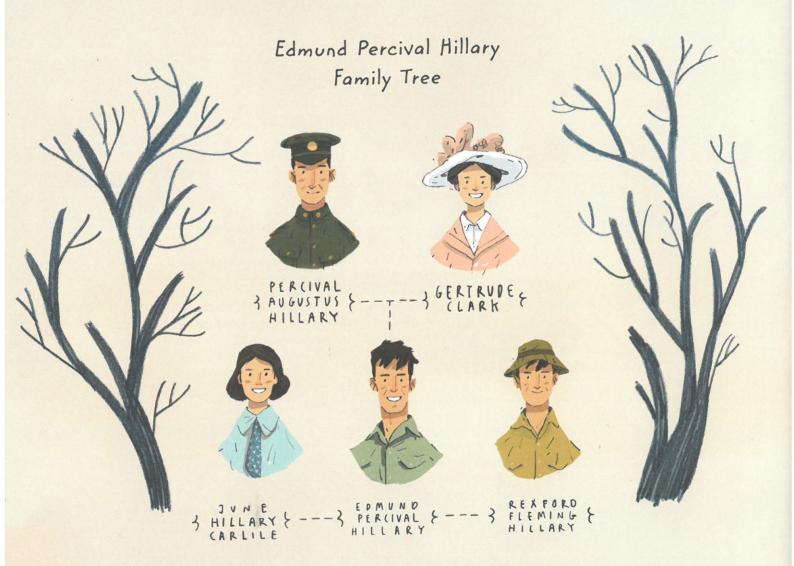
## ~ PART ONE >

## THE STORY OF TWO VERY DIFFERENT CHILDHOODS



Edmund Percival Hillary was born on 20th July 1919 in Auckland, a city on New Zealand's North Island.

Ed', as he would become known, was the second of three children. He had an elder sister called June and a younger brother called Rex.

Their father, Percy, had fought in the First World War in the infamous Gallipoli Campaign. In 1916, after being shot through the nose and catching dysentery, he was sent back home to New Zealand. Not long afterwards, he married Ed's mother, a schoolteacher called Gertrude Clark.

Percy set up a newspaper in a small town called Tuakau. But he was also very interested in beekeeping. Over time, he established hundreds of hives producing gallons upon gallons of honey, which he would then sell. Eventually, he would earn enough money to resign from the newspaper and became a full-time beekeeper.