

# SURVIVOR THEME INTRODUCTION

This forest is a great forest, and it has been kind to your ancestors. If you come to live in it and call home 'Here', even just for a short while, then you and this forest will become connected. You will come to understand the interdependency of the tribe and the forest.

Tribes of the Kinglake Ranges are recognized by anthropologists as having unique cultures and practices. The tribes are known for their harmonious relationships with each other and with nature and are reportedly the happiest peoples of the modern world. They are also some of the most efficient and effective peoples and are known to use fair minded competition to encourage continual improvement.



\* You stand before this forest, intending to be tribes 'Here'. You may bring your strengths and contemporary cultural practices with you however there are some practices you should understand that are reportedly the fundamental underpinnings of the culture's success. You must learn and honour these practices.

The first of these practices is to do with communicating. Anthropologists have named this particular method of communicating, unique to these tribes, as 'tribe talk'. Your tribal elders will instruct and coach you in its ways – listen deeply, be prepared to do as your ancestors have. Become aware of its power. Tribes also use 'tree mail' which your Elders will make you familiar with.

The second practice is around wealth. Tribes of the Kinglake Ranges consider themselves wealthy if their environment is healthy, if their tribe and other tribes have enough for sustenance and exchange, if they have accumulated some resources for unforeseen circumstances and above all, if they are happy.

The tribespeople see abundance everywhere and it is always always their intention to see others and the forest being successful too.

Beyond these attributes, each tribe has much uniqueness and it has been discovered that each tribe has its own written codes of practice. To break the tribe's code of practice is taboo.

\* Each day unfolds in the forest as a mystery and your first tasks to prepare for the journey are to develop your tribe's uniqueness and also its code of practice.