



**KO RONA ME
TE MARAMA.**

KO RONA METE MARAMA.

Nā Wiremu Grace.

Nā Kawata Teepa i whakamāori.

Nā Andrew Burdan ngā whakaahua.

Kāore a Rona rāua ko tana hoa tāne a Tamanui-te-rā i te noho pai.

Ā, he hononga hua kore, he maha ngā tautohe, he maha hoki ngā pōhēhētanga. I moe taumau kē hoki rāua, kua tohua kē rāua e ō rāua mōrehu tīpuna, e ngā kaiārahi hoki i ō rāua iwi. He maha hoki ngā moenga taumau i aua wā hei whakakaha ake i ngā rārangi whakatipu, ki te tūhono hoki i tēnā iwi, i tēnā iwi. I te nuinga o te wā, ka noho pai ēnei tūmomo hononga. Engari mai i te rā tuatahi, kua mōhio kē a Rona rāua ko Tamanui-te-rā kāore rāua e hiahia ana ki a rāua anō. Ā, i te pō tuatahi o te mārena ka marangai, ka waipukehia te marae, ka mate hoki te noho a te whānau a Rona ki taua whare mākūkū. Koinei te pūtake o te tautohe tuatahi a Rona rāua ko Tamanui-te-rā – ko wai ka mōhio he tīmatanga noa iho tēnei.



Ka huri ngā tau me ngā tautohetohe hoki i waenga i te tokorua nei. Kua tautohetohe mō tēnei, mō tērā. Ahakoa he aha te take, ka tautohehia e rāua. Nā te kaha o te tokorua nei ki te tautohe ki a rāua anō, kāore rāua i aro ki tō rāua iwi, ā, kua takeo kē ō rātau taringa ki ngā mahi a te tokorua nei. Kātahi ka noho te iwi ki te whakaaro ake i tētahi ara hei whakapai ake i te tūhonotanga o te tokorua nei kia kōrero pai ai rāua ki a rāua, kia pai hoki tā rāua noho. Ka whakaatu te iwi i ngā tauira pai hei whai mā rāua tahi, engari tē aro i te tokorua rā ngā mahi a te iwi. Ko ō rāua reo tohe noa iho ngā mea i rongō ake rāua.

I tētahi pō raumati, kei konei te tokorua nei e tautohetohe ana mō te whakakī i ā rāua tahā wai. Ko te tikanga i pēnei ai, he kaha tautohe nō rāua, ka wareware i a rāua te whakakī i ngā tahā ki te wai. Ka kī atu a Rona ki a Tamanui-te-rā i te hiainu a ia, ka huri ake a ia i tana moenga ka whakamātau ki te moe.

“Kaua e whakaturi mai i a koe. Kei te hiainu āu!”

“Ana! Haere ki te tiki wai, he waewae ōu.”

“Kātahi rā te tangata māngere ko koe! Mai i te wā i mārena tāua, kāore he mahi kia pahawa i a koe!”

“He noho noa āku mahi? Nāku ngā ika i mau i te rā nei!”

“Ā, nāku ngā huawhenua me tō ika i tunu, maumahara ana koe?”

“Ā, maumahara au – i tahuna e koe!”

“Kāhore, kāore e aro i a koe.”

“Huh!”

“Huh!”

Ka noho noa a Rona ki reira, whakakuene ai. Ka ngongoro mai te ihu o Tamanui-te-rā. Nā te kaha whakatakariri a Rona ka puta atu i te whare me āna tahā wai. E hikoi ana a Rona i te huarahi me ōna tahā, e komekome ana ki a ia anō.

“Koretake, kai a te ahi rā ... he komekome noa iho āna mahi. Komekome, i ia rā, i ia rā, i ia rā. Āe, koinā tōna pai – he komekome! Ko ia te kaikomekome rawa atu o te pā. Me hoatu pea i tētahi tiki pounamu ki a ia mō tēnā. Ha!”

Kāore a Rona i mōhio e kawea ana āna kōrero ki te pō, ā, tae noa ki te Marama e whiti mai ana. I a Rona e hikoi ana i te huarahi, ka pūhia ngā kapua ki te mata o te Marama ka hunai, ka noho pōuri te whenua. Ka pore a Rona ka hinga ki te whenua. Ka mamae tōna ringa, ka korara ngā tahā wai rā. E whāwhā haere ana a Rona mō ana tahā, ka kohia e ia. Ka tū ake a ia, ka pūhia anō ngā kapua, ka puta anō te māramatanga ki

te whenua. Nā tana kaha whakatakariri, ka tiro ake a Rona ki te Marama, ka kangakanga atu ki a ia.

“Marama koretake, ēkene anō koe! Kāore koe i kite i a au i konei? Kei te pura kē koe? Mōhio ake ngā whetū i a koe, ka mārama tonu i ngā wā katoa. He mahi ngoikore tēnā, te mutunga mai o te ngoikore!”

