

HE WAIATA MÄ TE WHÄNAU

Fourth Edition
Printed in 2004

A book of 40 old-time favourite Mäori songs
with English translations
compiled by
Joseph S. TeRito

Based on the book
“Waiata Mäori Volume I”
by H.T. Rikihana

We acknowledge
the many composers from Maoridom
who composed these songs
over the past generations

This book and a set of 12 song charts are provided at no cost
to students enrolling on this free course

The course was designed for delivery on Mäori radio
by EIT Hawke's Bay & Radio Kahungunu

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1. Haere mai te manuhiri, haere mai

Haere mai te manuhiri haere mai (2x)
 No runga te manuhiri, no raro te manuhiri
 No te ti, no te ta, hei ha.

*Welcome visitors, welcome (2x)
 Visitors from the south, visitors from the north
 From here, from there, hei ha.*

2. Utaina mai nga waka, nga waka o te motu

Utaina mai nga waka, nga waka o te motu
 Toia mai ra ki uta, ki te takotoranga
 Hiki nuku hiki e, hiki rangi rangi e
 Tena, tena ra koutou katoa.

*Bring ashore the canoes, the canoes of the isle
 Drag them towards land, to the resting place
 Lift and move them, lift them skywards
 Greetings, greetings to you all.*

3. Haere mai ra, haere mai ra, tena ra koutou katoa

Haere mai ra, haere mai ra
 Tena ra koutou katoa
 E nga iwi nui tonu ra, tena ra koutou katoa.

*Welcome, welcome
 Greetings to you all
 Oh multitudes of people, greetings to you all.*

Piki mai ra, kake mai ra
 Homai te waiora e
 E nga iwi nui tonu ra, piki mai kake mai ra.

*Arise, come forth
 Give me the water of life
 Oh multitudes of people, arise, come forth.*

4. Toia mai te waka nei, kumea mai te waka nei

Toia mai te waka nei, kumea mai te waka nei
 Ki te takotoranga i takoto ai
 Tiriti te mana motuhake
 Te tangi a te manu nei, pipiwharaua
 Kui kui kui, whiti whiti ora
 Hui e taiki e.

*Drag the canoe ashore, pull the canoe ashore
 To the resting place at which lay
 The Treaty, with its absolute authority
 Heralded by the shining cuckoo
 Calling out, for wellness to prevail
 Upon each and everyone.*

5. Toia mai nga waka e te iwi e, hoea hoea ra

Toia mai nga waka e te iwi e, hoea hoea ra
 Aotea, Tainui, Kurahaupo, hoea hoea ra
 Toia mai nga waka e te iwi e, hoea hoea ra
 Mataatua, Te Arawa, Takitimu, Tokomaru
 Hoea hoea ra.

*Haul the canoes everyone, paddle, paddle
 Aotea, Tainui, Kurahaupo, paddle, paddle
 Haul the canoes everyone, paddle, paddle
 Mataatua, Te Arawa, Takitimu, Tokomaru,
 Paddle, paddle.*

Hoea ra te waka nei, hoea hoea ki te pae
 Ma te hoe e karawhiu, kia rere tika ai.

*Paddle the canoe, paddle, paddle to the horizon
 Let the paddle strike deep and direct our course.*

Haere mai e hine ma, me nga taonga o te wa
 He reo karanga i katoa, haere mai ki a au.

*Come maidens with the gifts of modern times
 Voices calling to all, come unto me.*

Hoea ra te waka nei, hoea hoea ki te pae
 Ma te hoe e karawhiu, kia rere tika ai.

*Paddle the canoe, paddle, paddle to the horizon
 Let the paddle strike deep and direct our course.*

6. Tena koutou e hoa ma, kua tae mai nei

Tena koutou e hoa ma, kua tae mai nei i tenei ra
 Noreira ra e hoa ma, kia ora ra koutou katoa.

*Greetings oh friends, arrived here this day
 Therefore, oh friends, good health to you all.*

Kua rongu hoki ahau (3x)
 Kei te haere mai koutou
 Noreira ra, e hoa ma, kia ora ra koutou katoa.

