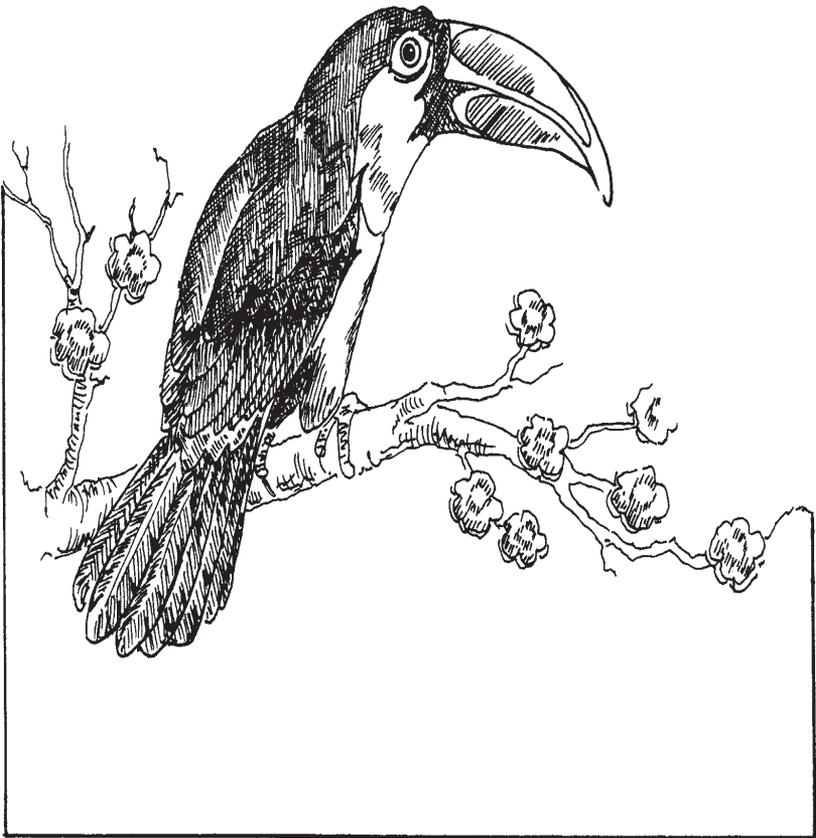


*Gaia Calling*  
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Kim Bold

# Toucan

*Bird of Unity*



## *Toucan: Bird of Unity*

...an intense challenge.

Suddenly, the fruit was being expelled as waste matter, cluttering the rainforest floor. All of it was contained in one large pile as if someone had swept the ground. As Toucan inspected this pile of dreamtime dung, he began to see the image of the white cockatiel and she gently spoke to him.

“As the seeds of the fruits we eat fall to the floor of the rainforest and slowly grow into trees that reach the skies, so too are the actions and inactions of our daily choices. So choose your fruits wisely and consume them completely.”

Toucan flew out of the treehole and immediately began searching for Sloth so that he could interpret his dream. When he found the large monkey, he was heavily engaged in the dreamworld and Toucan wasn't sure if he should disturb him.

“What is it you seek from me?” Sloth asked without opening his eyes. His voice was more melodic than usual as if his vocal cords were vibrating an ethereal instrument.

“I need you to interpret my dream that I just had,” Toucan excitedly told Sloth, but before he could relay the details of his dream, Sloth began speaking.

“By developing a disciplined approach towards seeking the guidance of Mother Earth, her spirit will grow stronger within you and you will be able to remember your own gift of discernment. This gift will help you to see the truth in all things as you will be able to understand your problems from every perspective. Your own fierce battle of the heart will cease and you will find peace. Then, you will no longer have need of a seer.” Sloth had no more words for Toucan as he continued his day-long sleep.

Toucan wasn't certain how his gift of discernment could

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help him interpret his dream, but he did hope it could help him understand the conflict within his flock. He closed his eyes and began to meditate on his problems. After he stilled his mind, he directed his thoughts towards Mother Earth, asking her to help him remember his spiritual gifts.

Suddenly, the thought entered his mind regarding the connection between his dream and the conflict of his flock. He began reviewing images of his dream as if he were watching them being acted out for his benefit. He saw the intense game of beak wrestling, followed by the exaggerated expulsion of waste matter gathered in one spot on the rainforest floor. Then he heard the words of the cockatiel and the significance of his dream began to formulate within his mind.

*“As the seeds of the fruits we eat fall to the floor of the rainforest and slowly grow into trees that reach the skies, so too are the actions and inactions of our daily choices. So choose your fruits wisely and consume them completely.”* Toucan had always known that the fruit seeds contained in their waste matter were the source of new trees, but now he understood the symbolism of fruit in his dream. It represented the spiritual understandings he would acquire based upon his choices. And the beak wrestling game between his two brothers symbolized the conflict within his own heart.

He opened his eyes in sudden realization. “Was it possible,” he thought, “this was all about me and my need to draw closer to Mother Earth? Exactly what are the conflicts of my own heart?”

His head felt heavy from the weight of his thoughts as he decided to journey back to where his flock lived. There was so much information for him to contemplate, yet there was so much...