

Aotearoa

DEAREST EARTH OUR MOTHER

Tune: CRANHAM

Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

MHB 137, AMR 67, NS 42,

CH3 178, CH4 305, EH 25

1. Dearest Earth, our mother,
Kind and bountiful;
Loving all your children,
Giving life to all;
We are all your whānau
Joined by spiral thread,
Binding all the living,
Linking all the dead.

2. Earth will always nurture
Ancient wisdom said;*
Humans break this bonding
Leaving species dead.
Mother Earth lies bleeding
Tortured by our hands
Seeking endless profits
From the finite land.

3. Aotearoa,
Sacred Island space;
Home where God in Nature
Shows a furrowed face;
Land for all our children,
Born and yet to be,
May your weeping help us
Long to set you free!

** Maori Proverb*

"The Earth is a mother who never dies"

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