Holoholo Kaʻa

Kāua i ka holoholo kaʻa
Oni ana ka huila lawe a lilo
Kuʻu aku ʻoe a pau pono
Nā huahelu e kau ana

Alawa iho ʻoe ma ka ʻaoʻao
Hu ana ka makani hele ulūlu
Mea ʻole ka piʻina me ka ihona
Me nā kīkeʻe alaunui

ʻO ka pā kōnane a ka mahina
Ahuwale nō i ka pae ʻōpuā
Eia kāua i ka palena pau
A huli hoʻi mai kāua

He manaʻo koʻu i ke kani koʻele
Ua haki ka pilina aʻo luna iho
He laʻi pono ke kaunu ana
He nanea mai hoʻi kau

Haʻina kō wehi e kuʻu lei
Ke huli hoʻi nei kāua
Step on the gas, going my way
Ke ʻoni nei ka hula

You and I on a joy ride
Wheels turning, carrying us far away
Just let yourself completely relax
Count the miles

Glance to the sides
Wind whistles coming in gusts
Going up or down is easy
As are the bends in the road

The moon shines brightly
Fair upon the towering clouds
Here we are at the road's end
Let's turn and go back

I worry about the clanking sound
Springs broken top to bottom
Passion is calmed
So delightful

Sing your song my beloved
We go home
Step on the gas, going my way
Wheels are turning

A charming story and lively hula about (among other things) going on a car ride and running out of gas. The story goes that composer Clarence Kinney gave this song to Johnny Almeida to settle a debt. The third line, first verse is often sung “kā aku ʻoe” but “kuʻu” shows the sense of the lyrics.