Beautiful Kaua'i

There is an island across the sea
Beautiful Kaua'i, beautiful Kaua'i
And it's calling, yes calling to me
Beautiful Kaua'i, beautiful Kaua'i

In the midst of Fern Grotto
Mother nature made her home
And the falls of Wailua
Where lovers often roam

So I'll return to my island across the sea
Beautiful Kaua'i, beautiful Kaua'i

Rudolph (Randy) Haleakalā Farden, Jr. wrote this while at the Coco Palms Hotel on Kaua'i. A hotel where, at dusk, a lucky visitor could witness the famous and fabulous torchlighting ceremony created by hotel manager Grace Buscher Gustander. Under her management from 1953 to 1985 the hotel was noted for its joyful celebration of Hawaiian song, dance and spirit.

The composer's family sung the line "In the midst of Fern Grotto." Don Ho recorded the same line as "In the mist of Fern Grotto." This is credibile, as there is indeed a hanging mist in the air of Fern Grotto. Since we don't have a written record by the composer himself, we cannot be certain of his original intent. This is a good example of how easy it is for variations to develop in an oral tradition, and why there often is no "right" answer. 1967.