



## District Court of New Zealand | Te Kōti-ā-Rohe o Aotearoa Waiata – Te Ao Mārama

**Kaitito:** Dave Para

**Kaitito rangi:** Dave and Molly Para

**Momo:** Waiata whakangāhau

This waiata was composed by Dave Para, a prolific composer and responsible for many well-known Māori waiata including the growing popular song ‘You’re magic’.

The waiata composition was written to pay homage to the kaupapa of *Te Ao Mārama* and was gifted to Chief District Court Judge Heemi Taumaunu as a ‘waiata whakangāhau’ or a song of entertainment and acknowledgement.

I te tīmatanga ko te pō  
Ko te pō pouri.. te pō roa  
Ko te pō kerekere  
Te pō tangotango...auē!

In the beginning was the night  
the dark night, the long night  
the extensive darkness  
The intensive darkness

Ka kimihia he huarahi  
He ara ngākau mārie  
Kia toro te tika  
Te pono... ā-tangata

In the pursuit of a means  
a holistic genuine pathway  
to seek the truth and justice  
and the sincerity of humankind

Whārikitia te papa Ture  
Ki ngā kupu taunaki e  
Huakina ngā aukati a Ture e..

Lay the woven foundations of the Law  
to enable supportive narratives  
Uncover the barriers of the Law

Kia ai ki te kōrero  
Mā te Ture ...te Ture e āki  
Kia whiti mai rā.  
Kia puta Te Ao Mārama

In accordance with the words  
“The Law.... will be upheld by the law”  
So, the enlightenment may strive  
to allow us to thrive in “Te Ao Marama”

Whārikitia te papa Ture  
Ki ngā kupu taunaki e  
Huakina ngā aukati a Ture e..  
Kia ai ki te kōrero  
Mā te Ture ...te Ture e āki  
Kia whiti mai rā  
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Kia whiti mai rā  
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Lay the woven foundations of the Law  
to enable supportive narratives  
Uncover the barriers of the Law  
In accordance with the words  
“The Law.... will be upheld by the law”  
So, the enlightenment may strive  
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So, the enlightenment may strive  
to allow us to thrive in “Te Ao Marama”

**Sound clip:** [Te Ao Mārama - YouTube](#)

**Actions video:** [Actions for Te Ao Mārama Waiata – Judge Ophir Cassidy - YouTube](#)