

D7/12 G/4 D7/4 G/4

G/8 C/4 G/12
Aia Ka Maui hō‘ea mai

D7/4 G/4 D7/4 G/4
Ku‘u lei mokihana i ke kia mua.

G/8 C/4 G/12
I waho mākou o Kalaeloa

D7/4 G/4 D7/4 G/4
‘Ike ‘ia Honolulu, he kaona nui.

G/8 C/4 G/12
Ho‘opili Ka Maui pili ka uwapo.

D7/4 G/4 D7/4 G/4
Honi malihini au me ku‘u aloha.

G/8 C/4 G/12
‘A‘ole nō ‘oe he wahine u‘i

D7/4 G/4 D7/4 G/4
Ka mea like au me ka mahina.

G/8 C/4 G/12
‘A‘ole nō na‘u a i ki‘i aku.

D7/4 G/4 D7/4 G/4
Nā ka‘u sia nō la e pāhe‘e mai.

G/8 C/4 G/12
Ka‘apuni ho‘i au puni o O‘ahu

D7/4 G/4 D7/4 G/4
‘A‘ohe ‘ōpae kala ‘ole e pipili mai.

G/8 C/4 G/12
Ha‘ina ‘ia mai ana ka puana

D7/4 G/4 D7/4 G/4
Ku‘u lei mokihana i ke kia mua.

Ka Maui

Solomom Kawāhālau Ka‘ōpio

Here’s The Maui arriving
My mokihana lei, the first born.

We were outside Kalaeloa (Barbers Pt.)
Honolulu, a big town, was seen.

The Maui tied up at the wharf.
I kissed strangers with my aloha.

You weren’t a beautiful woman
And I was like the moon

I didn’t set out a-looking
My dear came sliding to me.

I travelled around O‘ahu
No fresh-water shrimp came sidling up to me.

Let the story be told
My mokihana lei, the first born.

Source: “Kaulana ‘O Ni‘ihau” by The Melelani Serenaders,
Hula Records HS-579. Kupuna adviser Daniel Ka‘ōpio, Sr.

Liner notes: “Ka Maui was a vessel which plied the
interisland waters in the early years of (the 1900’s).
Solomon Ka‘ōpio was a sailor aboard Ka Maui together with
his first-born son, referred to in the song as ‘Ku‘u lei
mokihana,’ ‘my mokihana lei.’

“Connoisseurs of Hawaiian song may appreciate that this
roving sailor chose to immortalize his on-shore adventures.”