*I had heard of course (3x)
 That you were all coming
 Therefore, friends, good health to you all.*

7. Haere mai, haere mai, e nga iwi e

Haere mai (haere mai), haere mai (haere mai)
 E nga iwi e haere mai, ki runga o te marae
 Hui mai (hui mai) tatau (tatau) katoa (tatau katoa)
 E hine ma (e hine ma), e tama ma (e tama ma)
 Hapaingia-o te mana Maori e, a hi hi hi ha
 Kia rewa ki runga rawa, aue, i a ha ha
 E nga iwi e, haere mai, haere mai.

*Welcome, welcome
 All peoples welcome, onto the marae
 Let us all gather here
 Young women, young men
 Uplift the Maori prestige
 So that it rises on high
 Oh people, welcome, welcome.*

8. Pa mai to reo aroha

Tahi miti toru e tae te marumaru
Whare tapu teitei, te ao korowhiti,
Haere mai, haere mai.
Pa mai to reo aroha ki te pa o nga tipuna
E nga iwi o Aotearoa, haere mai, haere mai
Titiro ki nga hoia, kua wehea nei (kua wehea nei)
Aue te aroha, me te mamae.

E nga iwi o Aotearoa, haere mai, haere mai.
(Tahi miti toru e tae te marumaru
Whare tapu teitei, te ao korowhiti,
Haere mai, haere mai)
(Kia kaha, kia manawanui.)

9. Whakarongo ake au ki te tangi a te manu

Whakarongo ake au ki te tangi a te manu
E rere runga rawa e
"Tui, tui, tui, tuia; tuia i runga, tuia i raro
Tuia i roto, tuia i waho; tui, tui, tuia".

Kia rongo te ao, kia rongo te po,
"Tui, tui, tuia"
Tihei mauri ora, hi!

10. Taku patu, taku patu Maori mana motuhake

Taku patu, taku patu Maori mana motuhake (2x)
Taku ihi, taku ihi, taku wanawana (2x)
Taku tu, taku tu, taku hikoi (2x) a ha ha
Aue kei hinga au e, kei mate au e, taku roopu haka
Aue kei hinga au e, kei mate au e, taku roopu haka
Hi aue hi!

11. Whakarongo ake au ki te tangi a te manu

Whakarongo ake au ki te tangi a te manu
I runga i te rangi e, e karanga ana mai
"No whea to mana, e te iwi Maori e?"
E koe e manu i runga i te rangi
Tena whakarongo mai
Ko te mana i ahau no aku tipuna
No tua whakarere e
Hi aue hi, hi aue ha!
Hi aue ha, he, hi, ho, hu.

Kei runga kei raro (kss) auahi ana
Ka rawe taku nei mahi (aue)
Ko Papa kei raro, Ko Rangi runga ra
Homai to aroha.

12. Maku ra pea, maku ra pea

Maku ra pea, maku ra pea
Maku koe e awahi e
Ki te ara, ara tupu
Maku koe e awahi e.

13. Mihi mai ra aku rangatira e

Mihi mai ra aku rangatira e, mihi mai ki runga ra
Kei te harakoa ki te kaupapa e
Nga taonga na tatau katoa
Meatia tenei hei tu whakapono e
Whakapaingia te aroha e aue
Ka taunga te manawa, piki rere tonu ake
Na te rangimarie e.

*It takes not one but three weapons to topple
The loftiest sacred house in the world
Welcome, welcome
Your voice of love reaches the fort of the ancestors
Oh, people of New Zealand, welcome, welcome
Look to the soldiers who have departed hence
Alas the sorrow and the pain.*

*Oh, people of New Zealand, welcome, welcome
It will take not one but three weapons to topple
The loftiest sacred house in the world
Welcome, welcome
(Be strong, be brave-hearted).*

*I listen to the cry of the bird
As it flies overhead
"Sew, sew, sew, sew from above and below,
Sew from within and without, sew, sew, sew"*

*So that the day hears, so that the night hears
"Sew, sew, sew"
'Tis the breath of life, hi!*

