Hiraya Manawari (Mikaela, Philippines)

If you grew up in the Philippines in the 90s, those two words probably sound like a childhood spell. Hiraya Manawari. You might have seen it on TV or read it in a poem, and it sounds ancient because... well, it is.
But it's not just a 'once upon a time' phrase. In a world of 'Sana' (I hope) and 'Bahala Na' (Come what may), Hiraya Manawari stands out. It's the ultimate Filipino expression of manifestation. But what does it actually mean?

To understand it, we have to look at the roots.
First, Hiraya. In ancient Tagalog, Hiraya isn't just a dream you have while sleeping. It refers to your imagination, your vision, or the deepest aspirations of your soul. It's that 'big picture' you hold in your heart for your life.
Then, we have Manawari. This is a beautiful, archaic verb. It's a combination of 'mana' and 'wari,' which essentially means 'to happen' or 'to come to pass.' When you put them together, you aren't just making a wish. You are saying: 'May the vision of your heart become a reality.' It's the Filipino way of saying, 'So be it.'"

Why is this so powerful? Because most of our modern phrases are passive. When we say 'Sana,' we are wishing. When we say 'Bahala na,' we are surrendering to fate.
But Hiraya Manawari is intentional. It acknowledges that you already have the vision (Hiraya) and you are simply calling for the universe to align and make it real (Manawari). It's a blessing. It's what you say to a graduate, an artist starting a new project, or a friend who is chasing a dream that everyone else thinks is impossible.

Today, this phrase is making a comeback. You'll see it in tattoos, in local art, and in literature. It reminds us that our language isn't just for 'buying and selling'—it's for dreaming.

So, the next time you find yourself doubting your path, remember this ancient Tagalog 'spell.' It's a reminder that your imagination is the blueprint, and reality is just waiting to catch up.
To whatever you are working on, and whatever you are dreaming of... Hiraya Manawari. May it all come true.