

**Hone Tuwhare:** a personal memoir

E hoa, you have gone to the place beyond  
that tug-of-war which was your life: that  
struggle between North and South which  
even continued after you were laid to rest.

But it was always like that with you: they  
wanted you there while you were elsewhere.  
Both of us, we were different kinds of poets,  
Railway Workers first, comrades, drinkers

This koha o ngā kupu ki aroha is from  
the centre: where the break in the rail  
lies. Paekakariki means Baxter whānau,

Campbell, Glover and a hundred others  
who hear the magic whispers of sensual  
kai-words, knowing it is ata-kahurangi in flight

**Michael O'Leary**

Paekakariki, Waitangi Day 2008