The Treaty of Waitangi was first signed on the afternoon of the 6th of February 1840, in the Bay of Islands at Waitangi.

It did not arise from warfare, as a Treaty of surrender, but was signed in a spirit of goodwill under the reigning conditions of Peace.

The Treaty was a Declaration of the traditional Maori rights of absolute authority over Aotearoa. Within this authority the signing Chiefs generously permitted the Crown a role.

The Treaty document is a statement of this concession and forms the fundamental constitutional basis of the Nation.

The Treaty was signed by the representative Chiefs, in the belief that it documented the natural and inalienable Maori rights of land and resource ownership, self determination and the Maori way of life. Simultaneously the Treaty assured Maori of continuing authority and unrestricted access, over all natural resources of Land, Sky and Sea, including Forests, Lakes and Waterways.

Additionally, the Treaty guaranteed to Maori the same protection and rights as British citizens. It permitted the Crown to act as the sole agent in land dealings. It also required the Crown to establish a lawful and just system of **shared Governance**, in compliance with the Treaty conditions.

The Treaty of Waitangi re-stated and re-inforced the position and authority of the Chiefs. It confirmed their right to exercise shared control over the powers of Governorship granted to the Crown.
Chapter 11

Wow Nan - just imagine what it must've been like being the first man on the moon!!

Really Hema - you know that Ronå was the first person - and she is a Maori woman!!
If you look really close, sometimes you can see the hue and ngaio tree beside her.

That's right Ruiq - but then Maori women have been pioneers since the beginning of time. But that's our legacy. First, let me explain...
Human life began with the female element.
Papatuanuku - Earth Mother.

Her offspring were all male.

Tanmahuta searched high and low for the female element needed to create humanity. The universe was filled with female elements... but his interaction with them, producing insects, animals, plant life - everything that lives... yet, not a human.

Tane asked his father Ranginui to tell him where the female element was to be found...

Ranginui replied, 'Te Whare o te Atua ki raro, te Whare o te Aro ki runga.'

Tane Mahuta formed an image out of the earth, from the clay at Kurawaka - out of Papatuanuku.
The land is our Mother... and we women are especially connected.

That's why te iwi Māori are so tied to the land.

That's right - the land provides nourishment, birth and spirituality. Just like we women do. Without land and women, people will die.
WHENUA IS THE MAORI WORD FOR LAND... AND FOR THE PLACENTA - THE LINING OF THE WOMB WHICH FEEDS THE UNBORN CHILD.

THE WHENUA AND PITO ARE BURIED IN THE EARTH AFTER BIRTH, THAT STRENGTHENS THE PHYSICAL/SPIRITUAL LINK TO PAPATUANUKU AND TO THE TURANGIWAENWAE.

Hine nui te Po killed Maui-tikitiki-a-Taranga, didn't he Nan?

That's right. Maui of course, had a very special mother... her name was Taranga.

Maori women of course were extremely active on the marae. They welcomed manuhiri with the karanga, they helped the men with their whaikōrero (acting as prompters!) and controlled oratory with waiata.

But then there were many powerful women in Maui's life...

and his magical deeds were due to him possessing the magic jawbone of Murirangi whenua.

He stole fire from his grandmother Mahuika...

- but our Mana Wahine has always been complementary to mana tane.

You're right Nan—Maori women sure did have a big role to play.
Our lifestyles reflected the balance—
the whānau and hapū all shared
responsibilities for certain tasks...food gathering,
battles, childrearing...

Cripes...bit
different now
just end up
all by myself now.

E noe,
Kotro...

A woman
was known as more than fulfilling a
motherly role (that
role was
filled by many
relatives). She
was a lover,
a teacher, a
warrior, a
composer.

Women were
experts in
various
crafts...

They collected berries,
roots, shellfish and
firewood...

They knew all about
plants, cosmology,
whakapapa...
Women had an identity of their own. When they married, they would keep their name, the husband and children have a new name of their own.

The mother-in-law tried to be as a best friend to her son or daughters new partner.

And often a child was 'given' to its grandparents to further strengthen that family bond.

'Heya, heya, heya... now, what about the one about the mother-in-law who overstayed her welcome... she....'

Wow! Bit different from nowadays, eh!
What happened if the husband mistreated his partner?

Oh, he had to be careful!!!

Any insults could turn to a full-scale war!! Any slight on the individual was felt by the whole whanau!!

Did you hear that, Rangi? How dare he speak to our niece like that? We'll fix him!

The whole family could end up getting involved!!

You ugly useless, little @$*!!!
FOR EXAMPLE, IF ADULTERY WAS COMMITTED, A TAUA PUREMU COULD VISIT THE OFFENDER. IT WOULD BE LED BY WOMEN PERFORMING A HAKA!!

Wow! Yet from what we've read, you wouldn't think anyone would bother—seeing as how women were described as common and unclean!!

