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TOPIC: SUPERNATURAL HAPPENINGS.

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INTERVIEWEED: SAIASI NABUTA.....NAILAGA,BA.

SUBJECT: STRANGE HAPPENINGS.

I was alive then and I could understand when a strange thing happen in Wailoku(6 miles from Suva town). There were 3 old man from the Mataqali(clan) of Marata who were drinking grog in Wailoku. One was Maukani, the other was Haioke and the the third is Bili. They were drinking grog early one morning in a bure. When the bowl of grog is given to Haioke, before drinking the yaqona he spoke out saying that the spirit of Nakauvadra should look down on them and give them good health. After speaking he drank the grog the other two sitting there said that they dont believe in what Haioke is saying. One of two old man was teasing Haioke of what he had justsaid. Shortly after their first bowl, Haioke said for them to have the second bowl. When his turn came to drink, he spoke out to Maukani and Bili saying tha he will call upon the spirits of Nakauvadra so the spirits could give some signs or indication to show to the two old men sitting there who does not believe in him. After his short speech Haioke drank his bowl of grog. Not long after he finished his bowl of yaqona there was a very heavy rain. The streams started to overflow and the water level started to raise incredibly. Not long , Wailoku was flooded with water. People left

their homes and escape to houses on hilltops.

Two women from the village who wanted to escape to the hilltop was stopped by Haioke who says that they must stay around and witness the visitors who is about to come from Nakauvadra.

Not long, twelve big sharks are seen swimming towards the bure. They came in order, the big one first, the other one, until the smallest at last. When the smallest one of them enter the house where we were then, the rain suddenly stop. The shapks went back and the water level decreases incredibly. Not long, there was no flood and everything dird up and everything seemed to be at normal again. Seeing what had happen, the two old men drinking with Hauake, believed what their friend had said.

I was at Caubati(5 miles from Suva), when this thing happened. There was an old couple, man and wife who came as visitors and stayed in Caubati in the house of Mela. This old couple practices the VAKADRAUNIKAU or BULU DRAUNIKAU. This is a kind of practice where a spell is casted and a bottle is burried for your sake. In this bottle, you can find pieces of masi, hair, oil and leaves. This bottle is burried by the devil of the spell sender. In fact, the death should occur after four days or when the bottle breaks. The two burried bottles of Draunikau(leaves)from one end of the village, alter=ernatively, to the other end of the village.

There was an old guy by the name of Tomasi. During that night, Tomasi told two of his companion to bring down his small TANO(A(bowl) so they could drink some grog. Before they finish their drinking of yaqona, the two old couples which

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practices VAKADRAUNIKAU enter Tomasi's house. They came inside without saying a word and sit at one side of the house. Something perculiar about this old couples is that they were naked when they entered the house.

Tomasi told one of his friend, Rosa to go and call all the elders in the village. So all the old people of Caubati came to Tomasi's house.

Each one who entered Tomasi's house were shocked to see the naked couples sitting there. At first sight, they thought that they were devils. I was lucky to be there too. When everybody were present at the house, Tomasi said that they shoud witness what they had seen. This are the couples who practice witchcraft in the village, killing the villagers.

When everything was quite in the house, Tomasi slam his hand on the mat infront of the old couples. At that moment the old couple came to their sense and were shocked at the situation they were in. They were shocked to realise that they were sitting naked infront of the village elders. They were really uneasy sitting naked in a house full of people. Tomasi spoke out saying that what they were trying to do will not be sucessfull because the spirit or devil they are worshipping is not as powerful as his. Tomasi said he intended to to send his spirit to kill the both of them by the doesn't want to do any killing. Tomasi said the only punishment for them to do is to dig up the burried spell bottles early the next morning.

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The two couples sat there in the house naked and shy ,then clothes were brought to them. After they had dressed, they were told they can now leave. Early the next morning there was no sight of the two couple. They must have left the village that night full of embarassment. The next morning the spokesman of the village, called out and annouce that every house should be close from 6 o'clock to 7 o'clock No windows or doors is to be opened. Within that hour we could hear big BANGS one after the other. This is when the bottles of spells exploded. After 7 o'clock the doors were allowed to be opened again.

When we walk around the village we could see bottles and leaces lying here and there. Big trees, where we used to sit died because the bottle was burried under it. Many usefull tree died because all its leaves just fell off this is due to the spell cast to them.

Tomasi is also one of a Fijian doctor. He serve or worship a spirit of war or Tevoro Ni Valu. He also cures the sick. To know what kind of sickness you have, he'll hold out a leaf by the name of VASIII which is really soft after taking out all its fibres. He will ask all sorts of question about the sickness in you to the leaf. If he ask a question and the soft crumbled leaf stoad erected and shakes it means that the question being asked is true and the answer is yes. Now and then if the leaf falls then the answer is no. and the question asked is wrong.

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It is really shocking to see the messy soft and crumbled leaf stands erect. If the reason of your sickness is known by the leaf, Tomasi will send you to take some yaqona and ask the forgiveness of a particular person who is responsible for your sickness.

