

finger pick

Pua O Ka Mākāhala

Auhea wale ana oe, ē

Ka pua o ka mākāhala

Mai hoʻohala mai oe, ē

I ka pilina ua paʻa

Where indeed are you
O blossom of the mākāhala
You should not find fault
In a relationship that is secure

67 C



Keu nō paha ua pa'a, ē

Kou mana'o i 'ane'i

For

Pili 'ia aku 'oe, ē

Ko lā he kanaka u'i

One would think it was settled Your thoughts would be right here And yet you are lingering elsewhere In these days of your beautiful youth

Nele i ka mea poepoe, ē

Pau ka pilina ua pa'a

Ha'ina mai ka puana, ē

Ka pua o ka mākāhala

But lacking the round thing, coin That stable tie is ended Tell the story in the refrain The blossom of the mākāhala

Katie Stevens 'Ī'ī writes of the mākāhala, a twining shrub. While the plant may be on one's property, the flowers may wander afar. This metaphor describes a lover who strays, enjoying the prowess of youth and beauty, but when the money is gone, the affair is done. 1916.