

# Dr. 'Imihaku Saves the Climate

By Kumakani R.

*Imagine a place where there are no people, only a few small animals, and very little plants live. The different elements of the climate are fighting. Wherever the elements are fighting almost nothing lives. There is too much salt in the ocean and the water is too hot, so all the fish died. The earth is hard with ice and no plants can grow. The climate has changed since the elements starting fighting. When the elements move they leave behind destroyed environment. Battle after battle they just keep moving on and on hurting the environment. Soon the battle got worse and everything was dead - all the people, all the animals, and all the plants.*

*Night and ice teamed up and are fighting sand and sun. Night makes everything dark and cold so ice can form. Sun makes sand hot so the sand melts the ice. Ocean and rain teamed up and are fighting wind and earth. Rain makes everything wet and the ocean makes the battlefield flood. Wind and earth makes a tornado that sucks up all the water in the rain and ocean.*

This is the vision that Dr. 'Imihaku saw. 'Imihaku is the son of the chief and he is also a doctor. He has visions that always turn out to be true. He is a tall man and very strong. His vision says that this will spread to Hawai'i and he is frightened because he has a deep love of his land and the people. His parents and his grandparents taught him about aloha 'āina. Aloha 'āina means giving love to the land and the people that come from it. Dr. 'Imihaku wants to save Hawai'i, so he decides to go on a journey to the battlegrounds he saw in his vision.

Dr. 'Imihaku gets in his wa'a and uses his vision to find the battleground. Once he gets there all is gray and smoke is arising from the ground. He decides to look around the battle grounds. After a while he finds a couple of huts, but most of them had been burnt down. He goes in the biggest that is still standing and in the hut are books. He opens the book and it says,

*“Find eight purple stones for  
the climate to survive; fail  
to do so  
and the climate will eat you alive;  
first clue to you will find where  
the sun does not shine.”*

Dr. 'Imihaku thinks about this for a long time. Then finally he discovers the answer. “It's Antarctica!,” he says to himself. He jumps back into his wa'a and paddles to Antarctica.

As he paddles towards Antarctica he sees some wandering albatross flying in the sky so he knew he was close. Farther away sees a lot of ice and he sees a lot of animals swimming by his wa'a like sea lions, leopard seals, elephant seals, and killer whale. He goes on the land and finds a scientific consensus field camp filled with scientists. He tells the scientists about the climate and the war between night and ice with the elements. They agree because they have seen the large icebergs begin to melt. He shares how he needs to find eight stones to bring peace.

One of the scientists says, "hey, I know where a purple stone might be . . . in South Georgia." As they paddle towards South Georgia, Dr. 'Imihaku sees a penguin sitting on a purple stone. He yells out "There it is!" As they climb the icy bank they get closer to the purple stone. They tip toe to the penguin who is sitting on the purple stone and then they quickly grab the purple stone, climb back on their wa'a, and paddle back to the field camp. They carefully turn over the stone around revealing the next clue.

*"A tower once stood straight And  
now on this date  
Behind the city gates  
It tilts as tourists photograph their fate"*

Dr. 'Imihaku thinks and all of a sudden he comes up with an answer. He says, "It's the Leaning Tower of Pisa!" So, the scientists bid him farewell and give him a binoculars to help him find the next purple stone. Dr. 'Imihaku jumps back into his wa'a and paddles north towards Mediterranean Sea. After what seems like days Dr. 'Imihaku arrives on the shores of Livorno. Here he finds a yacht harbor and talks with the locals. He shares what he knows about climate change and the war. One man tells of giant flood that happened last year. The Navicelli Canale from Livorno to Pisa flooded causing lots of damage. He agrees to help Dr. 'Imihaku by taking him to Pisa on his yacht. They attach his wa'a to the yacht and head to Pisa.

When they get to Pisa it is so crowded. Lots of tourists are in the Campo Dei Miracoili (Square of Miracles) taking pictures. Dr. Imihaku takes out his binoculars and searches over the Leaning Tower of Pisa until he finds a purple stone embedded in the archway above one of the bells on the top story. Dr. Imihaku climbs up the Leaning Tower of Pisa stairs until he reaches the top and sneaks up towards the bell to snatch the purple stone. Turning the stone over he reads,

*"Here the aurora borealis  
As seen from an ice palace  
Make sure you have no malice  
And look for it in the chalice"*

Dr. 'Imihaku knew right away that the next stone would be in Sweden. He had heard about the beautiful ICEHOTEL in Jukkasjarvi. As Dr. 'Imihaku headed back out on his wa'a he said "addio!"

to his local friend. As a parting gift his friend gave him a chisel so that Dr. 'Imihaku could chip out the next stone from the ICEHOTEL!

