

*Noel:* (half in jest) Ahh, shucks! This poem is a downer!

*Tara*: (flippantly) Yeah, I thought this was a book ah celebration!

*Opapan*: Well, perhaps it is. Why shouldn't we celebrate a funeral

as joyfully as a wedding?

Gwen: (matter-of-factly) Without inner silence, all celebrations are noisy affairs.

Birth, marriage, and death are nothing but brief markers within maya's

snare.