In the olden days there is also a Drauni Ka (leaf power) for dance or Meke. This power will give you good voice to sing and help you to perform superbly. As a result of this Draunikau, women were terribly seduced and follow you everywhere.

There is also a Draunikau to aid you in your stealing. When you got this power for stealing, you'll go to the concern house in a manner as if you were one of the member of the household. You'll go to the door and knock and call the name of the owner of the house will come to open the door for you. Unconscious the owner of the house will come and open the door, you'll ask him where he hid his key or money or safe or whatever you want. Without knowing he will point out to you where his key was. You'll go to that place, take the key out and open the safe or case thus taking out all the money. After taking out the money, you close the safe again and place the key to where it was before. When you'll come outside of the house, ask the owner of the house to close the door again. When you go outside, the owner of the house will be there ask him to close the door behind you.

The next morning when the owner of the house goes and check his money, it is lost. He just couldn't guess how come the money is lost when he was soundly sleeping in the house. He

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just couldn't believe it that a man must have entered his house. This is how the power of the Draunikau (leaf) works.

At one time we were preparing a meke(dance). Come a time when we were supposed to SEVU(publicly show) our meke. We killed one big cow as our offering or MAGITI for the Sevu of our Meke. All the ceremony of the sevu was done in the house. Then the time comes for us to go outside and perform the meke. An old man by the name of Tomu Mateyawa was sitting on the door way. I was the last to go outside. As I reached the door the old man approached me, giving me some leaves to chew and said that the leaves would help me in singing. He also said the leaves would show or indicate or differentiate the married women from the young rosy women.

As the Meke(dance) was in progress I could see that some girls were crying. Looking closely at them, I could figure out that only the young rosy women are crying and not the married women. The married women just sat there and watch but the young ones kept on weeping. I just don't know what was happening.

The sun was setting when the Sevu was in progress. I was singing the solo part of the son and others were following. It seems to me that the meke I was singing must be really touching because all the young nice looking girls were crying except for the married one. After this a messenger came and told me that one of the dancing young girls wants to talk to me(as a girl friend) I said yes to the messenger, after a short while another boy came to me again as a messenger saying that another girl in the dancing group wants to have an appoin-

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-tment with me that afternoon. After this another messenger pinched me on the side saying that another young girl in the dancing group wants to have an appointment with me that night. Boy! That night I had three girls in a row. I felt something must be wrong somewhere. My mind went back to the old man sitting at the door, the one who gave me the leaves to chew. So I was told to take some grog to this old man's house and ask him to take back the power his given to me through chewing the leaves. The next day I took some yaqona and went up to this particular old man's house. When I was coming closer to the house I could see him sitting at his favorite place, that is at the door smiling at me. As I approached him he smiled up to me and said, "-Are you happy with it?" I smiled back, saying within me, Old man that is too much again, three girls in a row, not knowing them well and I believe I must have cheated them.

I presented the yaqona to him and ask him to take the leaf power back. This leaves are for getting any girl you want. Weather she's pretty or from a high class or clan when you aim for her chewing this leaves you'll get you target. The leaves the old man told this man to chew is the Draunikau ni Yalewa (LEAVES for getting or seducing women).

- What about if I have lost a property, and I want to know its whereabouts.?

- A river runs through Muanikau separating the clan Marata from our clan Hapaia. On each side of the river lives 30 young men of each clan. Now one day one of the Marata boy's lost his \$10. He asked the young men who were with him but no one owned up so he went to Wainiqolo

(witch doctor). So Wainiqolo called all the young men on the other side of the camp and ask them to take a place beside the fire. When this is done he brought a stone and roast it in the fire. When the stone was red hot he told the young men of the lost money, whos money is lost. Wainiqolo asked the young men sitting there if anyone had seen the lost money. No one spoke or owned up so he took the hot stone and place it between two coconut husk and ask the boys to pass the stone around starting from one end. He gave the first boy the stone and the boys were told to pass the stone along the line. Nearing the middle of the line one of the boys took the stone and dropped it quickly to the ground, for it was hot to him. At that very time also Wainiqolo asked him for the lost money. The young men stoa up and fetch the money for he was the culprit. The burning red hot stone only burned the culprit as a sign that he is guilty. There is another story of a man name Jale. Now Jale worships a devil name Vele. In the Solomaons if youif you meet a man who worship Vele in the bush, the worshipper will kill you with his axe, cutting you into pieces. After that he'll fit you body in place again and he'll return you to your home. The wounds from the axe blow wont be visible but not long the victim will feel sick and die. When the person dies only than the wound from the axe blow will be visible. Now this man Jale worships this devil. He lives and works at Lautoka but every night he comes and sleep at his brother's residence at Navua. At night when he comes to his brothers place he comes through the roof. When he goes

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back to Lautoka in the morning he'll also go through the roof. Now one morning when he was still asleep he was called to have breakfast. He woke up and saw that the table cloth wasn't completely set so he went to the lavatory. He left the lavatory and went straight to Nausori to some of his relatives. He told them that these at Navua are still setting the table for breakfast and he had just come for a visit. From Nausori he came back to Navua had breakfast there and zoom off to Lautoka to work. It is not him that does the running around it is the devil he worships that takes him around. Jale was taken to prison after he was caught tying a girl on a pole and trying to burry her on a coral island. After he returned from prison he was asked by some of his elders to return the Vele to where it belongs. So he took up what he worships and burried it on a hill. The side of this hill slid and burried some houses that were built at the foot of the hill.

