

Matariki Hunga Nui

Words by Leon Gray

The Mother (Matariki Gathers Us)

Music by Leon Gray

Bright and joyful

Verses:

A

Soprano Alto

Tenor Bass

Piano

mf

Con Pedale

mp 1. So still was the dark - en'd morn, be -
mf 2. Eve-ry eye near a - wake would be turned to each

5

S
A

T
B

Pno.

fore a - ny hint of dawn, Eve-ry tree, eve - ry bird, not a
gem that, through dark - ness, burned. All that crawled, all that flew all that

8

S
A

T
B

Pno.

breeze, not a word rang through, rang through. And then up a - bove a
lived, all thatgrew looked on as they shone in the in - di-go, si - lent

B

cresc.

12

S
A

sight: there gleamed through the wa-ning night a bough made of light, such a
sky. Each heart sang a lul - la - by: an end to a year to a

T
B

cresc.

Pno.

16

S
A

gar - land so bright it could turn a - ny crea - ture's eye: Nine
smile, to a tear, cast-ing it all ev - er high to nine

T
B

Pno.

poco rall. **C** *a tempo*

19

S
A

trea-sures in the mor - ning sky! Ma - ta - ri - ki hu - nga - nu - i!
trea-sures in the morn - ing sky!

T
B

f

Pno.

f

23

S
A

Ga - ther, laugh and cry! Nga ta - o - nga i te ra - ngi! Nine

T
B

Pno.

27

S
A

1. 2. **D** Bridge: *mp*

trea-sures in the mor - ning sky! sky! Whae - a me a - na

T
B

mp

Pno.

p

31

S
A

ta - ma - ri - ki, watch - ing warm and wise. Mo - ther and her whā - nau, a

T
B

Pno.

36 *ff* **E**

S A
won - der in the skies! Tā - whi - ri - mā - te - a to all gave us his

T B

Pno. *ff*

41

S A
eyes And hung them ov-er Tā - ne, high: nine trea-sures in the mor-ning sky!

T B

Pno.

F Verse 3 *p*

S A
3.All here on Earth nee-ding love shone through in the jewels a - bove: from the

T B
p

Pno. *p*

50

S
A

T
B

Pno.

sky to the ground, to the seas that sur-round, to the rains that su-stain. Eve-ry

cresc.

G *mp*

S
A

T
B

Pno.

tree, from the great-est to the least, eve-ry breeze, eve-ry dream, eve-ry feast, Had a

mp

58

S
A

T
B

Pno.

star loo-king on; e-ver frail, e-ver strong; the pro-mis-es of years gone by: nine

H *f*

Chorus:

62

S A
 trea-sures in the morn - ing sky! Ma - ta-ri - ki hu - nga nu - i!

T B
f

Pno.
f

66

S A
 Ga - ther, laugh and cry! Nga ta - o - nga i te ra - ngi! Nine

T B

Pno.

I

70

S A
 trea-sures in the mor - ning sky! Ma - ta-ri - ki hu - nga nu - i!

T B
ff

Pno.
ff

74

S
A
Ga - ther, laugh and cry! Nga ta - o - nga i te ra -

T
B

Pno.

77

molto rall.

S
A
ngi! Nine trea - sures in the mor - ning sky!

T
B

molto rall.

Pno.

Performance notes:

Verse 1: bars 1-10 could be sung as a solo, and then all sopranos and altos could join in. The full choir would then join in at bar 21. Feel free to organise solos in other verses as you wish.

A quartet might sing the first chorus (bars 21-28), then everyone can join in for choruses after that.

Matariki hunga nui means "Matariki gathers us"

Nga taonga i te rangi means "Treasures of the sky"

Whaea me ana tamariki means "Mother, and her children"

Tāwhirimātea is the son of Papatūānuku (the Earth mother) and Ranginui (the sky father). When his parents were separated, he was so sad, he tore out his eyes and hung them on the sky, over Tāne (god of forests), his brother who had separated them. His eyes are the stars of the Matariki cluster (Pleiades).