

1. Haere mai Owen Pomana Life song

Sung by Kāhui Winiāta-Tōpi

© Nicky Moran 2018 lyrics, music

Theme: Haere mai, Haere mai.....

Verse 1:

Simple roots, living on the land
Educated with a helping hand
Well centred 'til grief took my Dad
Armed forces shaped this young man

Verse 2:

Chasing dreams, built that body fine
Best friend stole that girl of mine
Drink fuelled anger, wanted to die
Rejected I crossed over the line

Theme: Haere mai, Haere mai.....

Verse 3:

Shamed, homeless, my bold was sold
Needing to eat, keep out the cold
Friends on the street
Heavy debts collected
Gangs and drug lords had their hold

Verse 4:

My hands spoke of a story of violence
Tall rap sheets, jail sentence
Taonga stolen, they took my whole world
Hammered, I called out "Vengeance!"

Chorus:

I found myself, I was all messed up
"God if you're real, oh, please help me
Don't want to die, no no
At the hands of evil men
I'll give this life, oh and serve you."

Theme extended:

Haere mai (God heard my prayer)
Haere mai (He spoke the Truth to me)
Haere mai (Showed His love to me)
Haere mai (Process took time)
Haere mai (I was born again)
Haere mai (Forgiven with restoration)

Bridge:

Walking through the valley of the shadow of death
How many nations have touched my hands
My affection shining with His Kindness so brightly
The poor, homeless and prisoners in these lands

Chorus x2:

Theme: Haere mai, Haere mai.....