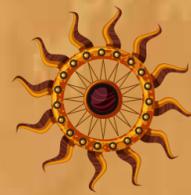




THE LEGEND OF AMAITÉ & KAKNAB



Our ancestors said that a long time ago, the Gods of the Mayab joined their hearts in order to give life to the most beautiful maid. She was so beautiful that no men could look into her face without going blind. Gods called her Amaité, meaning “heaven’s face”.

Amaité was filled with enormous love for all creation, yet she felt great sorrow within her soul as there was no being that could devotedly love her, as only Gods could actually look at her. So every night, Amaité used to walk through the jungles and beaches so she could enjoy all the beautiful things Gods had created.

One night, a man named Kaknab got lost in the way. Disoriented in the darkness of the jungle he started to sing an ancient melody his grandparents taught him to find his way through the dark, and find his way back home. Kaknab had been blessed by the Gods with a drop of honey in his throat, making his singing sweet and soft.

Amaité heard the song and hid in silence in order not to be seen. This strange melody was like a dream, so she uncovered her face to see where the song was coming from. Kaknab was very surprised when he saw a burst of light illuminating everything from the top of the Ceiba to the very depths of the cenotes. Fearful, he hid himself in the trees.

Next morning when Kaknab woke up, he couldn’t forget about the beauty he saw. So he started singing a love melody thinking of the light he had seen last night. When the God of Wind listened to his song he took the melody in his hands and carried it to Amaité’s ears, she cherished the song so deep that an unusual dot appeared in the sky.

Every night Kaknab would deliver his song in the hands of the God of Wind and a new dot would bright in the sky. Grateful for such lovely gifts Amaité asked the God of Water to bring a kiss to the mysterious singer. Sitting on the seashore Kaknab saw a bright spot appearing in the water and when he grabbed it an explicable feeling filled his heart.

Gods knew love between Kaknab and Amaité was true, so they gave them their blessing. The God of Water took Kaknab’s hand guiding him through the horizon, as he traversed the waters he left a bright wake behind him until he disappeared in that place where the sky and sea seem to merge, and there he could meet with his beloved Amaité. From that day on, Amaité shows her face in the skies and the path Kaknab followed to find his loved one can be seen in the sea.

Welcome to Mvngata, meaning “The path of light the moon reflects on the water.”

