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Aroha - Anaru Bickford

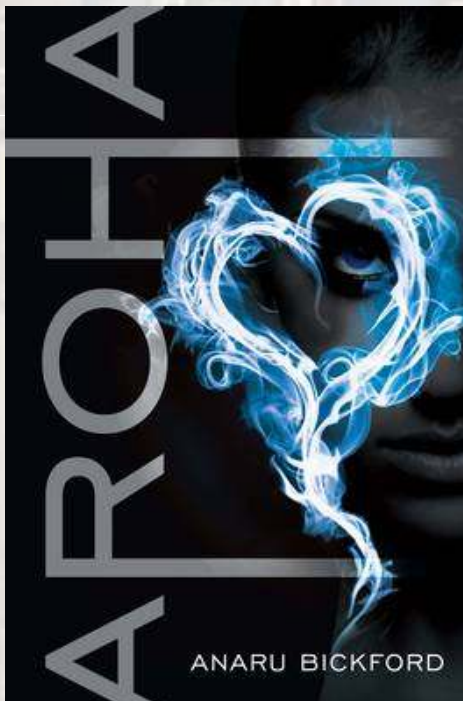
Published by Pear Jam Books, RRP \$19.99

Aroha, a proud Maori teenager, moves to the USA to live with her aunt, uncle, and a cousin Mary. Mary believes it is Aroha that has torn apart the family they both shared, she hassles her daily, trying to undermine her. But along with Mary's anger Aroha has to cope with scarily vivid dreams - ones she has had since childhood - and they are starting to recur more often as the months go on; flames, death, destruction and a vision of an out of the ordinary young man.

She is anxious to find out what the dreams mean, and who the young man is, and why she can sense the end of the world coming.

I just love reading New Zealand authors, and having Anaru Bickford's book to read was a delight. The plot line and word pictures bring together the plight of Aroha and her life's meaning, she is a strong and energetic character filled with the passion to succeed.

Reviewed Tauranga Teenage Services Librarian Amanda McFadden.



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Promoting the enjoyment of children's literature.