

## BLACK MATAI

Peter Cape

**C** **G** **C** **G**  
What are you singing, black matai, black matai?  
**C** **Am** **Dm** **G** **G7**  
The snow's on the tops and the fire's burning down.  
**C** **Dm** **F** **Am**  
What are you singing, east wind in the matai?  
**G** **Dm** **G7** **C**  
Your love's left the station, she's gone to the town.

**C** **G** **C** **G**  
What are you chattering, tall mountain birches?  
**C** **Am** **Dm** **G** **G7**  
The wind's in the west, and the rain's pelting down.  
**C** **Dm** **F** **Am**  
The flash floods are coming, I'm bound to keep moving,  
**G** **Dm** **G7** **C**  
But she's gone from the station, she's gone to the town.

**C** **G** **C** **G**  
Oh, the smell of these deerskins, the weight of my rifle,  
**C** **Am** **Dm** **G** **G7**  
This eighty-pound pack that keeps dragging me down:  
**C** **Dm** **F** **Am**  
I'll get out of the mountains, head back to the sheep-yards,  
**G** **Dm** **G7** **C**  
But she's gone from the station, she's gone to the town.

**C** **G** **C** **G**  
What are you whispering, wind in the snowgrass,  
**C** **Am** **Dm** **G** **G7**  
Combing the tussocks, and smoothing them down?  
**C** **Dm** **F** **Am**  
My love's hair was golden as snowgrass in summer,  
**G** **Dm** **G7** **C**  
But she's gone from the station, she's gone to the town.

## INSTRUMENTAL

REPEAT 1<sup>ST</sup> VERSE

C G C G C Am

What are you sing-ing, black ma-tai, black ma-tai? The snow's on the tops, and the

7 Dm G G7 C Dm F

fire's burn-ing down.\_\_\_\_\_ What are you sing-ing, east wind in the

13 Am G Dm G7 C

ma - tai? Your love's left the sta-tion, she's gone to the town.\_\_\_\_\_