Well - that's wrong and it's those narrow definitions of TAPU and NOA that have undermined our status as women.
Taru and Noa are complementary and they've been likened to the walls of a whare - equal in necessary to each other for the building.

Actually, we're to blame for the muck up... We just couldn't relate to all those magnificent stories about women. Not used to that sorta stuff... we had to set the record straight - and when you think about where our thinking came from...
The missionaries brought with them all their baggage...

Women and men were not equal at all according to our beliefs.

Men were linked with the spiritual, the godly and the reasonable.

And women were associated with the flesh, matters of the world...

That's us! We were responsible for the first sin — and have also been associated with temptation and evil.

The one avenue of redemption was to have lots of children, to repress our sexuality and to do as men say. Fun eh??
ONLY MEN WERE BLESSED WITH THE WISDOM AND BRAINS TO KNOW ABOUT SPIRITUAL MATTERS, ABOUT MEDICINE, ABOUT ECONOMICS — IN FACT EVERYTHING IN LIFE!!

I have a dream! One day we will rule the planet and we'll destroy it!! Wow!
Women were looked at as chattels... in fact rape was treated as a "property offence"!

And gifted women who were seen as a threat to men, were burnt at the stake, or drowned.

And like other property could be given away...

If you marry my daughter, I'll give you a horse, cart and two pigs as part of her dowry - now, isn't that a great deal? She won't be a burden at all!!

Bet the horse will be treated better than me!
When of a marriagable age, women were 'presented' to the market place...

Don't forget - you promised to honour and obey...

Any possessions the woman took into her marriage would automatically become the property of the man...

Aah! No doubt about married life!!
Good food, warm bed, a dowry and a servant all in one!!

The thinking of the white male was quite entrenched by the time he made it to Aotearoa...

Choice! Score us some dusky native maidsen as well!
A Woman's Place is in the Home...

Women are only good for one thing...

He's a stud, a healthy young man—she's a trollop, a @*#***!

Barefoot and pregnant... That's what I say!!

It's a woman's lot...

Dont' worry your pretty little head, dear...

It's a man's world.

That's women's work!!

About the situation in China...
How could these people identify, understand or relate to a culture in which men and women played very complementary roles and in which women had very special powers...

In the 1800s, these white males poured into Aotearoa...
A lot of the men who came to Aotearoa in search of fame and fortune, actually deserted women and children – leaving whole families back in Europe...

(or in the towns here, as they went after gold.)

A lot of Pakeha men lived with Maori women had dozens of children to them then married Pakeha women, leaving the land they’d ‘acquired’ to their Pakeha offspring!!

But weren’t NZ women the very first in the world to get the vote?

Yeah, well – not the poor ones, or the prostitutes. ‘Respectable women were supposed to be the moral guardians of society.’

The colonists adopted a special program of immigration in the 1850s in Canterbury and Otago – bringing in women to act as ‘domestics’ and to provide ‘comfort.’
I spose all the men that arrived here only talked to Maori men as well... and didn't bother speaking with Maori women.

Of course! Only men could be custodians of anything important!

After speaking with some of the Maori men, we wrote down what we found out - embellished it from our own beliefs and value system - and of course, once it was in print - it was real...

In fact, Grey actually rewrote Whakapapa to place significance on male lines!

Geez - what rubbish!

Look what they say about Maori women!

Yeah - problem is if it ain't in print, it ain't true, now!!
THE TREATY OF WAITANGI WAS ACTUALLY SIGNED BY AT LEAST FIVE WOMEN BUT COULD HAVE BEEN SIGNED BY MORE...
Throughout the years, Maori women struggled to hold onto Te Tino Rangatiratanga. The women and children of Taranaki continued the struggle of passive protest for which their men were imprisoned—they suffered tremendously in their effort to keep Parihaka and their spirits alive.

Women and children fought alongside their men in battle...

No! The women and children will stay with the men and fight. We will die with our men. Ahumai Te Paerata at Orakau (April 1864)

While the men were often put in prison, the women fought to uphold mana maori, mana whenua.

Villages were still looted, and women raped.

Of course, this situation changed doing the first and Second World Wars—when the men went off, and the women stayed behind.
From 1870, the Pakeha began painting women out of the picture...

Making Maori women invisible

Let's talk about the pecking order...

Just like Pakeha counterparts but worse!!

White Men

White Women

Maori Men (swap positions sometimes!!)

Maori Women
Men controlled the print industry...

Let's just check out these Maori land court records... that woman doesn't need to attend any hearings, eh?

Yeah, and I'll just write that last battle up as a victory for us—the folks back home won't want to hear that we got our beans!!

They occupied all the most useful positions of power—ignored Maori most of the time, and when forced to—related with Maori men... but never with Maori women.

We men have got to stick together, mate. Rugby is the game for the future!
Maori women travelled the world, as scholars and entertainers—pioneering as usual...

