Lyrics for Wade Fernandez’s Song

“Sawaenemiyah”

“Sawaenemiyah”

Nicianosaeh Whapi-Mahwaewsah, Maecewatok somekoh
Nicianosaeh Waqsepaekecewin, Penesew mesek wahkawiwi
Kemewenukew
Pon kekatow kipackiyaenemem, Kespentaeh
Sawaenemiyah

Nicianosaeh Awaesaeh Oskas, Maecewatok kemenen kaekoh
Nicianosaeh Awaesaeh Nepowaew, Kaec menikew
Kemewenukew
Pon kekatow kipackiyaenemem, Kespentaeh,
Sawaehnemiyah

Naqsniw anahkok waqnenam menipaniw
Mesek Noweqnana kewehnaw
Naqsnew kesoq kenatamowim kewaeqsaehekosem
Anah Keskehsekoh waqsahkonawaew

Wahkawiwi Pamenan, Nisaehcoq piw mesek mahchi
Pameq niyah, enahkah enes
Kemenen eyom, kakenaha wapehtum,
Mesek kitahehpahonen
Kemewenukiwi
Pon kekatow kipackiyaenemem, Kespentaeh
Sawaehnemiyah
Sawaehnemiyah
Sawaehnemiyah

“We Are Blessed”

My child, Little White Wolf
Creator smiles on you
My child, Clear Pure Sparkling Water
Pure and clear water
Rain Woman we should never have to wonder
If we are blessed

My child Bear Claw
Creator gave a gift
My child Standing Bear
This beauty grows & grows
Rain Woman we should never have to wonder
If we are blessed

Naqsniw anahkok waqnenam menipaniw
Mesek Noweqnana kewehnaw

Naqsnew kesoq kenatamowim kewaeqsaehekosem
Anah Keskehsekoh waqsahkonawaew

Wahkawiwi Pamenan, Nisaehcoq piw mesek mahchi
Pameq niyah, enahkah enes
Kemenen eyom, kakenaha wapehtum,
Mesek kitahehpahonen
Kemewenukiwi
Pon kekatow kipackiyaenemem, Kespentaeh
Sawaehnemiyah
Sawaehnemiyah
Sawaehnemiyah

May the stars light your way
And the wind cry your name
May the moon make you shine
And the stars twinkle in your eyes

As clear waters flow and tears come and go
We fly our own ways
Take these seeds and sow; let them nourish your souls
And plant them everywhere you go
Rain Woman we should never have to wonder
If we are blessed
We are blessed
We are blessed
(My child Rain) We are blessed

A note from Wade Fernandez: “Please note that Menominee Language was not a written language until fairly recently, so spellings are not always consistent. Also, the English is only an interpretation and not an exact translation. It can sometimes be difficult to find words in English for Menominee words and vice versa, especially when writing lyrics that have to fit with rhythm, melody, and time. Menominee Language is very descriptive and sometimes a word in Menominee can be a paragraph in English.”