*My club, my club, symbol of unique Maori prestige
Causes me to tingle and shudder
I stand, I stand, I walk, a ha ha
Alas, I might fall, I might die, my haka party.
Alas, I might fall, I might die, my haka party.
Hi aue hi!*

*I listen to the cry of the bird
On high in the sky calling forth
"Where is your prestige from, oh Maori people?"
Hey you, bird high in the sky
Listen to me then
My prestige comes from my ancestors
From the timeless past
Hi aue hei, hi aue ha!
Hi aue ha, he, hi, ho, hu.*

*Above and below (kss) smoke billows
But I am pleased with my achievements (alas)
Papa is below, Rangi is above
Give unto me your love.*

*I will perhaps (2x)
I will help you
Upon the pathway of progress
I will indeed help you.*

*Greet us my superiors, greet us then
I am overjoyed at the occasion
And the treasures which belong to us all
Let me stand forth in faith,
And pledge my love, alas
The heart will be calmed but still keep beating
As it is at peace.*

14. E te Hokowhitu-a-Tu, kia kaha ra

E te Hokowhitu-a-Tu, kia kaha ra
 Kaati ra te hingahinga ki raro ra
 Mau nga whakaaro ki runga rawa
 Hei arahi i te ara e tika ai
 Whirinaki, whirinaki, tatau katoa
 Kia kotahi ra.

Nga marae e tu noa nei, nga marae e tu noa nei
 Aue ra e tama ma, te mamae te pouri nui
 E patu nei i ahau ina (kia kotahi ra)

Ngarimu aue, anei o tamariki e, e tu atu nei
 A hi aue aue.

15. Haruru ana te rongopai nei

Haruru ana te rongopai nei, e tiahotia nei e te reo
 Ki runga i nga iwi o te motu nei
 E kore e whakawai mai, e whakararu i te tikanga
 Kei iri-iritia te ture wairua ki te ture tangata
 Whakatiahotia ra, e te roopu rangatahi e
 Ko te kaupapa o te maramatanga
 Kia rite ki nga ihi o te ra
 Noreira e nga iwi, kia tika te hoe mai i te waka nei
 Kei pariparingia e te tai, ka moana nehu te kura.

16. Me ata tukutuku, e hine o taera

Me ata tukutuku e hine o taera
 Kei mau taua i te kati o te ture
 Me wehe taua kia mataratara
 Kia mutu ai te aroha e.

17. Me he manu rere ahau e

Me he manu rere ahau e
 Kua rere ki to moenga, ki te awhi i to tinana
 Aue, aue, e te tau tahuri mai.

Kei te moe to tinana, kei te wake te wairua
 Kei te hotu te manawa, aue, aue, e te tau tahuri mai.

18. Pokarekare ana

Pokarekare ana, nga wai o Waiapu
 Whiti atu koe e hine, marino ana e.

E hine e, hoki mai ra, ka mate ahau i te aroha e.

Kua whati taku pene, kua pau aku pepa
 Ko taku aroha, mau tonu ana e.

E hine e, hoki mai ra, ka mate ahau i te aroha e.

Tuhituhi i taku reta, tuku atu i taku riingi
 Kia kite to iwi, raruraru ana e.

E hine e, hoki mai ra, ka mate ahau i te aroha e.

E kore te aroha, e maroke i te ra
 Makuku tonu i aku roimata e.

E hine e, hoki mai ra, ka mate ahau i te aroha e.

19. Putiputi kaneihana e

Putiputi kaneihana e
 Maku koe e kato e.
 Mehemea ko koe taku tau pumau
 Piri rawa ki taku uma e.