The air got colder and colder as he paddled up to Sweden. Dr. 'Imihaku paddled through Gibraltar and around the European continent up to Norway before heading inland to Sweden. Jukkasjarvi is in the norther part of Sweden hear a waterway called Tornetrask. He had to pull his wa'a across the land in some areas, but the land had a lot of water.

As he got closer to Jukkasajarvi he came across a tall man with blond hair who stared at his wa'a. He man called out to him and asked him how his wa'a was made. He explained that he was an ice sculptor and he had never seen a wa'a like Dr. 'Imihaku's. He wanted to know how it was carved. Dr. 'Imihaku shared that once a tree is selected in the mountains of Hawai'i it is rough shaped near where they cut it down. Then it is taken back to the village to be curved, carved into the different sections, and attached together. Dr. 'Imihaku's new friend was intrigued and asked if he could join him for a ride. Dr. 'Imihaku agreed and asked if he knew where the ICEHOTEL was. His new friend became excited and said in a proud voice, "Of course, I sculpt several of the rooms there!"

The two set off on their journey down the Tornetrask towards the ICEHOTEL. Finally, arriving a couple of hours later. Dr. 'Imihaku remembered the clue - that he would find it in a chalice. So, he asked his friend where he could find a chalice in the ICEHOTEL. His new friend knew right away that it would be in the bar. At the ICEHOTEL they have a bar where they serve drinks in cups made of ice! Sure enough, they found the purple stone right away. It was lodged in a giant chalice. Dr. 'Imihaku had to use his chisel to get it out. Turning over the stone he read,

*"The birthplace of humankind  
Hyenas, cheetahs, lions in a park  
This is where you're sure to find  
A stone hidden under an arch"*

One of the great things about Dr. 'Imihaku was that he loved to read and watch animal documentaries. So, he immediately knew where to find these animals in a park. He set off to Tanzania for the Serengeti National Park. Now he happened to know that the Serengeti National Park had a "Welcome Arch." He said adjo to his friend, who wished him well on his journey to Africa by giving him a flashlight to help him find the next stone.

Dr. 'Imihaku jumped in his wa'a and paddled back through the Tornetrask, down the Atlantic Ocean, around the Horn of Africa, up through the Mozambique Channel to get to Tanzania. He landed at Tanga and needed to find a way to get to the Serengeti National Park on the other side of the country. So, he made friends with a man who works at the Serengeti and was

vacationing in Tanga. The kind man let Dr. 'Imihaku keep his wa'a at his vacation home and drove him to the Serengeti National Park.

The way to the Serengeti National Park was bumpy and hot. Many hours later they arrived at the Serengeti Welcome Arch where Dr. 'Imihaku took out his flashlight to look at every nook and cranny. He finally put his light on an area that gave off a sparkle. Looking more closely he saw it was purple. It was the stone! He turned it over and it read,

*"Another clue you will find  
Hidden beneath sand so fine  
All you need is to use your mind  
Where to go you must divine"*

Now Dr. Imihaku had a hard time with this clue. He knew that he had to go to a desert, but which one? His friend suggested that he meditate to find the answer. Something clicked in Dr. 'Imihaku's mind and he blurted out, "the Gobi desert!" The Khamar Monastery was in the middle of the Gobi desert in Mongolia. Dr. 'Imihaku thanked his friend greatly and when they returned to Tanga, his new friend gave him a shovel.

Dr. 'Imihaku got back into his wa'a and paddled to the Yellow Sea where he landed near Beijing. In Beijing he met a professor who studied climate change, and immediately understood Dr. 'Imihaku's mission. The professor guided Dr. 'Imihaku through China to Mongolia where they found the Khamar Monastery. At the Monastery they asked the first monk they found if they ever saw a purple stone. The monk replied that near the statute of Buddah he once saw a purple stone like what Dr. 'Imihaku described, but there was a sand storm that covered it up years ago. Luckily, Dr. 'Imihaku had the shovel that his Tanzanian friend gave him and he was able to dig up the purple stone. Turning it over he read,

*"In a land of forests and trees  
Get there before it's all chopped down  
Near the birds, monkeys, and bees  
By the Meeting of the Waters town"*

The professor got excited after reading this clue and told Dr. 'Imihaku that this could only be the Amazon forest. Near the town Manaus in Brazil was an area called the Meeting of the Waters. This is where the Rio Negro and the Amazon River met. The Rio Negro consisted of blackwaters and was dark, while the Amazon River is light with whitewater giving the area its special name. Dr. 'Imihaku thanked the professor for his help before getting in his wa'a. The professor gave Dr. 'Imihaku some scuba diving gear so that he could find the stone in the Meeting of the Waters.

