

Iritana Tāwhiwhirangi

Nā Timoti Kāretu
Nō Ngāi Tūhoe



Ko Iritana Tāwhiwhirangi me tētahi o ngā mokopuna o te kōhanga reo.

Kore rawa atu e taea tētahi kōrero te whakaputa mō Te Kōhanga Reo me te kore anō hoki e whakahua i te ingoa o te wahine nei, o Iritana Tāwhiwhirangi, te kaihautū me te kaiurungi o tēnei o ō tātou waka mai i tōna uakitanga. Ahakoa pēhea te āhua o te moana hei hoenga mō te waka ko ia tēnā e tū atu ana ki aua ngaru whakahōtaetae mai i te neke whakamua, i te whakakukūnga rānei ki tōna wāhi e ū ai.

Kātahi nā pea te wahine ka taea te ki he manawa titi, he tāiki ngāpara, nā te mea he ū, he pono, he whakapono anō hoki nōna ki te kaupapa o Te Kōhanga Reo. Nā tērā āhua hoki ōna i hau ai ngā rongo o tēnei kaupapa ki ngā tōpito o te motu, o Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa, ā, i te mutunga iho, ki ētahi whenua o te ao e kimi nei me pēhea kē rā te whakaora ake i ō rātou ake reo i rite nei ki tō tātou te tata ngaro i te mata o te whenua.

E whiua ana te mahi a te kupu mōna, arā, he amo wheke, he kiripiro, he taikaha, he tuanui engari

he kupu ēnei e taea ana te whakahāngai ki te huhua noa iho o te tangata. Ko te āhua kē ōna kāore te marea i te mōhio, ko tōna tino aroha ki te tangata, ko tōna aro nui ki te tangata. I tua atu i tērā, ahakoa tōna riri ki te tangata, puta ana te riri kua mutu te wāhi ki tērā, korekore ana nei ōna paku whakamau ki te tangata. Nā ēnei āhuatanga katoa ōna i aroha nuitia ai ia e te tangata.

Nōna ka whakatau kua tae ki te wā e aro ai ia ki a ia anō, ka māharahara te ao kōhanga reo ko wai rā hoki hei tū mai i tōna tūranga, hei takahi rānei i ōna tapuwae. Ko tōna rite ka uaua te kītea engari ko te waimarie, kua whakaae ia kia noho tonu mai i Te Poari Matua nā te mea, ko ōna mōhiotanga ki te kaupapa he mea nui ki Te Poari, ā, ka taea ērā te tonu atu i te wā ka hiahiatia.

Ko āku ake mihi ki te wahine nei e kore e taea te whakakākahu ki te kupu noa nei, engari ka noho tonu mai ki te pae o mahara. Ko tātou katoa e whakapono nei ki te ora tonu o tō tātou reo, me whakaputa he mihi ki a Iritana, nā te mea, me kore ake ia i pēnei rawa

ai te kaha o tēnei whakahaere kua noho nei hei tūāpapa mō te reo o ā tātou tamariki, mokopuna, i mua i te rironga mā ngā kura kauapa me ērā atu o ngā whare whakaakoranga e whakawhānui atu, e whakahōhonu atu.

Kāti, anei ia kua whakatā mai i tāna i mahi ai hei painga mō Te Kōhanga Reo puta noa i te motu. Me ki pea ko tāna ōhākī mai ki te ao Māori, ko te kōhanga reo, ā, kia waiho noa ake mā ētahi o ngā kupu o tētahi o ngā waiata a Te Kōhanga Reo hei whakaū i te whakaaro nui ki a ia,

*Ko koe te whetū o te rangi
Kua tātaihia ki taku tinana*

Noho pai mai e Iri, i roto i ēnei, i ngā rā kua whakaritea nei e koe hei whakatātanga mōu. Me pēnei kau noa ake

‘Nāu i whatu te kākahu, he tāniko noa tāku.’