

Aotearoa

LAND OF SHINING PRIMAL FORESTS

Tune: AOTEAROA
Colin Gibson

1. Land of shining primal forests,
Sculptured ribbon framed by sea;
Land of mystic snow-clad markers
Charged with raw vitality;
Valleys wreathed in mists of morning,
Earth caressed by sparkling light,
Gift of God, our awesome homeland,
Signed with Nature's cross by night.
2. Sing two races' different stories,
Sing their hopes and sing their needs.
Let the Treaty write our story,
Frame our vows and shape our deeds.
Bid the people sit at table,
Share their joys and share their pains;
Join in covenant and banquet,
Break the bread and break the chains.
3. To the Nation's patterned weaving
We have brought our vibrant threads,
Gifts of language, gifts of custom,
Precious gifts of heart and head.
Let us name our river, mountain,
Make this soil our spirits' earth,
Find the Christ in land and people,
Bring God's tender dream to birth.
4. Dream our country's future pathway,
Shape that journey day by day;
Use the Treaty's founding wisdom,
Share the power and share the praise.
Then beyond the present struggles,
Festive joys and lurking fears,
Nation building based on justice
Shall empower the people's prayers.

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