During the years of depression Maori women taught Pakeha how to survive by living off the land and sea.

"Thank you Mrs Rangi, I'm so grateful for your help..."

"And Maori people didn't get the 'family benefit' till almost ten years after the Pakeha did."
Wairaka had a long time ago proved that a woman could do a ‘mans’ job... her act of bravery in saving her tribal canoe, helped lower barriers against women in that particular area...

and opened the way for present day women to demand this right.

Princess Te Puea Herangi was another great woman of her time... she led her people out of isolation and tremendous economic success into a new dignified era... building hospitals, promoting culture etc.
In 1945, a quarter of the Maori population lived in urban areas.

In 1960, half did.

In 1975, three quarters did.

In 1981, seventy nine per cent did.
Why did our people move into the cities, Nah?

World War II was the cause—Maori men went to war and the women moved into the towns to work in the industries and services...

**DURING WORLD WAR TWO, LABOUR WAS NEEDED IN FACTORIES**

**AFTER THE WAR, THE DEPARTMENT OF MAORI AFFAIRS WOULD ONLY LEND MONEY TO PEOPLE FOR MORTGAGES IF THEY BOUGHT HOUSES IN THE CITIES...**

While the men were at war, Pakeha women were receiving war pensions. Maori wives got nothing. But then again, that was nothing new.
URBANISATION RESULTED IN A LOSS OF CONFIDENCE AND SELF-ESTEEM

er sorry Miss— you're not exactly what we have in mind!

TRIBAL IDENTITY AND TURANGAWAEWAE.

I've come about the...

Oh... ah... um, sorry— it's just gone!!

Ngeti D. B's the tribe here, girl!
But you can't fit a whole whanau into one of those little townhouses—they're only built for small Pakeha families...

That's right—then of course, all the responsibilities which used to be shared by the whanau were borne by the individual woman.
In the 24-44 age group...

Maori people have three and a half times the rate of heart disease rates in the world.

Maori have the highest lung cancer rate in the world...

You'd smoke too if you had such a stressed out life.

In 1983 and 1984 only ten to fourteen of over eight hundred coronary bypass operations were performed on Maori.

Which raises the whole question of access to good health services.
Maori women have the highest rate of cervical cancer in the world.

Produce more children than do Pakeha women.

Are some of the youngest mothers in the world.

The death rate for Maori babies is twice that for Pakeha babies.

You've got six brothers and sisters? Far out!!
Maori people have terrible health statistics, but Maori women have some of the worst.

Having had to take on the most menial and underpaid jobs....

Without whanau support and often without the support of their men, who usually escaped their situation by getting into beer, rugby and racing...

Maori women suffer from a high incidence of mental breakdown... and consequently, even greater stresses are placed on the children.
Maori Women's Welfare League was formed in 1951. Its aims were concerned with fundamental needs— for Maori, better education, housing and health.

It aimed to promote Maoritanga and racial equality— adopting a Pakeha style organisation. It was viewed by Pakeha as a conservative organisation, useful for providing voluntary help for Maori in areas that Pakeha ignored. The league has developed into a most respected Maori Women's organisation today.

I believe this product has great commercial potential...

Its' Maori Development Fund has supported Maori business women.
Maori women have still found the strength and aroha from within to become leaders in most struggles for justice, on both national and international levels.

Maori women who challenged the system were described as 'radicals', ridiculed and treated as witches of old. They are treated with embarrassment, their efforts have produced change.

Stop Apartheid

Maori Language Week

Nga Tamata

Maori Land

No Nukes

Stop the French Tests!
Maori women have formed the backbone of service delivery Matua Whangai, Tu Tangata, Kohanga Reo, the Maori Wardens Association Te Kakano Kura Kaupapa Maori, te puna orā etc.

Teaching and Supporting the Language...
Without te tino rangatiratanga, true access to power for the Maori is not possible. Aspiring to Pakeha positions of power achieves minimal results...

How do Maori women get access to positions of power in Aotearoa?

And even by doing that, Maori women are still locked out of those top positions.
Our women are upholding Mana Wahine and Mana Maori in all areas that are important to us as a people—for example...

**Health**
by encouraging healthy diets, cervical smears, education on the marae

**Walata**

**Filmmaking and broadcasting**

**SPORTS**

**Cannes Film Festival**
Maori women have themselves identified what changes need to be made to improve the low health status of Maori women.

Land issues need to be resolved...

Wahitapu, Urupa
Recognition must be made of the spiritual and cultural significance of the land to our well-being...

Many waiata were composed by our tupuna which spoke of their heartbreak in having to leave the maunga and away from their particular tribal region. This link must be strengthened.
We must show aroha to each other again.
We must teach our sons and daughters to care for each other. Teach our men and women to love and respect themselves and each other again.

We must learn to love our children and grandparents again.

We must strive to make this land a safe environment for all to live in the future.

And our vision for the future must be based on tino rangatiratanga.