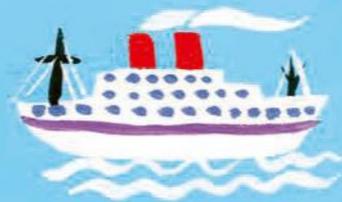


MARTIN HOWARD

A WORLD FULL OF  
**JOURNEYS  
& MIGRATIONS**

Illustrated by CHRISTOPHER CORR

The  
Movement  
of People  
and Ideas!





# INTRODUCTION

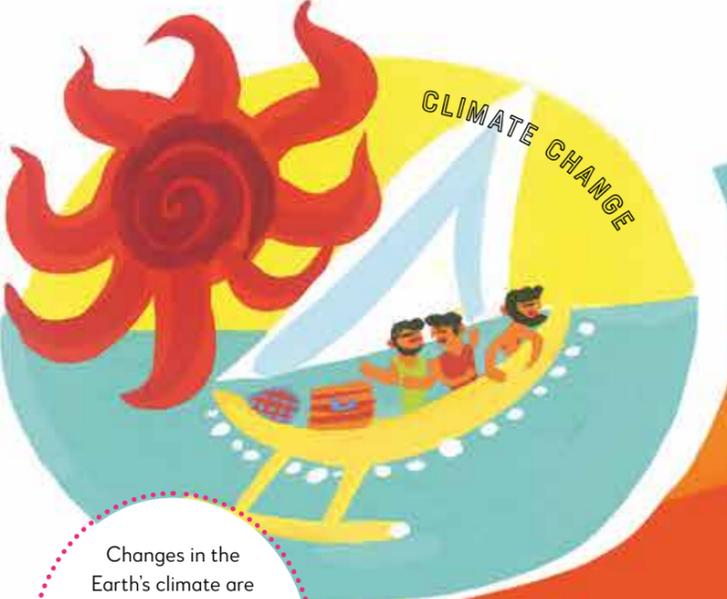
Unless you were born in certain parts of Africa, every human being on the planet has the same great-great-great (add a lot more 'greats') grandmother. It doesn't matter if you're Indian, Iranian, Chinese or French and your neighbour is Irish, Russian, Caribbean or British. You may look completely different, speak different languages, sing different songs and eat different food, but you still share the same great-grandmother – a woman without a name who made the journey out of Africa about 70,000 years ago. Deep, deep down in our history, every human being is part of the same family: a family that has journeyed to every part of the planet we call Earth.

Scientists have looked at our DNA to find out where our ancestors came from. DNA is too tiny to see, but it is in every part of us and shows what part of the world our ancestors lived in centuries ago.

By studying our DNA, scientists have uncovered a story of human movement that goes back to the time when that one woman and her tribe left Africa. Since then, humans have journeyed around the world, sometimes over vast distances. Some settled down, while others carried on discovering different parts of the world and changing their ways. Some people lived apart for a long time and then found other humans again.

They mingled with each other, had babies, learned their neighbours' languages, told stories and played music. They swapped ideas that created exciting new ideas. They learned from each other, changing again and again down the years. And then they moved on once more in a slow, never-ending journey around the globe that still goes on today.

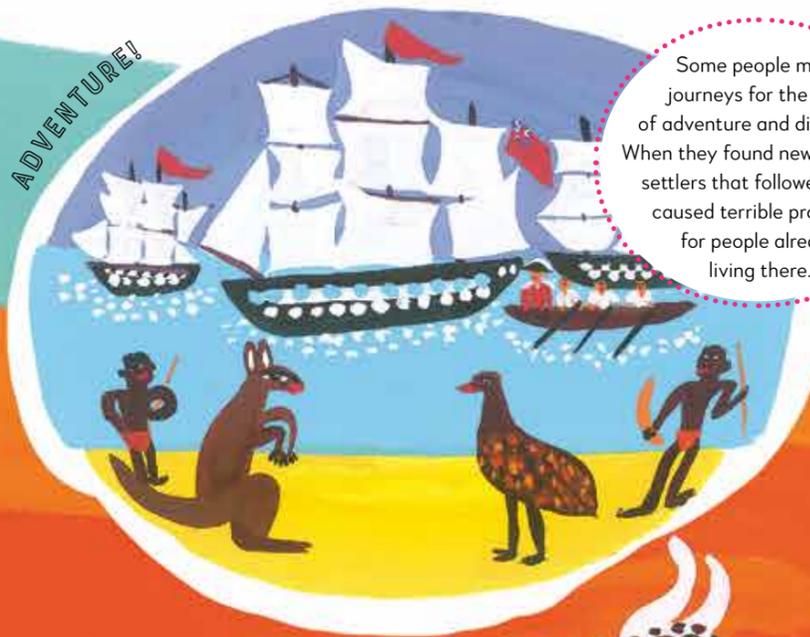
Inside you is a kaleidoscope of human history, and a thousand stories of travel and adventure. In this book we are going to discover just a few of those stories. So what are you waiting for? Let's get ready to uncover a world full of journeys.



