

‘OPAE E

Key of C Major

'OPAE E

Words & Music by Irmgard Aluli & Pilahi Paki

(Intro C////-G7////-C////)

C

'OPAE E, (Opae E) 'OPAE HO'I (Opae ho'i)

O shrimp, shrimp come

G7

UA HELE MAI AU, UA HELE MAI AU

I have come, I have come

C

NA KUAHINE

For my sister

C

'AI IĀ WAI? 'AI IĀ PUHI

Who has her? The eel has her

C7

NUI 'O PUHI A LI 'ILI 'I AU

The eel is big, small am I

C

'A 'OLE LOA

I cannot help

C

PIPIPI E, (Pipipi E) PIPIPI HO'I (Pipipi ho'i) *O little rock snail, rock snail come*

G7

UA HELE MAI AU, UA HELE MAI AU

I have come, I have come

C

NA KUAHINE

For my sister

C

'AI IĀ WAI? 'AI IĀ PUHI

Who has her? The eel has her

G7

NUI 'O PUHI A LI 'LI 'I AU

The eel is big, small am I

C

'A 'OLE LOA

I cannot help

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C

PŪPŪ E, (Pūpū e) PŪPŪ HO'I (Pūpū ho'i)

Oh shell, shell come

G7

UA HELE MAI AU, UA HELE MAI AU

I have come, I have come

C

NA KUAHINE

For my sister

C

'AI IĀ WAI? 'AI IĀ PUHI

Who has her? The eel has her

G7

NUI 'O PUHI A LI 'ILI 'I AU

The eel is big, small am I

C A7

'A 'OLE LOA

I cannot help

(Modulate up to D Major – A7 lead in)

D

KŪPE'E E, (Kūpe'e e) KŪPE'E HO'I (Kūpe ho'i)

Oh reef snail, snail come

A7

UA HELE MAI AU, UA HELE MAI AU

I have come, I have come

D

NA KUAHINE

For my sister

D

'AI IĀ WAI? 'AI IĀ PUHI

Who has her? The eel has her

A7

NUI 'O PUHI A LI 'LI 'I AU

The eel is big, small am I

D C7

'A 'OLE LOA

I cannot help

(Modulate up to F Major– C7 lead in)

'OPAE E

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F

'OPIHI E, ('Opihi 'E) 'OPIHI HO'I ('Opihi ho'i)

Oh limpet, oh limpet come

C7

UA HELE MAI AU, UA HELE MAI AU

I have come, I have come

F

NA KUAHINE

For my sister

F

MAI MAKA 'U, NA 'U E PANI

No fear I shall close

C7

I KA MAKA A 'IKE 'OLE

The eyes until they see nothing

F

KĒLĀ PUHI

Of that eel

Legend tells of a maiden from Kahakulaoa, Maui, kidnapped by an eel. Her brother, intent on saving her from the eel's cave, summoned sea creatures to help. All refused except the `opihī, who clamped themselves over the eel's eyes, blinding him. The brother was able to rescue his sister. `Ōpae is shrimp, Pūpū is seashell, Pipipi is mollusk, Kūpe`e is marine snail, `Opihi is limpet.