



Pua O Ka Mākāhala

^C
‘Auhea wale ana ‘oe, ē
^{G7} ^F ^C
Ka pua o ka mākāhala
^{G7} ^F ^{G7}
Mai ho‘ohala mai ‘oe, ē
^F ^C
I ka pilina ua pa‘a

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

^C ^{G7} ^F ^{G7}
Keu nō paha ua pa‘a, ē
^F ^C
Kou mana‘o i ‘ane‘i
^{G7} ^F ^{G7}
Pili ‘ia aku ‘oe, ē
^F ^C
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

^C ^{G7} ^F ^{G7}
Nele i ka mea poepoe, ē
^F ^C
Pau ka pilina ua pa‘a
^{G7} ^F ^{G7}
Ha‘ina mai ka puana, ē
^F ^C
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 ‘Īi 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.