

Haraka, Haraka
by Nikki Grimes

Haraka! Hurry! Right this minute.
Aina baraka. There's no blessing in it.
The elders tell me this each day,
But I haraka anyway!

I eat my porridge while it's too hot.
I scream and burn my tongue a lot!
I rush to fill the water pail,
Then spill the water without fail!
I take my time at first, but then
I start to rush around again.

Haraka! Hurry! Right this minute.
Aina baraka. There's no blessing in it.
I hear these wise words every day,
But I haraka anyway!