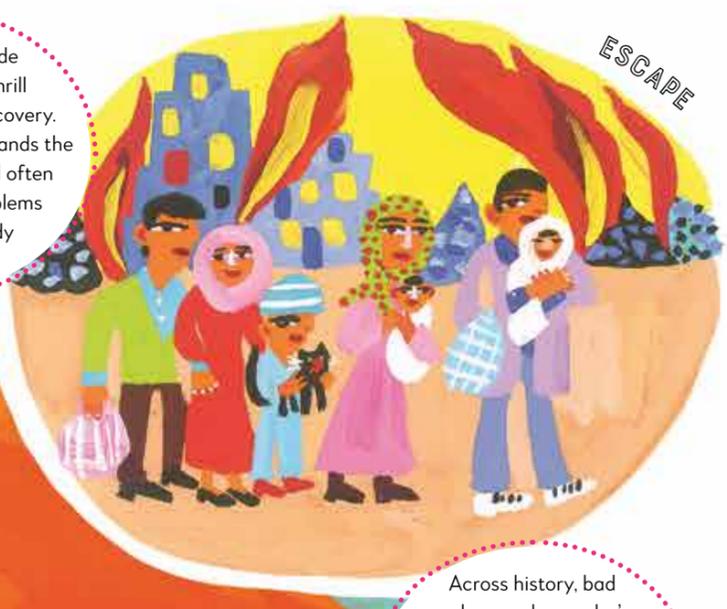
Changes in the Earth's climate are nothing new! Some of our ancestors were forced to move away from green and fertile lands because they turned into deserts.

# WHY WE MOVE

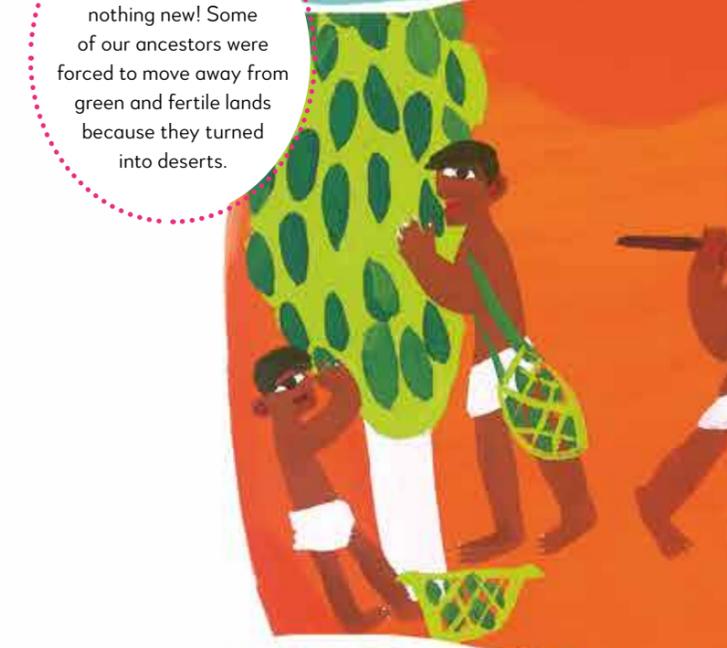
Some people in history never travelled further than the next village. Others made long and difficult journeys into the unknown, facing danger along the way. Below are just some of the reasons why people moved.



Some people made journeys for the thrill of adventure and discovery. When they found new lands the settlers that followed often caused terrible problems for people already living there.

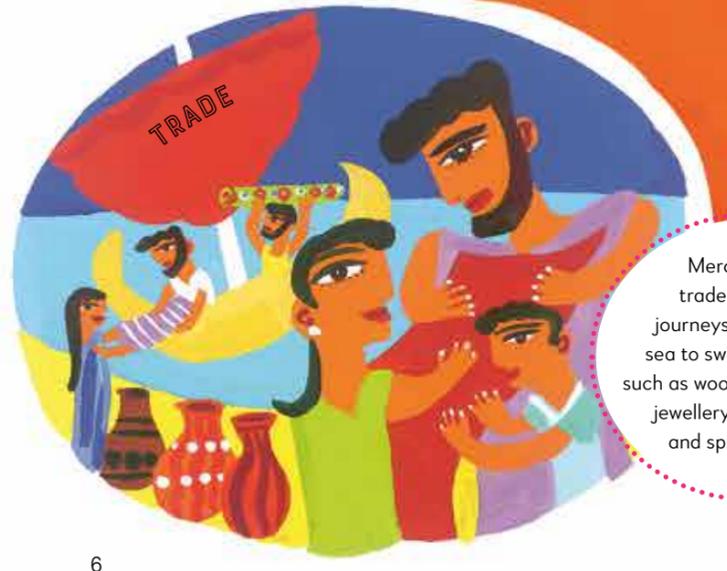


Across history, bad rulers made peoples' lives miserable. Armies invaded towns and villages, destroying farms and taking prisoners. Even today, people leave their homes to find more peaceful lives.