Once all men went down to Laqere to war with the Solomons down there. Now when they arrived in the village all men had gone to the garden to plant except for a man name Pita he was in the village by himself. The man from Kalabu with clubs, Malu Clubs told Pita to stay in the house and not to come out, if he does the clubs they have will be used on him. The Kalabu warriors guarded the house waiting to take the Laqere men by surprise. At that Pita was in the house. He got in his traditional dress and jump a few times at the corner of the house. When he's done this he ran outside with his club to fight the many warriors guarding the house. The many

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Against one fought. Pita was not fighting alone his ancestors spirit were also on his side. His enemies clubs broke into halves as they were whacked by this man. Pita ran to a huge Bua tree and jumped few times on the ground and the huge tree fell trapping the warriors for those who had gone planting. Leaves is also used if two people wants to run a business. Via leaves is used for this. The leaf is oiled with something and one of the man will throw the leaf. The other one will pick it up. He is to be painted with LASE, coral, that can be eaten. This if they want money or that they business is to run well.

- Some people get boil what is used to heal this?
- The boil is sucked and it is not to touch water for some-times. This is what our ancestor do in the past.
- A bunch of Solomon boys went to cut cane in the West, this was long ago. Now with them was also a boy from Ra. Not very far from where this bunch of Solomons works is a bunch of cane cutters from Namosi. Now this boy from Ra went and dated one of the Namosi girls. The Namosi people wanted to take revenge and one day some of them came and met Misikere the Solomon boys leader and asked for the boy from Ra. This guy from Ra stays home all the time now since he's been wanted by the other lot. Misikere poked his eye with the hoe handle and out popped his eye. The bunch of Namosi still wanted to take revenge even after seeing what had happened. So Misikere placed his eye back into position and told them they could come home tonight. After work Misikere collected his bunch

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of Solomon guys and the guy from Ra and they did a little bit of chanting for the fight that night. He gave them each a piece of white cloth as their sign to know each other in the dark. At night the other side came and ask for the guy from Ra. Misitere told them to come in and do what they want to t the guy for he is in the house. The enemies entered and the fight began. In the morning 15 Namosi warriors were found dead out side where the fighting took place.

I know of a man who keeps a leaf under the Tanoa (bowl for grog) if he wants rain and when he is fed up of the rainy wheather he spits outside and suns will shine again drying everything up.

- Is there any Taboo which is to be kept if they want the miracle to take place?

- The most important taboo is for them not to swear. this is what we call the Vali Qele. They are not to eat eel. If anyone allows this the devil which he worships will punish him and there is no remedy for the sickness.

- If you want to know what your son or daughter is up to ,the father will get a Vasili leaf and throw it on top of her mosquito net. Your sleeping child will tell you everything she's been doing and who's her boy friend etc. The daughter w will be saying all this without being knowing what is taking place.

My mother adopted 30 Haipaia boys and one of us to used to be possessed by the Tevoro Ni Kana (devil of Food) when he is possessed when we are having our meal will all spit on our share of bread and walk out, Samu will spit on them again and

and consume all the bread.

- Sometimes devil comes in human form . Could you talk on this?

- During a new year Sani and I went up to Tamavua. Everyone there were in happy spirit throwing everyone in the water. Not long there Sami told me to accompany him up to an old man at Tamavua i Wai, the old man's house. We entered, sat and yarn with the old man, When the sun began to set and the dusk fall a frightening thing happened. The house was filled with smoke and we could see men, children and women walking past us in the house but their feet does not touch the floor. They were walking in the air. I was so frightened that I quickly presented a yaqona to ask the old man to stop it. We walked out of the house quickly shaking all over.

Another story about a man name Voreqe who usually fish at a waterfall at Vatusavuya. Now Tukana Qereniu came to him one day and ask him to call the fish that has been always snapping his fishing line. So Voreqe told Qereniu to keep a chicken ontop of his kitchen roof that night and take it with him in the morning to fish. He was to clean, the chicken and place it in the water and talk hard to it. The next morning Qereniu followed the instruction well and he placed the chicken in the water and started to scorn the chicken. Not long a crash was heard as a white huge person appeared walking towards him from beneath the rocky fall. Qereniu didn't wait again he left the chicken, his fishing line and everything and dashed for the village. Afrightening experience as he presented his yaqona to Voreqe to ask him to stop the thing

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as quick as possible.

I think that is all.

F I N I S H.