



what r u w/ a broken heart?

essa may ranapiri & hana pera aoake

Hana Pera Aoake (Ngāti Raukawa, Tainui) is a writer and artist trapped in Te Whanganui-a-tara, Aotearoa. They are currently drowning in debt they will never be able to repay completing an MFA at Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa (Massey University). Hana works primarily within the Māori art collective, *Fresh and Fruity* with Mya Morrison-Middleton (Ngāi Tahu). Hana mostly writes about their feelings online and cries.

Essa May Ranapiri (Ngāti Raukawa, Tainui) is a poet from Kirikiriroa, Aotearoa / they are part of the local writing group *Puku.riri|Liv.id* & edit for *Mayhem* literary journal / they graduated with an MA in Creative Writing from the *IIML* in 2018 / they have words in *Mayhem*, *Poetry NZ*, *Brief*, *Starling*, *THEM* and *POET RY Magazine* / they never grew out their emo phase and will write until they're dead.

what r u w/ a broken heart?

The light asks questions of the body be it in te rā or halogen
It shapes the curves and white lines the abrupt drop of limb
And hair pulled straight out of natural curls
Leaving foreskin lamenting what r ya what r ya what r ya
The car drives past so fast hugging the bean shaped
Roundabout the intersection of toxic masculinity and ign
Orance / what i am made of lingers in their eyes
A speckling that turns me into swimming atoms
I is a material reality and u are also

Green water bubbling through brown
White hands clasp my chest, my stomach, my breasts
Possess me
I'm your Pania
Guarding the digital reef

I wanted to scream
A very young girl
Hands clasped together behind your back
Rubbing along the edge of your jeans
I laugh along
But I feel your presence
Men like you took everything from people like me
Whiteness glistening
Christchurch bubbling and swallowing itself
Much like this pain

I am deserving of respect / even if you choose not to give it / I exist / even if you choose to ignore it / I can see you / even if you think I can't / I am stronger / even if your gaze continues to colonise me / I am lacerated on the inside / even if you never could really see me

Ehara i te mea
Nō nāianei te aroha
Nō nga tūpuna
Tuku iho, tuku iho¹

¹ I carry the women in my family in my body. They sing this waiata to me while I sleep. They curse your body and send it back to England where it belongs. They watch over me. My kuia is around my neck. You can't hurt me unless I let you

I speak my language and I hear all of my ancestors scream

Ka nui taku aroha ki a koe²
Kia mau koe ki nga kupu o ou tupuna³

Māharahara

(verb) to think frequently of, think about.
(verb) to be anxious, preoccupied, worried, apprehensive.

Toku toa, he toa rangatira⁴

I don't want to be with someone who cannot be challenged.
I don't want to be with someone who cannot challenge me.

Kaua he whakamā ki te korerō Māori
Ahakoa he iti, he tāonga

² My love for you knows no bounds

³ Hold fast to the words of your ancestors

⁴ My bravery is inherited from the chief who were my forebears

What if they're all dead? The Taniwha?

I hear her say in the back of her mind

Out the mouth like snake

The s sound is brought from Eden on the Endeavour

I can spit it all night but

Struggle with kia ora

Struggle with-

With the throat that so quickly says r without rolling any

Boulders away

boredom is a type of knife

How crescent full the class system has scythe

Edges to exacerbate the differences

My dress

Eye dress in

What does the stranger think of me what does the pākehā think of

Who i am

I can dream of flax i can dream of the mathematics folding the flax who are we to know these things who are we to not

Who is the we

I smell the raukawa leaf

But find a three leaf clover under my tongue

Will i spit it out?

A man told me I come from the south.

And I pictured Lucifer genderless seeking council with

Hinenuitepō

Am I the snake am I the snake being swallowed by the taniwha? Do I know what this means?

Do I ask enough of this?

Nothing is dead if they are with Her⁵

Like Moa down on the forehead

Extinct softness

Aroha

Aroha heard in my heart

Do I trip here?

Lying completely naked on the lake of fire Mahuika put all of her hands into this beautiful sight
I start to shrivel into the shape of the manaia around my neck

Are the stars the same in the sky? As they were?

To answer me is to kill everything I am. Learning as a kind of cruci-fixation
a kind of hook in the mouth. Pull my head off.

⁵ Gendered pronouns are a broken artefact for me are they a broken artefact for my ancestors?

