

HĀWEA APIATA

Te Ara Patupaiarehe

He kupu whakamihi ki Te Kāhui Hakuturi ki Taupiri

E ngū ana te pō,
kua nohopuku ngā tamariki a Tāne.
Ko te hamumu noa a ngā
waka pōkai whenua e rangona ana.

Arā ngā pou-tiaki e tū rehurehu ana i te hiwi,
kua heke mai nei rātou i ngā tihi maunga
ki te toro atu i te ira tangata.
He tūtei e mātakitaki iho ana i te huanui o raro—
ko te ara tērā i takahia rā e te tini o te hakuturi.

Nā te ringa whao rātou i kukume mai ki te ao,
kia rongonoa i ngā hihi o Tamanuiterā.

Stillness.
The night is silent
but for the hum
of land-bound waka.

Figures, motionless on the ridge—
visitors from quiet peaks,
sentries in the dark
watching their old trail.

The carver's hand
has coaxed them to the light,
so they might know
the sun's warmth on their skin.