'Ā 'Oia!

F C7 C+ F C7 C7 C7 C7 C7 C7

'Ā 'oia! A e lilo ana 'oe ia'u, ahahana
Onaona, ko maka i 'ane'i e ka lipo, wahine u'i
He u'i i'o nō ka wahine leo hone
He manu leo le'a ia o ke kuahiwi
Na'u 'oe, na'u nō e lei ha'aheo
Li'a wale aku nō ka manaʻo lā i laila, hoʻohihi
Ua noa ko nui kino na'u hoʻokahi wale nō
Me 'oʻe au, pumehana kāua
Me a'ʻu 'oe, ka'u leʻi puʻuwai
Aia lā! Lilo ana, lilo 'oe ia'u

That's it! I am going to win you — Oh! oh!
Your pretty eyes are attracted hither, oh lovely dear
You are pretty indeed and your voice is so sweet
Like a sweet-voiced bird of the mountain
You are mine, mine to cherish with pride
For my thoughts are drawn there to you my fancy taken
You are all mine and mine alone
With you, I find the warmth of love
Having you with me soothes my heart
There now! You are won, won by me

This lively song of the 1940s is by John Kamealoha Almeida, who was a gifted composer and a collector of traditional and contemporary Hawaiian songs. Over the years from the 1880s until the 1940s, about a dozen people collected and, more importantly, published Hawaiian songs, preserving them for the future.

This translation is by Mary Kawena Pukui, the acknowledged, and sometimes unacknowledged, source of translation for hundreds of songs and chants, both published and in archival collections.

Much of the music that survives does so because of Edward Holstein, Charles King, Johnny Noble, Johnny Almeida, Mary Kawena Pukui, Vivienne Mader, Helen Desha Beamer, George Kanahele, Samuel Elbert, Noela'i Mahoe and all those others who have worked to preserve things Hawaiian and make them accessible to those who follow.