I AM A BITTER FISH A BITTER FLESH BETTER BITE DOWN QUICK SO I CAN STOP FUCKING MOVING BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN OCEAN AND SKY I LIVE IN THE DISCRETE SPACE OF BEING CRUSHED PUT ME IN CEMENT MAYBE THEN MY IDENTITY COULD BE WHAT YOU WANTED WITH THE SPIN OF THE GREAT BODY WITH THE SPIN OF OUR GREAT PAPATŪĀNUKU HOLDING THE SUN IN HER EYES WHILE FEELING THE COLD AS THE SKY STRETCHES FURTHER AND FURTHER FROM THE MIGHT OF TANE'S PUSH⁶ THE GREAT CRUNCH IS ON ITS WAY THE LOVING EMBRACE OF A TORN APART LOVER YOU WILL SEE IT AND IT WILL EAT EVERYTHING IN THE PUKU IN A NEW TE PŌ

⁶ [was he the first male “feminist”?]

[we throw our voices to the side the state draws our eyes - i look at you and our genderless bodies]

[i reach out with a fibre connection through this cordless pixel shell]

Which/white parts of me asking for forgiveness and which parts just fall away?

[When I press my nose to yours, when mauri moves between us, are my tūpuna behind me, do they want anything to do with me?]

E hoa? An echo))))) like a fishes gills / see it breathe

Summer ends and u still didn't come back or talk to me again. If I talked to you what would you say. The same script recycled over and over.

*I just want to be dumb⁷
I want to have no brain⁸*

⁷ Perfect Hair Forever, *I just wanna be dumb* on Mall-o-caust, (2012), Crystal Magic

Ur parents insisted on calling themselves 'kinis'. It seemed to make u uncomfortable. Anything surrounding your sense of belonging or challenging your whiteness made u uncomfortable.

I didn't love you gently or gradually. I loved you wholly. All ur imperfections seemed like things u would work on. All of your privilege seemed like something u could acknowledge.

Cannot

Does not want to

Cant

Absolutely

Without

Gone

Leave

Walking

Running

Falling

Crumbling

Can't

Sorry

It's

Just

That

I

Can't

Give

You

What

You

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I played 'up on the roof' by The Drifters and cried violently

⁸ Ibid

What's wrong?

How could I tell u that the only pure, decent, kind and loving man id ever known, whose body was so frail it seemed to collapse in on itself, held my hand as he took his last breath, while 'up on the roof' by The Drifters played?

Grief on top of grief

U did not let me feel my pain. U did not want me to. It was about you. Becoming smaller.

Little bean u called me once.

Same dress and underwear the first and last times

U remembered details of my body of those times that I could not.

Fear

Did u really turn the lights off cos u were afraid of me seeing your body or was it because u didn't want to seem vulnerable or was it because u didn't want to see me seeing you?

I thought you were so much taller, u said to me more than once

I seem like a giant but I'm only 5'1

U said I was a hurricane. If I'm a hurricane then ur an earthquake, because I had no time to prepare.

*Cracking through concrete
Plants grow up following the light*

Our 'love plant' died over and over when u moved in with me

*You bruised me
Excavated every inch of me
Lacerated my insides
Drugged me
Prevented me from sleep*

You got your body back. What's your secret diet?

I can't eat because I loved too deeply'

Date a nice white girl from a nice family who's young and not an artist or a poet.

Six months

Knowing the reasons why it wasn't right. Understanding that they are valid. Recognising your own unhappiness within the relationship. Wanting it all the same

Bubbling plastic strangling the water's tide. Your arms like plastic

We sleep together I rest my head on ur shoulder. We watch a film. It's the same except other bodies lurk in ur skin and I don't belong to u.

*I know you belong to somebody else
But tonight, u belong to me*

A video of u crawling in and out of a window

I suddenly noticed u

He's nice and it'll be easy. We will have sex and that'll be it.

I said this

I believed this

Trapped

When u said I'm happy' did u mean it?

