**A young mother with her young child**

Ian Gould © 22-29 Feb 2024

Helpless

hopeless

hapless

 nap-less

Happiness

 gratefulness

 blissfulness

 loveliness

Mist swirls

 Mind untwirls

 focus whirled

 eyes unfurled

Hope colours

 a glimpse

 a sliver

 some light

Somewhere

sometime

somehow

someone

But here?

now?

me?

Us?

May be…

 choose free

 high fee

still … be

Head? Muddled

Soul? Befuddled

 Self? Addled

Tamaiti\*? Rattled

Heart battered

worn

torn

occasionally reborn

On edge

 grasp ledge

 thin wedge

 new pledge

Freedom shout

 turn about

who’s to blame?

 hear my name

Sleep evades

mind avoids

altruism absent

heart-fail imminent

Peace eludes

 time precludes

 abuse denudes

 soul bemused

Rest sought

 can’t be bought

 self brought

much thought

Stop…

 Be…

 Wait…

 See

Believe…

Know…

 Enjoy…

 Grow

Connections root

 good fruit

 strong growth

 benefits both

Embrace child-season

 Clarify the reason

 Poipoia te kaakano

kia puaawai\*\*

\*child

\*\*Nurture the seed and it will blossom