Hide & Seek

OPENING ChANTS

Cover your eyes from the truth
walls surround me from who I am
hid in darkness, covered in shame
painting our skin, we were banned
Count to ten, hear the voices
follow the footsteps of our past
look in places, where blood flows deep
take a breath and make it last
take a peek, but don’t you cry
from what you see, are you scared?
underneath, what is buried
inside me, the scars we bare
find your friends, find the clues
that’ll lead you back to who you are
your roots are calling, whispered softly
you are found where you belong

CHORUS

come and find me, come and find me
cause I’ve been hiding, I’ve been hiding
if you feel alone, or if your language is gone
it’s up to you to seek what’s hidden or lost
sing come this way, Gwa gwa sa ‘a ka
look for your spirit, Kunuta Hubutsen
do you know there’s a story beneath your feet, on this sacred land, we’re playing hide and seek

I’m tired of feeling invisible or being ignored
been living a nightmare, I’m dreaming for more
seeking a place where I’m safe, I’m seeing the storms
I’m sick and tired of this hiding behind locked doors
From a dark past and every lie I’ve heard
has made my people much stronger from the crying and hurt now I’m looking for direction, let me find the current
there is reconciliation every time we learn
my sole intent is find a little Osiem
from the leaders Of MAN cause we’re a ghost to them
tryn’a spread truth, even to my closest friends
I’m not alone, my culture’s what my home defends
this ain’t a game to lose, we need to trace our roots
embrace the truth is what I came to do
the high suicide rates that face the youth
make me afraid, but listen don’t be ashamed of you

CHORUS

the closer you look
the more that you see
the wisdom of elders
come back to me
once taken from home
but now we are free
we won’t forget
where we’re meant to be

www.nwejinan.com

From left to right: (top row) Reggie, Justin
(middle row) Violet, Theresa, Finley, Andrea
(bottom row) Andrei, Calista, David, Ayo, Alex

Hide & Seek: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G4JFaB0b4bg
Show Us The Way: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZV9AUQqfAc
Show Us The Way

let me show what we’re facing
protect what is real and sacred
we’re sharing with one another
as I show you my Nation’s colours

catch the dream, all in this together we are family
paint this in your mind on the land living happily
I feel disrespect but my hope isn’t fading
I see it in my friends and I know times are changing

when we’re gathered in a circle, there’s healing
through the sharing, the wisdom of our elders says that listening is
caring, we’re different and they’re staring. so let me find the
courage, singing for my people, I’ll show you that it’s worth it

CHORUS
way’ya way’ya way’ya way’ya
see who I am, I got something to say
hey’ya hey’ya hey’ya hey’ya
I’ll show you I can, don’t want to be afraid
I’ll keep learning for the rest of my days
so I will stand tall, if you teach me the ways
as we look to the future, will you see me the same?

I’ve been wrestling with who I am
but let it all go through a dance
the calmness that feeds my heart
keeps the hunger for who are

been feeling anxious, I’m too shy to speak in public
but I know one day I will lead and I will love it
hoping for my nation, I’ve been growing, I’ve been changing
connected to world in this emoji generation

where people taking selfies, but so many feel alone
now we’re here to come together, I want to feel at home
find some honour & respect and pass on tradition
we have lived on through the songs that we’re singing

CHORUS
weaving through the wind, can you lead the way
riding on the back of an eagle’s strength

the journey is old
the story’s been told
and the feeling will last forever
there’s a truth when you know
how the language can grow
through our culture we come together

CHORUS