*Oh brave army of Tu, be strong
 And not let yourselves fall to the ground
 Let your thoughts be to the heavens
 To guide you along the right path
 Let us lean on each other for support
 And be unified.*

*Lonely stand our marae, lonely stand our marae
 Alas, oh sons, the pain and deep sadness
 Continues to torment me.*

*Ngarimu, alas, here are your children standing before you
 A hi aue aue.*

*The good-news resounds, and is broadcast by voice
 Upon all the peoples of this isle
 Let it not undermine and alter the values
 Lest the spiritual law falls prey to mortal law
 Proclaim it, oh young people
 May the process of enlightenment
 Be like the rays of the sun
 Therefore oh people, row this canoe correctly
 Lest it be buffeted and its chief swamped by high seas.*

*Reveal modestly to me, dear lass, your charms
 In case we be compromised in the eyes of the law,
 And be forced to distance ourselves from each other,
 So that our love may die.*

*If I were a flying bird
 I would fly to your bed, to embrace your body
 Alas, oh loved one, turn back unto me.*

*Your body is sleeping, the spirit is wandering
 The heart is pining, alas, oh loved one turn back unto me.*

*The waters of Waiapu are choppy
 But when you cross over girl, it gets calm.*

Oh girl, return to me, I could die of my love for you.

*My pen has broken, my paper has run out
 But my love is still steadfast.*

Oh girl, return to me, I could die of my love for you.

*I have written my letter, I have sent my ring
 So that your people will see that I am truly troubled.*

Oh girl, return to me, I could die of my love for you.

*My love will never be dried up by the sun
 As it will be forever moistened by my tears.*

Oh girl, return to me, I could die of my love for you.

*Carnation flower
 I shall pluck you.
 And if you were my own true love
 I would hold you tightly to my bosom.*

20. Hurihuri hurihuri o mahara e

Hurihuri hurihuri o mahara e
Ki te kimi ki te kimi i te tau e
Kore rawa, kore rawa i aro mai e
Ki a koe ra e hine (2x)

*Your thoughts turn over and over
Seeking, searching for the loved one
Never, never was there any interest shown, however
Towards you girl.*

21. Tahi nei taru kino

Tahi nei taru kino mahi whaiaipo
Kei te wehenga, aroha kau ana
Haere mai ra ki ahau nei ra
He aroha tino nui, haere mai.

*Like a pesky weed you play at love
But on parting, sadness prevails
Come to me then
For great is my love, so come to me.*

Titiro atu au, ka huri ke koe
Kei roto i a koe, pirangi mai ana
Haere mai ra ki ahau nei ra
He aroha tino nui, haere mai.

*When I look at you, you turn away
But within you, there is much longing
Come to me then
For great is my love, so come to me.*

Kore au e noho, hoatu i taku ringa
Kei huri ke koe, whakakaitoa i muri
Haere mai ra ki ahau nei ra
He aroha tino nui, haere mai.

*I will not sit still, nor give my hand
In case you turn away and jeer later
Come to me then
For great is my love, so come to me.*

22. Marama pai kei te hotu te manawa

Marama pai kei te hotu te manawa
Ki o kanohe papai, puru pai me te rangi
Haere mai ra, ka haere taua ki raro i nga whetu
Korerorero atu ai e hine, aue, Marama pai.

*Shining-light, my heart is pining
For your beautiful eyes, which are blue like the sky
Come along, let's walk beneath the stars
And speak unto each other lass, alas, Shining-light.*

23. He aha kei taku uma

He aha kei taku uma, e patuki ake nei?
He aroha ra e hine
He aha ka uia e? (2x)

*What is this within my bosom that beats so?
It is this thing called love, girl
Or what is it? (2x)*

E rua nei aku ringa, e mau nei i ahau
Kotahi hei pera urunga
Kotahi hei awhi mai (hei awhiawhi)
Kotahi hei awhi mai.

*I have two arms as appendages
One as a pillow to rest upon
And one to embrace with
One to embrace with.*

Kau ra koe e hine i nga ngaru nunui
Hei hapai hapai ake, i tenei whakatipuranga. (2x)

*Swim, oh lass, through the mountainous waves
In order to uplift this generation. (2x)*

24. Kua rongorongo ake ahau

Kua rongorongo ake ahau
E haere ana koe e taku tau
Whakawhiti ana Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa e

*I have heard rumours
That you are going, my dearest
Crossing the Pacific Ocean.*

Ka patupatu ake taku manawa
Ka whakarangirua i aku mahara
Aue tama ko taku aroha, kore rawa e mutu mai.

