

moana lyrics we know the way english

moana lyrics we know the way english captures the spirit and cultural essence of Disney's Moana, a film celebrated for its beautiful storytelling and captivating soundtrack. The song "We Know the Way" plays a pivotal role in the movie, symbolizing exploration, heritage, and the deep connection between the Polynesian people and the ocean. This article delves into the moana lyrics we know the way english version, exploring its meaning, cultural significance, and the impact of the song on audiences worldwide. Understanding the lyrics provides insight into the story's themes of identity, adventure, and the importance of honoring one's ancestry. Additionally, the article will present the full lyrics, analyze key phrases, and discuss the musical composition that makes this song memorable. The following sections will guide readers through an in-depth examination of the moana lyrics we know the way english, ensuring a comprehensive appreciation of this iconic song.

- Overview of "We Know the Way" from Moana
- Full Moana Lyrics We Know the Way English Version
- Meaning and Interpretation of the Lyrics
- Cultural Significance of the Song
- Musical Composition and Vocal Performance

Overview of "We Know the Way" from Moana

"We Know the Way" is a signature song from Disney's 2016 animated film Moana. It serves as an anthem for voyaging and discovery, reflecting the Polynesian people's ancestral connection to the sea.

The song is performed by characters in the film and features a blend of traditional Polynesian language and English lyrics. This combination highlights the cultural heritage while making the song accessible to a global audience. The moana lyrics we know the way english version emphasizes themes such as navigation, bravery, and the quest for identity.

Role of the Song in the Movie

Within the narrative, "We Know the Way" introduces Moana's ancestors and their courageous spirit of exploration. It sets the tone for the protagonist's journey and the rediscovery of her heritage. The song celebrates the ancient seafaring skills of Polynesian navigators who used stars, ocean currents, and wind patterns to explore vast distances. It is both a tribute to tradition and an inspiring call to embrace the future.

Artists Behind the Song

The song was written by Lin-Manuel Miranda, Opetia Foa'i, and Mark Mancina. Opetia Foa'i, a Polynesian singer-songwriter and founder of the musical group Te Vaka, contributed authentic cultural elements and language to the song. This collaboration ensured that the moana lyrics we know the way english version retained respect for Polynesian culture while appealing widely to international audiences.

Full Moana Lyrics We Know the Way English Version

Below is the full version of the moana lyrics we know the way english, showcasing the blend of English and Polynesian language that captures the spirit of the song.

1. It's our way, the way we know
2. We are explorers reading every sign

3. We tell the stories of our elders

4. In a never-ending chain

5. We know the way

6. We read the wind and the sky

7. When the sun is high

8. We sail the length of the seas

9. On the ocean breeze

10. At night we name every star

11. We know who we are

12. We are voyagers

These lyrics celebrate navigation, heritage, and the intimate relationship between the Polynesian people and the ocean. The repetitive refrain "We know the way" symbolizes confidence and continuity in following ancestral paths.

Meaning and Interpretation of the Lyrics

The moana lyrics we know the way english version carries deep symbolic meaning. It represents the journey of self-discovery and the importance of cultural roots. The song reflects the idea that knowledge of the past guides the present and future. It emphasizes the connection to nature, particularly the ocean, which is portrayed as both a physical and spiritual pathway.

Theme of Exploration and Navigation

The lyrics celebrate the ancient Polynesian tradition of navigation without modern instruments. Phrases like "We read the wind and the sky" and "At night we name every star" highlight the seafarers' reliance on natural elements to traverse the vast Pacific Ocean. This underscores human ingenuity and respect for the environment.

Connection to Ancestry and Identity

The song's emphasis on storytelling and learning from elders reinforces the value of passing down knowledge through generations. "We tell the stories of our elders" implies a continuous lineage and a strong sense of identity rooted in shared history. The repeated assertion "We know who we are" speaks to cultural pride and self-awareness.

Cultural Significance of the Song

"We Know the Way" stands as an important cultural touchstone within both the context of Moana and the broader representation of Polynesian heritage. The song honors the traditions of Pacific Islander communities and brings their stories to a global platform. The moana lyrics we know the way english version serves as a bridge between cultures, educating listeners about the significance of ocean voyaging.

Representation of Polynesian Culture

The integration of the Tokelauan language alongside English in the lyrics is a deliberate choice to maintain authenticity. It respects the linguistic heritage of the region and showcases the beauty of Polynesian languages. The song's themes reflect core values such as respect for nature, community, and resilience.

Impact on Audiences Worldwide

Since the film's release, "We Know the Way" has resonated with diverse audiences due to its universal themes of adventure and belonging. It has been used in educational contexts to teach about navigation, culture, and history. The song encourages pride in heritage and inspires curiosity about different cultures.

Musical Composition and Vocal Performance

The moana lyrics we know the way english version is complemented by a musical arrangement that blends traditional Polynesian instruments with contemporary orchestration. This fusion creates a soundscape that is both authentic and cinematic, enhancing the emotional impact of the lyrics.

Instrumentation and Melody

The song features percussion instruments such as log drums, ukuleles, and conch shells, which evoke the natural environment of the Pacific Islands. The melody is uplifting and rhythmic, reflecting the motion of sailing and the optimism of discovery. The arrangement balances energetic sections with more reflective moments to convey the song's narrative arc.