Dr. 'Imihaku paddled across the Pacific Ocean, through the Panama Canal, and down to Brazil. When he reached Brazil he was able to find the entrance to the Amazon River and he paddled down the river until he got to Manaus, which was near the Meeting of the Waters. There he met travel guide who had just finished showing a tourist couple the area. Dr. 'Imihaku shared his mission and the travel guide immediately understood. He shared that he was noticed lots of changes in the rainfall, temperature, and water levels of the rivers.

The travel guide said he knew of an area right near the Meeting of the Waters where there were lots of colored stones. He wasn't sure if there was a purple one, but he thought it would be a good place to start. Dr. 'Imihaku agreed and when they arrived Dr. 'Imihaku put on his scuba diving gear and took his flashlight, which turned out to be waterproof, and dove into the water. He easily found the area with the colorful rocks. Most of the rocks were red, orange, and yellow, but one was purple. Dr. 'Imihaku picked up the rock and took it back up to the surface where he and his travel guide friend read it. It said,

*“On an island of great size  
Nestled in a shire house  
Near middle earth’s great prize  
You will discover it in a blouse”*

Dr. 'Imihaku had been to this place before. It was Hobbiton in New Zealand, one of his happiest childhood memories. So, he said good-bye to his travel guide friend and returned to his wa'a. Before he left his friend gifted him some pipe-weed to share with any Hobbits he came across. The trip to New Zealand was a long one, but Dr. 'Imihaku finally arrived. He immediately headed to Hobbiton just outside of the city of Hamilton.

Upon arriving at Hobbiton he met an actor portraying Bilbo Baggins. This actor was totally in character. He got super excited when Dr. 'Imihaku shared about climate change, so Dr. Imihaku gave him some pipe-weed to calm him down. The actor was then able to remember that in Bilbo's hobbit-hole he saw a purple stone lodged near the fireplace. So, off the two of them went to find the stone. Once he found the stone, Dr. 'Imihaku turned it over and it read:

*“Aoetaroa’s original people  
Say they come from this land  
You’ll find the stone on the face in steeple  
Where Ka’ahumanu used to stand”*

As he read these words Dr. 'Imihaku smiled. Like many stories of his people he realized that he had to go back to where he started. So, off to the Hawaiian islands he went. His actor friend wished him well and gave him a kukui, a plant that Hawaiians originally brought to Hawai'i on their wa'a, to plant when he reached Hawai'i. Kukui nuts were used for their oil to provide light

and are a symbol of gaining knowledge. Dr. 'Imihaku thanked his friend and jumped his wa'a to head home.

When Dr. 'Imihaku returned to Hawai'i he headed to Kawaiha'o church, where Queen Ka'ahumanu used to hold her women's prayer meetings. Dr. 'Imihaku knew that Kawaiha'o church had a steeple with a clock face on the sides. Sure enough, he found that there was a purple stone near where the clock keepers set their equipment to keep the clock running smoothly. The stone read:

*“Now that you have all eight Join  
them together  
The product will be great  
And peace will shine in the weather”*

Dr. 'Imihaku pulled out the other seven stones and pieced them together. It made a perfect circle that lite up brightly when it came together. A blinding light spread and knocked Dr. 'Imihaku out. Before he came to Dr. 'Imihaku had a vision. He saw that the elements were no longer fighting. In fact, the deserted land that he saw before was now lush and green filled with animals and humans living side-by-side. Plants were growing everywhere – on the farms, on the tops of building, and near the sidewalk. Animals had enough space to roam and people no longer had to worry about clean drinking water or having enough to eat. It seemed that the future had changed. Dr. 'Imihaku had met people across the globe who shared his vision of a peaceful future where we put the 'āina (land) first. The friends he made each educated the people they came across and before you knew it a movement started.

When Dr. 'Imihaku woke up he felt relieved. He took his final gift, a kukui plant, to his home and planted it. To him this represented his effort to malama 'āina. It is in these simple acts of caring for the 'āina that a true difference will be made on climate change.

---- The End . . . *or is it?*