*My heart is pounding
My thoughts are in turmoil
Alas young man, my love will never end.*

Waiho ra ma te wa koutou e tama ma
E whakahoki mai
Kia awhiawhi atu aku ringa nei
Ki to uma piri ai.

*Let it be, that only time, young men
Will bring you back
So that my arms can embrace
Your bosom.*

Ka patupatu ake taku manawa
Ka whakarangirua i aku mahara
Aue tama ko taku aroha, kore rawa e mutu mai.

*My heart is pounding
My thoughts are in turmoil
Alas young man, my love will never end.*

25. He wawata i nga rangi nei

He wawata i nga rangi nei, i nga po roroa nei
I kite au i a koe, e taku tumanako
E rere ra e nga kapua, whaia te tau kei hea
E kore rawa e mutu, te aroha i ahau e.

*In my fantasies these days and long nights
I saw you, my desire
So fly on clouds, pursue my loved one to where-ever
For there will never be an end, to the love within me.*

26. Tamariki Maori hei ha hei

Tamariki Maori hei ha hei
 E haka atu nei hei ha hei
 Hei matakitaki ma te iwi Pakeha
 Whatiwhati to hope hei ha hei. (2x)

*We are Maori children, hei ha hei
 Performing a haka here, hei ha hei
 To be viewed by the Pakeha people
 So, sway your hips hei ha hei.*

27. E papa Waiari taku nei mahi

E papa Waiari taku nei mahi, taku nei mahi
 He tuku roimata
 E aue, ka mate au, e hine hoki mai ra

*O elder Waiari, all I seem to do
 Is to shed tears
 Alas, I will die, so girl return unto me.*

Maku e kaute o hikoitanga (2x)
 E aue, ka mate au, e hine hoki mai ra

*I will count your footsteps
 Alas, I will die, girl, so return unto me.*

28. E rere taku poi, kauria atu ra

E rere taku poi, kauria atu ra
 Nga riri o te moana e papaki mai nei
 Ko taku aroha me kawe ki te tau
 Kiia atu kia hoki mai (2x)

*Fly my poi, and navigate
 The hostile seas that crash forth here
 Let my love be carried to the beloved one
 To say, come back home.*

29. Taku wairua ora nei tipu taku kino nei e

Taku wairua ora nei, tipu taku kino nei e
 Aue, te matakau e
 Ka rekareka matau e (2x)
 Ka ru, ka ru, ka te i au e (3x)
 Ka haere ki te ora mou.

*My spirit is well, but still quite vulnerable
 Alas, there is much to fear
 For though we be happy (2x)
 We must still endure the stresses and strains of life
 In order to gain true fulfilment.*

30. E te iwi e, whakarongo mai

E te iwi e, whakarongo mai, me whai mai ta koutou
 I muri i taku noreira (aue)
 Pakia kia rite, waewae takahia
 Ringaringa e torona kei waho hoki mai
 Turi whatia, hope whai ake
 Hei, hei, hei ha!

*Oh people, listen, let all of you follow
 After me, therefore (alas)
 Clap in unison, tramp feet in unison
 Stretch out arms and return them inwards
 Bend your knees and sway your hips
 Hei, hei, hei ha!*

31. Hokihoki tonu mai te wairua o te tau

Hokihoki tonu mai te wairua o te tau
 Ki te awahi reinga ki tenei kiri e, ki tenei kiri e.

*Return oh spirit of the loved one,
 To give me a fleeting embrace, skin to skin.*

Ka pinea koe e au, ki te pine o te aroha
 Ki te pine e kore nei, e waikura e, e waikura e.

*I will adorn you with an ornament of love,
 With an ornament that will never rust away.*

32. E Waka e, kei whea ra koe?

E Waka e, kei whea ra koe?
 Tenei o tamariki, e mahi nei i nga mahi
 I runga o te motu nei
 Ka matua-koretia to iwi e
 Ki runga o te motu nei

*Oh Waka, where are you?
 Here are your children doing what they have to,
 Throughout this isle
 Your people are fatherless without you
 Throughout this isle.*

33. Moe mai e hika i to moenga roa

Moe mai e hika i to moenga roa
 Raro i te rata mokemoke ai
 Ma te Atua koe e tiaki mai
 Moe mai e hika i to moenga roa.

