

Intro: Am D7 G D7

Pua 'Ōlena

^G Pua 'ōlena, ^{Bm} pua moe wale

^{G7} I ka nahele e ^{C/E8} moe nei

^{Am} Ka ua noe makali'i

^G E ala mai, ^{E7} hō'ike mai i ^{Am} kou nani

^{D7} Pua 'ōlena, ^G pua 'ōlena ^{D7}

'Ōlena flower, blossom that sleeps
In the forest, slumbering
The fine, misty rains appear
Awaken, display your beauty
'Ōlena flower, 'ōlena flower

^G Pua 'ōlena, ^{Bm} dream filled beauty

^G Of my ^C garden deep in slumber

^{Am} Kissed by misty summer rain

^G Come with me, ^{E7} come let's see of ^{Am} your beauty

^{D7} Pua 'ōlena, ^G pua 'ōlena ^{D7}

^G Lau 'ōlena, ^{Bm} lau pālulu

^{G7} E pe'e nei ^C kau mōhala

^{Am} 'O ka makani hāwanawana

^G Hō'ike nei, ^{E7} pua 'ōlena, ^{Am} i kou nani

^{D7} Pua 'ōlena, ^G pua 'ōlena ^{D7}

'Ōlena leaf, sheltering
Your blossoming forth is concealed
The wind whispers to you
'Ōlena flower, show your beauty
'Ōlena flower, 'ōlena flower

^G Ha'ina mai ^{Bm} ka puana

^{G7} Pua moe wale, ^C pua moe 'ole

^{Am} I ka nahele o Hanalei

^G Come with me, ^{E7} come let's see of ^{Am} your beauty

^{D7} Pua 'ōlena, ^G pua 'ōlena

The story is in the refrain
Of the slumbering flower
not really asleep
In the forest of Hanalei
Come with me, come let's see of
your beauty
'Ōlena flower, 'ōlena flower

The 'ōlena blossom hides under the thickness of its own leaves, emerging to be seen only briefly during its flowering span, then returning to dormancy in this song by James Kalei Kaholokula, Sr. The choice of a particular flower is an effective metaphor in Hawaiian poetry, allowing particular attributes to invoke images or imply kaona.