

Not so long ago, in a place not far from here, greens lived at the top of a hill. They lived in green houses, drove green cars, wore green clothes and believed that everything good was green. They taught their children the song, 'Green is good, blue is bad, green is happy, blue is sad.'

Blues lived at the bottom of the hill. They lived in blue houses, drove blue cars, wore blue clothes and thought that everything good was blue. Blues taught their children, 'Blue is good, green is bad, blue is happy, green is sad.'

One day, a green girl was chasing down the hill after her ball but before she could catch it, it rolled right under a prickly blueberry bush. As she leant against the bush to look for her ball, blueberry juice got squashed all over her clothes! She heard laughing and looked round to see a blue boy, who chanted, 'Blue is good, green is bad, blue is happy, green is sad!'

The green girl cried back, angrily, 'Green is good, blue is bad, green is happy, blue is sad!', and ran back up the hill.

Later that day, the green girl returned to look for her ball and found the blue boy entangled in the bush, groaning. She went over to help and realised that he had been trying to rescue her ball! As she pulled the blue boy from the thorns, she saw that his arm was badly hurt. She took out her green hanky and made a sling for the blue boy. Neither of them spoke but as they looked at their scratched arms, they saw that they both had the same red blood. They walked away in silence.

When the blue boy arrived home with his arm in the green sling, his parents barked angrily at him, 'What have we taught you? Blue is good, green is bad, blue is happy, green is sad!'. They threw the hanky away and wrapped his arm in a blue bandage.

That night, as the green girl and the blue boy lay in their beds, looking at their wounds, they wondered whether the songs were true.

When the blue boy was well enough to play out again, he went up the hill to find the green girl. He knocked on green door after green door looking for the girl who had helped him. Each door was slammed in his face until finally he found the right house. To his amazement the green girl was wearing the same green and blue clothes. 'Aren't you afraid of what people will say', the blue boy asked. The green girl replied, 'No - after meeting you, I realised that our colours don't matter because we are all the same inside.' The blue boy said, 'I've been thinking that too!'

The green girl and the blue boy became best friends and grew up to have their own family. They taught their children this song: 'Green is good and so is blue, yellow, purple, orange too!'.

Now they are called the Rainbow People.