*Sleep loved one, your never-ending sleep
 Alone, beneath the rata tree
 May God look after you
 Sleep loved one, your never-ending sleep.*

34. E tangi ana koe, hine e hine

E tangi ana koe, hine e hine
 E ngenge ana koe, hine e hine
 Kaati to pouri ra, noho i te aroha
 Te ngakau o te Matua
 Hine e hine (2x)

*You are weeping, girl, girl
 You are weary, girl, girl
 Be sad no longer, may you rest in love
 In the heart of the Father
 Girl, girl.*

35. Haere, haere ra e hine

Haere, haere ra e hine, haere ra ki pamamao
 Waiho au ki muri nei, tangi hotuhotu ai.

*Farewell, farewell girl, farewell to some distant place
 Leave me here, crying and sobbing.*

36. E pari ra nga tai ki te akau

E pari ra nga tai ki te akau
E hotu ra ko taku manawa
Aue haria mai te aroha ki ahau
Te iwi e, he ngakau tangi noa.

Chorus: Tena ra, tahuri mai, e te tau te aroha
Tenei ra ahau te tangi nei mohou kua wehea nei
Haere ra mahara mai, e te tau kia mau kia u
Haere ra ka tuturu ahau, haere ra.

Ngaro noa koe e tama i nga marae nei
Ko te aroha e tama e pehi kino nei
Kei Ihipa koe e tama, kei Karipori ra
Aue te mamae e tama, haere, haere ra

Haere ra e tama, haere ra
Haria ra te aroha i ahau
Aue me tangi noa ahau ki muri nei
Haere ra e tama, haere ra. (*Chorus:* Tena ra ...)

37. Maringi noa nga roimata

Maringi noa nga roimata, mou kua wehea nei
Ka tangi tonu ahau ki a koe, kia hoki mai ano
Maringi noa nga roimata, mou kua wehea nei.

38. Tai timu, tai pari, taihoa e haere

Tai timu, tai pari, taihoa e haere
Kia mutu taku riringi roimata e.

Ka pinea koe e au, ki te pine o te aroha,
Ki te pine e kore nei, e waikura e.

39. I runga o nga puke

I runga o nga puke, pa mai to reo
Hau maiangi i kawe mai
He reo aroha patai ana mai,
He aha tau e pirangi nei?

Kia awhi kau atu ki to tinana i ngaro
E ngaro nei e, i enei ra
Ko tou aroha, ko toku aroha,
Ka mutu pea, aue te pai

40. Po atarau e moea iho nei

Po atarau e moea iho nei
E haere ana koe ki pamamao
Haere ra, ka hoki mai ano
Ki te tau e tangi atu nei.

*Flow oh tides, to the seashore
Sob, oh heart of mine
Alas bring the love unto me
Oh people, this heart can only but weep.*

*Therefore, turn back to me, beloved one,
For here I cry for you now separated
Farewell and remember, dearest, to be staunch and true
Farewell, I too will be faithful, farewell.*

*Your presence is lost, young man, from these marae
And sorrow is forever pressing down on me, young man
For you are in Egypt, young man, and in Gallipoli,
And great is the pain, young man, so fare thee well.*

*Farewell, young man, farewell
Take with you my love
Alas, all I can do is but weep back here
Farewell, young man, farewell.*

*The tears flow unchecked for you, who have left me
I weep always so that you come back again
The tears flow unchecked for you, who have left me.*

*Low tide, high tide, wait awhile before leaving
Until I have finished shedding my tears.*

*I will adorn you with an ornament of my love
It is an ornament that will never rust away.*

*While on the hills, your voice reached me
The gentle breeze wafted it forth
A voice of love was asking
What is it that you desire?*

*Just to embrace your body now lost from me
Lost from me these days
However, with your love, and my love
Ultimately, all will be fine.*

*On this moonlit night, as sleep occurs
You are going far away
Farewell then, but come back again
To the loved one, weeping here for you.*