Kāore te Marama i paku aroha ake ki a Rona. Nā tōna rangona i ngā kōrero a Rona, ka whakatūpato atu a ia i te wahine rā.

“Kia tūpato koe e hine, kei noho koe ka mahi i āu mahi.”



Ka kaitaina atu ngā kōrero rā e Rona, ka noho tonu ki te kanga atu ki te Marama. Ka pau te wā e mahi ana a Rona i tana mahi, kātahi ka hōhā kē atu te Marama, ka toro atu mai i te rangi ki te kohi i a Rona. Ka kite a Rona i te Marama e toro mai ki a ia, ka huri ake ki te oma. Kātahi ka mate ngā kanohi a Rona nā te kaha o te mārama mai o te Marama, kāore i taea te karo. Ka kapohia atu e Rona he rākau ngaio e tipu ana i te taha o te huarahi engari hua kore ana tērā mahi, ka hikina atu e te Marama ki te rangi. E kake ana a Rona ki te rangi, ki te pō, e noho matakua ana a ia.

Awatea rawa ake, ka noho a Tamanui-te-rā ki te rapu i a Rona. Ka pātahia e ia te iwi ki te āwhina i a ia, engari he rua noa iho i te wāhi i reira he rākau ngaio i te taha o te huarahi te mea i kitea. Pōuri ana te iwi i te ngarohanga o Rona. I pōhēhētia kua oma kē a ia nā tōna tūhonotanga ki a Tamanui-te-rā. Kāore i aro i a Tamanui-te-rā tēnei mahi, he maha ngā pō e noho pōuri ana a ia, nā āna mahi komekome ki a Rona. Tērā pea ka pai ake a ia ki a Rona mēnā i hoki mai a ia.

Nā, i te tuatahi kāore tonu a Rona i hiahia atu ki te Marama. Ka whakamātau ake a ia ki te tautohe atu ki te Marama, heoi anō ko ngā mahi a te Marama he kōrero pai atu ki a ia, he āta manaaki i a ia. Ka huri te wā, ka aro ake a Rona kāore noa he take o te tautohe. Heoi anō ka noho a ia ki reira, kōrero atu ai ki te Marama mō tōna wā i a Papatūānuku. Nā tōna roa ki reira, ka whakatipuhia e ia tētahi māra nui rawa atu, ka tuia e ia ngā kākahu mai i ngā puehu whetū. Nāna tonu a ia i ako ki te hanga rūma hou mō tō rāua kāinga ko te Marama.

I tētahi rā ka kōrero atu te Marama ki a Rona mēnā e hiahia ana a ia ki te hoki ki a Papatūānuku. Ahakoa tana kaha aroha ki a Rona, ko te hiahia kē o Rona te mea nui ki a ia.

Heoi, kua rawe katoa ki a Rona tēnei ao, ā, kua kaha hoki tōna aroha atu ki te Marama. Ka whakaaro ake a Rona ahakoa tōna aroha ki tōna whānau, ka noho tonu ia ki konei, koina tōna hiahia.

Harakoa ana te Marama ki te hiahia a Rona, ka hoatungia e ia tētahi taonga i takea mai i tōna tipuna kuia. He korowai taua taonga rā, i tuia ki ngā whetū, ki ngā tikanga tūmatarau hoki. Mā tēnei korowai e taea e ia te whakamātau i ngā tai o te moana, ka kīia a ia, mai i taua wā ki tēnei ko Rona-whakamau-tai. Ā, mai i tōna kāinga i te rangi, ka taea e ia te huri i ngā tai, i ngā awa me ngā roto o Papatūānuku. Ā, nā te mea ko te nuinga o te kiko tangata he wai, ka taea e ia te huri i ngā rongō ā-tinana. Mā tēnei mahi i noho harakoa ai te ao.

Ka haere te wā, ka ara ake te Marama ki te pā e noho rā a Rona i ngā wā ō mua, ka tū ake a Rona ki reira ka titiro whakararo ki tōna whānau, ki ōna uri, ki tōna iwi hoki. Ka tiro ake te whānau ki te Marama ka kite i a Rona me tōna korowai ātaahua, e pupuri ana i te rākau ngaio me ngā tahā wai. Mōhio tonu rātau, kua harakoa katoa a Rona.

I te tīmatanga i te pōuri a Tamanui-te-rā, engari koia anō tētahi i ara ake i te pōuritanga, kua mōhio a ia kei te noho pai a ia. Ka pau ngā tau ka mārena anō a Tamanui-te-rā, ā, kua mōhio kē a ia he tangata pai ake ia i tēnei wā, he mahi i ngā mahi ahakoa he aha, te kōrero tika atu ki tōna hoa rangatira.

Noho pai mai ana a Rona-whakamau-tai, te kaitiaki i ngā tai moana me te Marama. Mai i taua wā ki tēnei rā tonu ka kitea tonuhia a Rona me tōna korowai tūmatarau e pupuri tonu ana i te rākau ngaio me ngā tahā kei ōna ringa.