I S T H E R E M E A N I N G I N H A P P I N E S S
I R E P E A T O U T A H O L E I N M Y H E A D I
N E E D E V E R Y T H I N G L I K E I N E E D A
H O L E I N M Y H E A D B E C O M I N G
E M P T Y

If i say these things how long will it take to fill the room with sound like filling the room with
hydrogen how long did it take

When i fucked her and we agreed to leave it as it was (broken) i wore a red dress and she wore
the grazed knee

The pain belonged to me leaving a small part of knee cap on the drive way
I was going to drive away with everyone's things
And wrap them all around my throat to hide the apple there
O Adam I hope you're having a restless sleep
I wanting for Eve to pluck it from me

Lying in here in a white dress on red bed inversed
Colour scheme tear me apart via RBY
There is a glint in my eyes
Drawn from the collarbone of my own mess

Blood quantum versus whakapapa break their scientific instruments tūpuna! Break their pākehā
skulls of phrenology!
And return the wairua their heads.

Why would anyone want to fuck a poet. I will steal. I will be stolen by all these words. Why
would anyone want to fuck me? I am literally waiting for my number to be up.
Waiting in shockingly inappropriate body.

The crusade of my wrongness. See a man. See a white man in an image. What is wrong with the
way light travelled to get here? Tainui i cling to your bow. Tainui I kiss you underneath the
waves. Feel Tane in the wood feel Tangaroa in the wet. I never thought I would survive the surf.

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⁹ WHAT IS A SELF WHAT IS A SELF HOLD THE SELFIE STICK STILL I NEED THIS ONE TO WORK OUT I NEED THE RIGHT ANGLE TO FEEL FEM ABOUT MYSELF thesunsets i am instagram ready to be sick

I can't help but compare
Ur bodies fastened together
Tied together with a ribbon
It's no present

My breast swells up
It's probably nothing
I worry anyway
I wonder if u noticed that I've lost so much weight, my hair is longer and my skin is better.
I think of you and I can't eat.

I know I'm too good for you and you cannot give me anything good or anything I require but I still want ur love so much I'm afraid I'll have a heart attack and die. My veins are pumped w lead, the rot, the sickness

Fall right in I tell her to *fall right in*
U cannot be afraid of being hurt

I imagine ur arms clasped around me tucking me into bed
The weight of your chest

Hold me baby, feel the rush of my heartbeat and quickening of my breath

I am yours

I give you everything I can

U just take and take

U forgot to give

Lingering resentment

Holding together but it started to slip

Why do I love u
Why do I love u
Why do I love u

I try to cry sometimes but nothing comes out

I thought everything was fine

I still hardly understand

I scream out don't leave please don't leave

Abandonment issues from a lifetime of people leaving or dying or hurting me all the same

Leaving piles of dust

U said, 'even when ur leaving I always leave first'.

My body was made for yours
To make you come
So I can come
Sweat pouring from your chest
You drip on me and I slide against you
Covered in your sweat
I love how ur skin tastes
I love how much u love my skin

U caught me off guard

Was it just lust?

My body no longer needs sex nor desire
It's absent of all feeling
It's decorative
Ur body ran straight to other bodies
My body retreated inside itself, hiding

I read a zine you made after ur first breakup
Reading the line about how your parents responded by saying your ex was always welcome in
their house made me realise I never belonged in ur world
Was it because I was Māori or poor and they could tell or was it because they knew it wouldn't
last and never liked me
They know u
U belong with someone like you
I cried once thinking about how I met your whole family and u never met mine
I wanted u to love me properly
It's not as though u were never shown what it means to love
Just that u never listened and could never get past yourself
You have to be the star

*I do lines and lines of white
Alcohol purses my lips
I think of you in summer while I was in Naples
Sun roasting ur skin and turning it bright red*

*You are free and available
But my body isn't mine
It's rusted and wilted
It never was mine
It's cut into parts and put into a slip*

You gave me shelter

Had a dream I cut my own throat like Judy Garland and all your friends watched and ate cake
what does it mean

Dropping concrete bricks on my chest. Sinking inside

Strangling my throat sobs well to the surface

When a man ignores u

How to tell if your ex is still thinking about u?

Relationship coaches

TED talks about breakups

When u ignore me it physically feels like being hit and run over by a truck

Wanting to blend into your world into the whiteness of your skin
Becoming
Being swallowed

Swallowing, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] the human or animal body [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] a substance to pass [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] into the [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] shut [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] wing [REDACTED] a [REDACTED] port [REDACTED] of [REDACTED]
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[REDACTED] e [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] f [REDACTED] o [REDACTED] r [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

A FORM MOLDED FROM TE PO
NO MORE OF THIS EMPTY MEAT
SIT ME ON THE KITCHEN BENCH AND SUGAR ME
POUR SOME MOTHERFUCKING SUGAR ON ME
WE ARE KINGLY¹⁰ BITCHES WE ARE CROWNED IN DUST

*So loss ain't bad
I'm trading processing for sleep
So it don't seem sad that I'm losing you
(Dear and the Headlights)*

How many songs do I dance to alone?