## SEARCH FOR FOOD

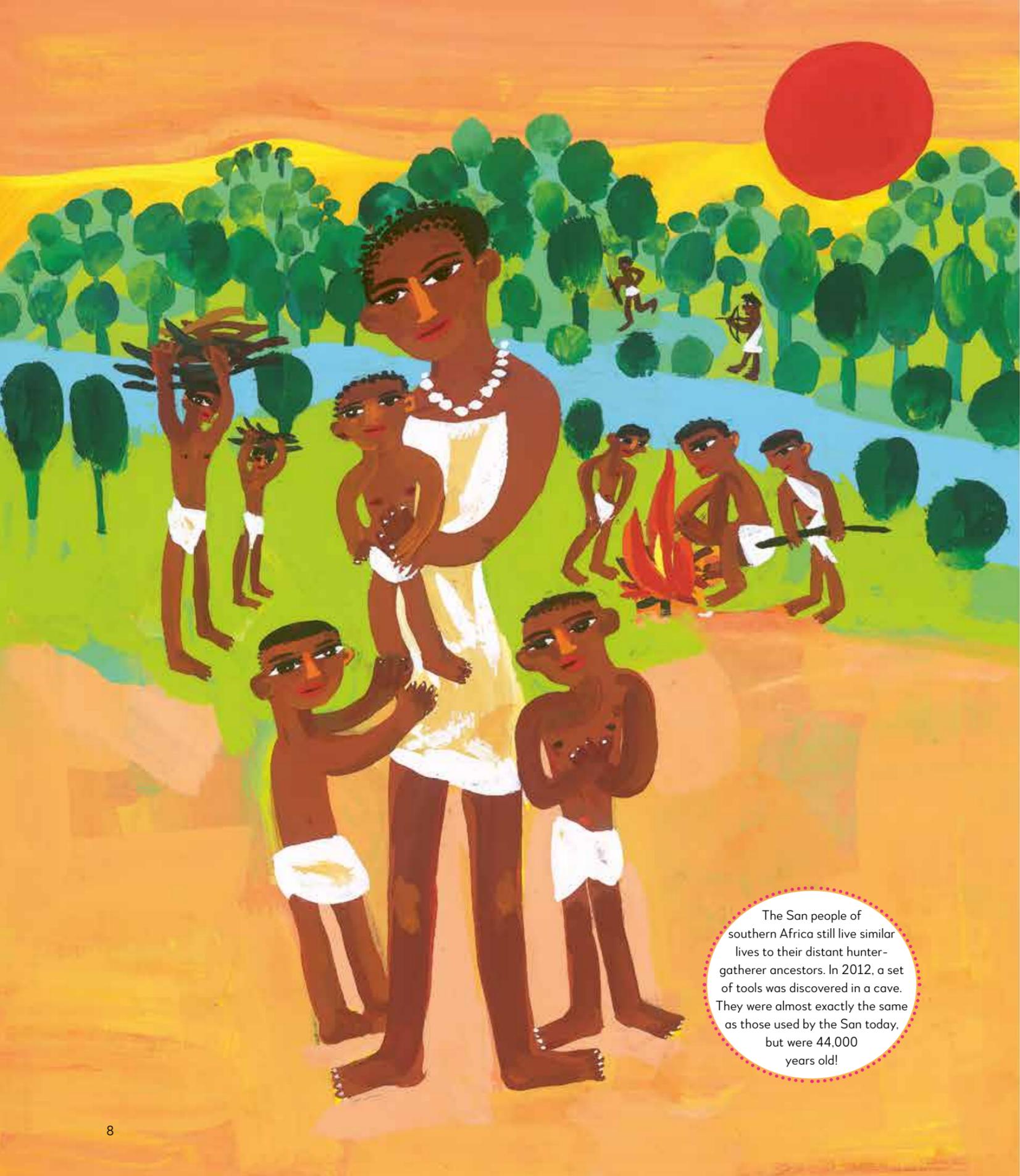
In ancient times there were no farms or shops selling food. Everything our ancestors ate, they found themselves. Most early humans were always on the move, following animal trails so they could hunt meat or go looking for new places to pick plants and berries.