Vocal Delivery

The vocals in "We Know the Way" are performed by Opetia Foa'i and Lin-Manuel Miranda, whose voices bring authenticity and passion to the piece. Their delivery emphasizes the communal aspect of the song, with harmonies that suggest unity and shared purpose. The use of call-and-response techniques mirrors traditional Polynesian singing styles.

Key Musical Highlights

- Blend of Polynesian and Western musical elements
- Use of traditional instruments to evoke cultural ambiance
- Dynamic shifts between powerful choruses and intimate verses
- Vocal harmonies that emphasize storytelling and community
- Rhythmic patterns reflecting ocean waves and navigation

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the meaning behind the lyrics of 'We Know the Way' from Moana?

The lyrics of 'We Know the Way' celebrate the spirit of exploration and navigation of the Polynesian ancestors. It reflects their deep connection to the ocean and their courage to voyage across vast seas guided by the stars.

Who sings the English version of 'We Know the Way' in Moana?

In the English version of Moana, 'We Know the Way' is performed by singers Auli'i Cravalho and Opetia Foa'i.

Where can I find the official English lyrics of 'We Know the Way' from Moana?

The official English lyrics of 'We Know the Way' can be found on Disney's official website, music streaming platforms, and licensed lyric websites such as Genius or AZLyrics.

What is the significance of the phrase 'We know the way' in the song?

The phrase 'We know the way' symbolizes the confidence and knowledge passed down through generations about navigating the ocean and understanding the natural world, representing guidance, heritage, and identity.

Are there differences between the English and Polynesian versions of 'We Know the Way'?

Yes, the song 'We Know the Way' features both English and Tokelauan (a Polynesian language) lyrics in Moana. The English parts explain the story directly, while the Polynesian parts honor the ancestral language and culture, adding authenticity and depth.

Can I use the lyrics of 'We Know the Way' from Moana for educational purposes?

You can use the lyrics of 'We Know the Way' for educational purposes under fair use, such as teaching about Polynesian culture or music analysis. However, for public or commercial use, you should seek permission from the copyright holders.

Additional Resources

1. We Know the Way: Navigating Polynesian Voyages

This book explores the ancient navigation techniques used by Polynesian voyagers, including celestial navigation, ocean currents, and bird patterns. It delves into the cultural significance of seafaring and

how these skills were passed down through generations. Readers will gain an appreciation for the incredible journeys that inspired songs like "We Know the Way" from Moana.

2. Wayfinders: The Art of Pacific Navigation

"Wayfinders" provides an in-depth look at the traditional methods of wayfinding practiced by Pacific Islanders. The book combines historical accounts with modern interpretations, highlighting the revival of these ancient skills today. Beautiful illustrations and maps accompany stories of legendary navigators who charted the vast Pacific Ocean.

3. Beyond the Reef: Stories of Ocean Exploration

This collection of stories celebrates the adventurous spirit of ocean explorers from Polynesia and beyond. It captures the essence of discovery, courage, and connection to the sea, much like the themes in Moana's "We Know the Way." Through vivid narratives, readers experience the challenges and triumphs of voyaging into the unknown.

4. Hearts of the Ocean: Polynesian Legends and Lore

"Hearts of the Ocean" compiles traditional legends, myths, and folklore from Polynesian cultures. These stories reveal the deep relationship between the people and the ocean, reflecting the values and beliefs embedded in songs like "We Know the Way." The book also examines how these tales influence modern narratives and identity.

5. Currents of Heritage: Embracing Pacific Islander Identity

This book discusses the importance of cultural heritage and identity among Pacific Islanders, focusing on how the ocean shapes their worldview. It addresses themes of belonging, resilience, and the transmission of knowledge through generations. Readers will find parallels to the journey of self-discovery portrayed in Moana.

6. Song of the Sea: Music and Storytelling in Polynesia

Exploring the role of music and oral storytelling, this book reveals how songs like "We Know the Way" carry history, wisdom, and community values. It highlights traditional instruments, chants, and performances that celebrate Polynesian life and environment. The book also examines contemporary

adaptations and their impact on cultural preservation.

7. The Navigator's Compass: Tools and Traditions of Wayfinding

Focusing on the practical aspects of navigation, this book details the instruments, star charts, and environmental cues used by Polynesian navigators. It explains how these tools function together to guide voyages across vast ocean distances. The narrative brings to life the skill and knowledge required to "know the way."

8. Island Horizons: The Spirit of Exploration in the Pacific

"Island Horizons" captures the adventurous essence of Pacific Islanders who set sail into uncharted waters. The book combines history, cultural insights, and personal stories to illustrate the enduring human desire to explore and connect. It resonates with the motivational and hopeful themes found in Moana's journey.

9. Pathways of the Ancestors: Cultural Revival through Navigation

This title discusses the modern revival of traditional navigation techniques and their role in strengthening cultural identity. It showcases community efforts, educational programs, and voyages undertaken to reconnect with ancestral knowledge. Readers are invited to reflect on the significance of preserving these pathways for future generations.

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