Two brothers in the world
The elders tell that a long long time ago, in a Kariri-Xocó village, by the São Francisco banks, two brothers of the Great Earth Mother were born: Patã and Porã.
It was beautiful to see how they were always together. Wherever Patã was, there was Porã too. Earth Mother was proud of such a union.
Suddenly, something new arrived in the village: the school. Patã immediately became interested and rushed to his Mother to ask permission to go to that school. Earth Mother, knowing that Patã would keep walking his path on it, accepted the son’s decision.
Porã couldn’t understand why his brother gave so much importance to the school, since everything they could learn there was already learned day by day; all about nature and the ancient people were teaching them this.
The school Patã liked so much showed how life was outside the village. Gradually through books, the boy was learning about the landscapes of distant places, cities, cars, and all about this different world. Each day he dreamed about when he could leave the village to see and touch everything his eyes saw through the books.
One rainy day, Patã went out without saying goodbye. He had decided to see what the world had to offer him. He was determined to face the new without looking back. At that moment, the two brothers separated from each other and took different paths.
Porã grew up paying attention to everything that was happening in his village. He was an apprentice of his traditions, he married and lived with his family in the forest, near his relatives and in perfect harmony with the animals.
Patã went all over the world, became rich, got married and lived happily with his family in the middle of a big city. Sometimes he used to think about the village and his relatives, but he was convinced that his new home was right there, where he was. Even so, Patã felt that something was missing. But what could that be?
One day, he was with his kids in the zoo, he saw a jaguar and had good memories about the times in the village. In that moment, the jaguar was considered to be his sister. Suddenly, everything made sense to him.
He decided to go on vacation and visit the place where he was born. As he arrived in the village, he rushed to meet Porã. Both brothers recognised each other immediately and had a long hug.
The two brothers then decided to go for a walk. Patã said: - “I have a house that shelters me, a car to travel and a job to make my living; but something is still missing”.
Porã replied: - “I am the Nature that shelters me, the Sun that warms me up and the River that feeds me; but something is still missing “.
Suddenly, the brothers looked at each other and almost at the same time they both said:
- Patã, can you teach me how is the Earth out there?
- Porã, can you teach me how is the Earth in here?
The two Brothers came together again teaching each other everything they had learn throughout the years. Porã gave Patã back the piece of land that his brother had forgotten and Patã presented Porã the part of the Earth that his brother hadn’t known. And Earth Mother could breathe happily again.
In April 2015, although 5,000 hectares had been awarded for the 3,000 Kariri-Xocó community to live in, the Brazilian government did not rearrange the land invaders to comply with the award, making all the indians survive in less than 700 hectares.

Presently, the Kariri-Xocó’s are in “re-occupations” standing up for their rights.
Author: Nhenety Kariri-Xocó
Editors: Fernanda Martins e Sebastián Gerlic
Illustrator: Claudio Monteiro
Development: Helder C. Jr.
Producers: Potyra Tê Tupinambá, Fernanda Martins e Sebastián Gerlic
Sound Designer: André Wakko
Locution: Dan Baron
Other Co-creators: Gemerson Tupinambá, Irany Tupinambá, Ig Pataxó, Dan Baron, Andrea Biancovilli, Aluísio Cavalcante, Leila Dias, Eviton Santos.

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