo Māori edition

Miriama Kamo is an award-winning journalist. She is the anchor of TVNZ's flagship current affairs programme *Sunday* and Māori current affairs programme *Marae*. Miriama has worked on many of TVNZ's key programmes including *1 News* at 6 as a newsreader. She is also a keen writer who is published in *Metro*, *NZ Herald* and *The Spinoff* and is currently trying her hand at writing a screenplay. Miriama and husband Mike are proud parents of Sam and Te Rerehua. This is her first book with Scholastic NZ.

Zak Waipara

A former *NZ Herald* graphic artist and HOD of Animation at Animation College, Zak Waipara (Rongowhakaata, Ngati Porou, Ngati Ruapani, Ngati Kahungunu) is now Digital Media lecturer at AUT. He has worked as a designer for Māori Television's children's show *Miharo*, illustrated comics and a range of books, and created animated music videos. He is the illustrator of *Horeta and the Waka* (Scholastic NZ). Born in Milton, in the South Island, Zak now lives in Auckland.


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