Merchants and traders took long journeys over land and sea to swap or sell goods such as wool or furs, metal for jewellery and weapons, and spices for food.



War brings terror and destruction, but it also brings new settlers. Throughout history, armies arrived with people who stayed in the conquered lands, changing the laws, languages, stories, clothes, food and ideas.



The San people of southern Africa still live similar lives to their distant hunter-gatherer ancestors. In 2012, a set of tools was discovered in a cave. They were almost exactly the same as those used by the San today, but were 44,000 years old!



## THE FIRST JOURNEYS

Even before our earliest ancestors evolved into humans, they knew how to make musical noises with their voices and clap their hands to make rhythms. Hunter-gatherers improved their musical skills by making drums and other instruments.



About 70,000 years ago a small tribe of human beings walked out of Africa and into the country we now call Yemen in the Middle East. With them was the woman who would become the grandmother to all humans outside of Africa. Others had made the journey before them, but eventually they all died out. But this group was different. They were true humans – or homo sapiens, to give the scientific name – just like us. They survived and spread, and slowly their numbers increased. Today, there are over seven billion of us, living in every corner of the world.

Our distant ancestors were called hunter-gatherers. They discovered fire, danced, made stone tools and musical instruments and were always on the move – looking for animals to hunt or different foods to forage. At first, they stayed close to the sea, making simple raft-boats so they could catch fish. Some sailed from island to island until they reached a new continent – Australia. Later, people made even longer sea voyages, finding their way by following the stars and reaching new homes on islands scattered across the oceans.

Other humans began to journey inland, to what we now call China and Russia and westwards into Europe. They invented the needle so they could make warm clothes and live in colder places. More time passed and finally, around 20,000 years ago, humans discovered a thin strip of land that allowed them to walk from Russia into a brand-new continent – America. Humans had discovered another vast new home.

Some scientists believe that our ancestors ate a better diet than we do today! They hunted meat and foraged vegetables, fruits, nuts and berries.





EUROPE

ASIA

AFRICA

OCEANIA

NORTH AMERICA

SOUTH AMERICA

PACIFIC OCEAN

**MIGRATION** OF  
**MODERN HUMANS**

Many people around the world share the same old stories. One of the most famous is the tale of a great flood that swept across the Earth. This ancient story can be found all around the world, from Norway to China, to South America.



## THE FIRST STORYTELLERS

No one knows exactly when humans first used language to talk to each other. However, historians believe that as soon as humans began using language, they probably started telling stories: grand tales of great hunts, exciting deeds of their ancestors and terrible natural disasters. They may have told stories of gods and goddesses and the sun, moon and stars.

Stories travelled as humans moved from place to place. They were told and retold, changing and developing as they passed from mouth to mouth, from tribe to tribe and translated into different languages. Humans became a species that loved stories and today, thousands of years later, we still do.

The first story ever written down was called the *Epic of Gilgamesh*. It tells the tale of a mythical king and was written more than 4,000 years ago, though the story is probably a lot older. Writing stories down meant they could be told again and again. As this new invention spread, people wrote poems and plays, stories and histories.

Now, we can watch movies or television and read books. But the art of storytelling began thousands of years ago when our ancestors sat around crackling fires, listening to stories that still travel from one end of the Earth to another.



Ancient people sometimes painted their stories onto rock walls. The earliest cave-paintings are in Lascaux, France, and are about 17,000 years old. The people who made them chose to paint pictures of hunting – a very important part of their lives.



## A WORLD OF MUSIC AND DANCE

Everywhere the first hunter-gatherers travelled, they left evidence of their love of music – ancient flutes made from mammoth tusks or animal bones, or didgeridoos, horns, drums and rattles. Today, there is nowhere in the human world that doesn't have music and dancing. The smallest tribes hidden in the rainforest know how to play a song and dance to it. This probably means that our most ancient ancestors in Africa loved music and dancing, too. And, like their stories, the songs of ancient humans spread from place to place and down through generations.

Over time, different groups of people invented new instruments, and new kinds of music, which could mix to make completely new sounds. For example, the fast and thrilling Spanish flamenco dance music is thought to have developed from very, very old Spanish music that was mixed with the music of other people who made new homes in Spain, including ancient Greeks, Romans and the North African Moor people.

Dancing is as old as music and early humans probably used it as a way of communicating before they could even talk! Among the oldest clues we have are simple cave paintings in India that date back 30,000 years.

The first instrument with strings was a lyre. It was invented more than 6,500 years ago. Over thousands of years its design slowly changed, making different sounds until the guitar was invented around 600 years ago.



To everybody who has made a journey to find a better life. It takes such courage, which should be celebrated.

This book is for you.- C.C.

For my family, who journeyed with me to make a new life in a new country. - M.H.



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