



Pua Lilia

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'Auhea wale 'oe e ka ua

Ke nihi a'e nei i nā pali

Ka helena o ia pua i 'ako 'ia

Ke popohe mai nei ia uka

Ia uka ho'i a'u e walea ai

Ke 'ala onaona o ku'u pua

He pua 'oe nā'u e lei mau ai

Ke 'ala ku'u pua lilia

Where could you be, oh rain
 Moving softly over the cliffs
 The appearance of this flower which was chosen
 Blossoming forth in the highlands
 Those lofty heights where I enjoyed
 The sweet perfume of my sweet bloom
 You are a flower to always wear as my lei
 The sweet scent of my lily blossom

Alfred U. 'Alohikea wrote this in 1916. George Kanahela's Hawaiian Music and Musicians is a excellent source for those seeking a deeper technical understanding of Hawaiian music, as evidenced by his comments on Pua Lilia. " 'Alohikea's compositions are characteristically Hawaiian in expression....[Pua Lilia] has a very wide range marked by large leaps which enable the Hawaiian singer to use the much-admired quality of "breaking" the voice, produced by changing voice registers... He also leads into a phrase by a half-step movement upward which is contrasted to larger intervallic leaps that follow. This contrasting pattern clearly reveals 'Alohikea's skill as a composer who knew what was pleasing to the Hawaiian ear... He uses the familiar device of grouping three notes together, occasionally five, ending on a prolonged pitch. If musically 'Alohikea's songs sound more Hawaiian than others, it is attributable partly to his philosophy of composition and partly to his understanding of his Hawaiianness." (Kanahela 15)