‘Alekoki

F F7
‘A‘ole i piliwi ‘ia
B♭ F
Kahi wai a‘o ‘Alekoki
G7
Ua ho‘okohu ka ua i uka
C7 F
Nohō maila i Nu‘uanu
F F7
Anuanu makehewa au
B♭ F
Ke kali ‘ana i laila
G♭
Kainō paha ua pa‘a
C7 F
Kou mana‘o i ‘ane‘i
F F7
I ‘ō i ‘ane‘i au
B♭ F
Ka pi‘ina a‘o Ma‘ema‘e
G7
He ‘ala onaona kou
C7 F
Kai hiki mai i ‘ane‘i
F F7
Ua malu nēia kino
B♭ F
Mamuli o ko leo
G7
Kau nui aku ka mana‘o
C7 F
Kahi wai a‘o Kapena
F F7
Pani a pa‘a ‘ia mai
B♭ F
Nā mana wai a‘o uka
G7
Ma luna a‘e nō au
C7 F
Ma nā lumi li‘ili‘i

Just unbelievable
Are the waters of ‘Alekoki
The rain adorns the highlands
Settling upon Nu‘uanu

I’m overcome with cold
Waiting there
I had mistakenly assumed
Your thoughts dwell on me

I’ve been all about
On the climb to Ma‘ema‘e
You have a sweet perfume
That has come to me here

This body is reserved
By your word
Thoughts are drawn to
The waters of Kapena

Closed off and dammed up
Are the streams of the heights
I am there above
In the little niches
Ma waho a'o Māmala
Hao mai nei ehuehu
Pulu au i ka huna kai
Kai he'ehe'e i ka 'ili

Ho'okahi nō koa nui
Nāna e 'alo ia 'ino
'Ino'ino mai nei luna
I ka hao a ka makani

E kilohi au i ka nani
Nā pua o Mauna'ala
Ha'ina mai ka puana
Kahi wai a'o 'Alekoki

Outside of Māmala Harbor
The seaspray is pelting me
I'm soaked with salty spray
Streaking my skin

There's only one great warrior
Who shall brave that storm
It's all blustery above
Where the wind is gusting

I gaze upon the beauty
The blossoms of Mauna'ala
The tale is told in the refrain
Of the waters of 'Alekoki

'Alekoki is a story-telling song from the 1850s, based on a chant that tells about a rendezvous with a beautiful girl at the 'Alekoki Pool in Nu'uanu Stream. The words were pronounced clearly and carefully listened to, the more stanzas the better. There are several versions. This one comes from Charles E. King, who credits it to Kalākaua and the melody to Lizzie 'Alohikea. The chant is also credited to Lunali'i. It is said he wrote it for Kamāmalu, whom he was forbidden to marry because of "selfish and political" reasons. (Kanahele 3) The lingering rain evokes brooding affection, the storms and wind suggest political uproar and flying gossip.