

Hawaiian Poetry

Aloha Oe

By Queen Lili`uokalani

Proudly swept the rain cloud by the cliffs,
As on it glided through the trees
Still following ever the "liko"
The "Ahihi lehua" of the vale...

Farewell to thee,
Farewell to thee,
Thou charming one who dwelst among the
bow'rs. One fond embrace,
Before I now depart,
Until we meet again.

Thus sweet memories come back to me,
Bringing fresh remembrance of the past
Dearest one, yes, thou art mine own,
From thee, true love shall ne'er depart.

Farewell to thee,
Farewell to thee,
Thou charming one who dwelst among the bow'rs.
One fond embrace,
Before I now depart,
Until we meet again.

I have seen and watched thy loveliness,
Thous sweet Rose of Maunawili,
And 'tis there the birds oft love to dwell
And sip the honey from thy lips.



To Princess Ka'iulani

By Robert Louis Stevenson

Forth from her land to mine she goes,
The island maid, the island rose,
Light of heart and bright of face:



The daughter of a double race.

Her islands here, in Southern sun,
Shall mourn their Ka'iulani gone,
And I, in her dear banyan shade,
Look vainly for my little maid.

But our Scots islands far away
Shall glitter with unwonted day,
And cast for once their tempests by
To smile in Ka'iulani's eye.

O Cool Is the Valley Now

By James Joyce

O cool is the valley now
And there, love, will we go
For many a choir is singing now
Where Love did sometime go.
And hear you not the thrushes calling,
Calling us away?
O cool and pleasant is the valley
And there, love, will we stay.



"Hawaiian Mother"

Mahealani Perez-Wendt



You should know
The sea turtle's spawn:
The girl who rode
 Their winged forms,
 Their hard-horned shells
Astride the splash and foam
 Of Kuhio Bay.

She was consecrated

 In that place:

Knew the winnowing fish,
 Shells, limu, the tides,
 And all her days
 Called ocean home.
When moon signaled
 She trekked with
 Her father,

 A holy man,

The path of fiery embers.

 At the cauldron
They prayed long,
 Gave thanks,
 Left offerings.

 I won't pretend
 She was pure native
 And unspoiled --
She knew the English standard
 And in her younger days



Jazz, the Dorsey bothers,
Other gentlemen.
Later she developed an edge
From hard times,
But I believe
She had what she needed
To endure:



Dreams of blue water,
Prismatic rain;
The green turtles' song,
Their prayers for healing;
The stars' divinations,
Prophetic moon;
The great sacred mountain,
Natal river of fire;
Earth's verdure,
Its Eden;
Spirit guardians of Night,
The One Light.

Pua Lilia (Lily Flower)

By Alfred Unauna Alohikea

Listen to the rain
Creeping silently along the cliffs
It looks as if this flower has been plucked
Shapely the upland
The very upland that I'll enjoy
With the sweet fragrance of my flower
You are a flower, always to wear as a lei
The fragrance of my lily blossom

