



Posing as Peti.

"Have I given thee cause for complaint? or have I myself complained? hast thou even once been able to call me To kaha kei te kaki—strong to eat, weak to work?—have not I loved thee well?—then why is thy heart turned aside?"

"She is but a little one."

"Ae,—the sweeter therefore to cherish; but," with venom, "needs must thy love for her be deep that in it she may lose the fear of my hate."

The volcano was lurid, and Tama winced at first touch of the lava. Yet to-night he cared not to see the reflections; rather the thought of them troubled him. Therefore he arose, saying, "Enough, kaka (chatterbox); I have said it;" and stalked away.

Peti followed him with her eyes till he disappeared in the increasing darkness; then, moaning "Aue, aue, alas," she turned back into the whare.