



Pua Līlia

F
 'Auhea wale 'oe e ka ua
 C7
 Ke nihi a'e nei i nā pali
 Ka helena o ia pua i 'ako 'ia
 C+ F C7
 Ke popohe mai nei ia uka
 F
 Ia uka ho'i a'u e walea ai
 F7 Bb
 Ke 'ala onaona o ku'u pua
 Bbm F D7
 He pua 'oe nā'u e lei mau ai
 G7 C7 F
 Ke 'ala ku'u pua līlia

Where could you be, oh rain
 Moving softly over the cliffs
 The appearance of this flower which was chosen
 Blossoming forth in the highlands
 Those lofty heights where I enjoyed
 The sweet perfume of my sweet bloom
 You are a flower to always wear as my lei
 The sweet scent of my lily blossom

Alfred U. 'Alohikea wrote this in 1916. George Kanahela's Hawaiian Music and Musicians is a excellent source for those seeking a deeper technical understanding of Hawaiian music, as evidenced by his comments on Pua Līlia. " 'Alohikea's compositions are characteristically Hawaiian in expression....[Pua Līlia] has a very wide range marked by large leaps which enable the Hawaiian singer to use the much-admired quality of "breaking" the voice, produced by changing voice registers... He also leads into a phrase by a half-step movement upward which is contrasted to larger intervallic leaps that follow. This contrasting pattern clearly reveals 'Alohikea's skill as a composer who knew what was pleasing to the Hawaiian ear... He uses the familiar device of grouping three notes together, occasionally five, ending on a prolonged pitch. If musically 'Alohikea's songs sound more Hawaiian than others, it is attributable partly to his philosophy of composition and partly to his understanding of his Hawaiianness." (Kanahela 15)