

HE POROPOROAKI

1970 te tau ka haere te kapa haka o Waikato-Maniapoto ki Tūranga ki te whakamānawa i a Kuini Irihāpeti te Tuarua me tōna whare ariki i tau mai ki reira i runga anō i te reo karanga o te ao Māori. Ko Kelly Koroheke o Ngāti Maniapoto, kuia rōreka, kuia tino ngahau, kuia arohaina nuitia e te katoa o te hunga i tae mai ki te kura o te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori i tū ki te marae o Kirikiriroa i te marama o Mahuru 1993, tētahi o ngā kaihaka, ā, i tūtaki māua i ngā whakatikatika a te kapa i mua i te haerenga.

Ahakoia tōna tino matatau ki te reo i haere tonu mai ia ki te kura, he hiahia hoki nōna ki te whai i ngā whakamātautau e taea ai e ia te tūranga Kaiwhakamāori. He tauhou ki a ia te nuinga o ngā mahi engari i ū ia me te māngari anō hoki o te hunga i noho i tōna taha rongo ai i tōna reo ātaahua. I muia anō ai hoki nā te wairua ngahau, nā te ngākau māhaki ōna. He kuia mihimihi ki te tangata, he kuia waiata noa, he kuia mākohakoha, kāore nei ōna whakatenetene ki te inoia atu ia kia riro māna ngā ope e karanga ki te marae, ki te wharekai rānei.

Nāna i whakatauiria mai te wairua whakahei i a ia i kōrero ai mō te haerenga o rātou ko tōna tuakana, ōna tāina anō hoki ki te whenua o Haina. Hemo ana tērā te whakaminenga i te kata i te whakarongotanga ki a ia me tana waiata i tito ai, E Koro, kia tere e!” E kore au e rongo anō i te waiata “Ghost riders in the sky” me te kore e hoki o te whakaaro ki a koe!

Kāti, Kelly, koirā taku kitenga whakamutunga i a koe nā reira koirā kē te whakaahua ōu ka mau tonu ki taku hinengaro, ki taku whatumanawa. Otirā, ko kōrua tahi ko tō tamāhine ko Pētiwaea, i reira e whakangahau ana, ā, i roto i te rā nei kua kore rā kōrua, waiho noa mai ana ko mahara, ko aroha hei hoa haere ki ngā kura.

E te reo reka, e te wairua whakakata, e te ngākau aroha nui ki te tangata, mā ēnei kupu o tētahi o ngā waiata ā tētahi o ō tīpuna hei whakaata i tāku i popore ai:

E titi koia te atarau

Tiaho i runga rā

Hinapōuri ka ahu mai ai au

Ka ruru ki te whare....

Kei taku kākā tarahae, kei taku manu tioriori kua mū nei koe i roto i te rā nei, me mihi taurangi noa rā te mihi ki a koe e kui, haere rā, haere atu rā!

TE KURA REO I WAIMĀRAMA

Ko te reo tāwhiri nō ngā hapū o Waimārama, ko te reo tautoko i te karanga nō te whiti, nō te uru, nō te muri, nō te tonga, ko te hemonga i whakarauika mai ai tēnei tira a te Taura Whiri ki runga o Taupunga, arā ko tō tātou reo Māori kia ora tonu, nō te katoa.

Tōna rima tekau nei ngā tāngata i tau mai hei pia mā te Taura Whiri. He mea whakarōpū ēnei ākongā i runga i tō rātou matatau ki te reo, kia kore ai te hunga tino mōhio e hōhā i a pākiki mā, i a whakaroaro mā, kia kore ai rānei te hunga kei raro kē e putu ana e hopohopo, e whakatenetene ki te pātai i ngā pātai e taea ai a runga ake.

Kitea ana i konei te tangongitanga o te matatau o te iwi Māori ki tō tātou reo. Ko tērā o tātou ka mahuki ake i roto i ngā mahara, ko tō tātou kuia i haere mai i te nuku o te whenua, ko Tūnganekore. I a au ka whakaaro ki tēnei kurapae i tau mai ki waenganui i a tātou, ka hoki auau mai ngā huatau ki ngā kōrero mō Te Puhi-huia, kei reira nei te kupu e hāngai ana ki tēnei kuia: “Anana! Me te maure ka puta ake i te pae!”

I autaia tonu te tokomaha o te tāngata matatau