

He Rā Whatiwhati Kō

Taku piki kōtuku e
Ka tau mai koe i hea?
I rere mai tūāraki e
i Rakiātea
Ehara i te mea pokanoa
tō taeka mokorea

Te toi o te kurutao, ko koe
te marea kei muri rā
ōu tīpuna kairaki
kaiwhakaterere moana
kaipōkai marohi
o neherā

Tōku māpihi pounemu
i ahu koe i a wai?
I kā rika rehe o mua
whakairohia, hākaia
e te kāhui kahuraki
hei taoka ahurei

Translation:

My rare feather plume
where are you from?
You flew in from far away
from Rangiātea

Your arrival at this time
is not by chance

You are the tip of the arrow
many stand behind you
your mighty ancestors
expert navigators
and explorers
of long ago

My pounamu treasure
Who made you this way?
You were shaped
by the skilled hands
of your noble ancestors
into a unique taonga