So what? So so so so so? So sososo sos sos sos SOS SOS

¹⁰ Without the feudalism. Without the hierarchy we ache from. A form like the horizon ya know?

Silence.

Longing

- I started to cry when I saw a friends Instagram story
 - You were getting your fringe cut
 - The friend felt bad
 - Sorry I shouldn't have posted it
 - I rewatch it over and over
 - Sobbing with Poetic Justice in the background
- Always in films it rare for two ppl from different socio-economic/ethnic backgrounds to get together
 - Justice (Janet Jackson) and Lucky (Tupac) are both poor and black and have shared traumatic experiences/loss/grief
 - What did we really have in common
 - I forgot what you looked like
 - Ur eyes are so beautiful it's startling
 - They appear bright blue
 - Watery eyes
 - I have watery bones
 - My bones are cracked because I can't eat
 - My bones are leaking water
 - Longing

Please I said please talk to me

The ratio of things ending to things not ending is 1:0
[It looks like a person with a mouth ajar, with slick-backed hair, they've just watched the plane
gut the building they were living in, they just watched in slow motion as the Crown took
9/10ths of their whenua - where does an identity go when it becomes a bank balance - the
vertiginous peaks of profit crush us - the building collapses]

I'm sitting on my couch waiting for the tsunami warnings to go off. Tangaroa take this inebriated
body this incoherent facade. I'll face the chop of the waves. Watching my reflection break apart.
Give me to your children the fish.

A wetness inside the bones summoning a ghost.

*My rage is a taniwha underneath a mountain
Please help me I am very angry*

*And the mountain is starting to wake up
And it won't like what it sees*

*Feeling te Rā weaken
It smashes through the cities*

Scatter vehicle
Scatter road
Scatter
Thoughts

Scatter Me

S *c* *a* *t* *t* *e* *r*

Misc
Matter
Hold

Frag *ment* *some*
Cost

Slim *luminescence*

Aroha
Broken *manaia*

Mottled *lip*s in *purse*
Dragon in stasis

I eye aye

Taike e ta i k e eeeeeeee

Rope snake *rake* *shape*

As space *A marae is for*
Meat *ing* *meet*
We *we* *traverse*
leap *fence*

Taike e

Tāwhirimātea wounds

The forests trees split to their *Roots gone un*
Salvageable

There is a savage in that word and i am not noble get fucked white devils get got

i parked my body on the beach and waited for the sand (as many as stars)
to shore me up into the clouds
but it didn't happen
draw it all together with crumbling flax
i'll reach out to a hand
and it will look like yours
draw me in
draw me under
the light of matariki
those eyes so angrily
positioned

i am a storm made of questions
but i know what i am
for now at least

I'm going to New Plymouth in a short while.

In the heart of Te Ika a Māui lived six mountain gods

Ruapehu

Tongariro

Ngāruahoe

Taranaki

Tauhara

Pihanga

Pihanga was the only female and she was very beautiful

All the other male mountains were in love with her

Especially Taranaki and Tongariro

The Earth shook as the two mountains fought for Pihanga

Tongariro lost his head, some say he deliberately broke it

off to throw at Taranaki, others say Taranaki sliced it off

His head flew off and landed in the centre of Lake Taupō,

where it can be seen today as Moututaiko island

Tongariro was the stronger of the two mountains.

Taranaki shuddered as he was defeated and dived underground

Toka-a-Rauhōtu, a small stone of great mana guided him to the coast.

On his journey he carved the Whanganui river, forming the Ngāere swamp after resting there.

*At the edge of the water Toka-a-Rauhōtu led Taranaki
beneath the sea.*

*He surfaced and glimpsed Pouākai, a beautiful mountain
range*

*He settled beside her and the guide stone rested against him
by the sea.*

Together they had many children

*To this day Tongariro stands protectively over Pihanga
smothering her in clouds of love*

*It is said that despite settling down with Pouākai,
Taranaki is often overcast still crying over Pihanga*

Some
People
You
Never
Get
Over

*It's like I was never hurt before / I don't know if they
know how I feel / I just want to be pure again*

Wait for the weight wait as in weight what weight weighs us down what waits for us t/here?

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