

He Kanikau He Ue Aloha No Ahuwela Stender

E Kailuaiki, Kailuanui, Kailua i ka hāpapa
Kailua i ka hālokokowai, Kailua i nā pu‘u kinikini
Kailua ‘āina pali hulilua, huli ē huli lā
Ke huli nei au iā ‘oe e ku‘u ‘anakala aloha ma nā kaka‘i pali o Maunawili
Hō‘ea ho‘okahi akula au i ia ‘āina aloha āu e noho ai ‘o Pālāwai, ‘a‘ole ‘oe
Ma hea ihola ho‘i ‘oe i nalowale aku ai mai mākou aku?

Aia paha ‘oe me Ka‘anahau i ka ua Kapua‘ikanaka
E niau kololani ana i ke oho o ka Malanai
Aia paha me Hi‘iaka mā i ke ala pili o Mahinui
E kani ihola ana kāna ‘uhū no Kaipoli‘a a me ke ko‘a mokumoku o He‘eia
Aia paha me Kahinihini‘ula i ka pōnaha palai o Hālauwai
E hi‘i ana i kona tūtū ma mua o ke alo
Aia paha me Nākila i ke kōwā makani o Nu‘uanu
E kui lei ‘āhihi ana no nā wāhine kilo pali

Auē! Ua lilo ‘o Ahuwela i ke onelau‘ena a Kāne
Ke uē aku nei ‘o Kamaka‘eha
Makawalanā i ka ua ha‘aheo i nā pali
“Auē ku‘u hānai ē mai ka ua Ma‘akua o Hau‘ula”
Ke uē aku nei Ka Wahine Hele Lā o Kaiona
Wahine hahai alualu wai li‘ulā
“Auē ku‘u hānai ē mai ka makani ‘Ōlauniu i ka uka o Kaiwi‘ula”
Ke uē aku nei ‘o Kamōkila Wahineokama‘o
Luhiehu ihola i ka lei kauno‘a i ke kaha o Lanikūhonua
“Auē ku‘u kahu hānai ē no ka i‘a nēnē ‘ili kapu o ‘Ewa”

He ‘ū a he aloha kēia no ku‘u hoa ‘anakala
Lohaloha pele‘unu ‘o Kekele i ka ua pehi pūhala
Kelekele iho nei ka maka i ka ‘ike pono i kēia mea he aloha
‘O ke aloha paumākō nō ia
Aloha ka waiho kāhela o Nāmokulua i ke kai
Aloha ka hala ‘oki kepa o Ka‘ōhao, ‘okia pahu ‘ia e ka ‘ohana kui lei
Aloha ka pua lei ‘āpiki nonono ‘ula i ka lā o Ka‘iwa
Aloha ka makani Kilinoe e ho‘oluhi nei i ka lau o ke ‘uki
Aloha ke ko‘olani i kupu i ka wai mā kānaka o Wai‘auia
Aloha Mākālei ka lā‘au pi‘i ona a ka i‘a
Aloha nā wahine kia‘i loko, lauoho nu‘anu‘a, ‘ili a‘i‘ai pahe‘e
Aloha Hauwahine lāua ‘o Kahalakea, nā wāhine o Kailua i ka la‘i
Aloha ka malu hale o Kahiauakamalanai i ka uluwehiwehi o nā pua Ko‘olau
Aloha ka ‘ai ‘imi waha, ka ‘ai nānā i uka, ka i‘a ‘ai pū me ka lepo
Aloha Ku‘uleihiehe o Mokulana e uē helu nei i kāna kāne aloha i hala

Auē, ua hala ka ‘uhane o Ahuwela
Ke ho‘olana nei ka mana‘o aia ‘oe i ka luna ki‘eki‘e o Ahiki
E kilohi ana i ka nani o Kailua alo lahilahi
He maika‘i wale nō mai luna a lalo
Aloha ia wahi a kākou e noho papa ai
Aloha ‘ia Olomana e nā i‘a ho‘opā ‘ili kūpuna o Kawainui
‘O‘opu ku‘ia e lana nei i loko o ka wai
Me he wai lā e ‘ale nei ka hāko‘i a ke aloha
No ku‘u hoa ‘anakala hele loa
‘O ka ‘ū, ‘o ka minamina, ‘o ka paumākō iā ‘oe
Auē! Ua hala ‘o Ahuwela Stender.

Na Kīhei de Silva
Ka‘ōhao, Kailua
3 Malaki, 2022

Kailuaiki, Kailuanui, Kailua of the reefs
Kailua of the flowing fresh water, Kailua in the multitude of hills
Kailua of the cliffs that face each other, I am turning, searching
Searching for you my beloved uncle in the procession of cliffs at Maunawili
I arrive alone at Pālāwai, beloved land where you reside, you are not here
Where is it that you have you gone, lost to us, vanished?

Perhaps you are with Ka‘anahau in the Kapua‘ikanaka rain
Departing swiftly, silently in the wisps of the Malanai
Perhaps you are with Hi‘iaka mā on the clinging path to Mahinui
Sighing, grieving over Kaipoli‘a and the broken corals of He‘eia
Perhaps you are with Kahinihini‘ula in the circle of palai at Hālauwai
Carrying his Tūtū before him
Perhaps you are with Nākila in the wind-blown gap of Nu‘uanu
Stringing lei ‘āhihi for the guardian women of the pali

Auē! Ahuwale has departed on the path to the land of Kāne
Kamaka‘eha is grieving
Makawalania, eyes smarting in the rain that sweeps proudly over the pali
“Auē, my hānai child from the Ma‘akua rain of He‘eia”
Ka Wahine Hele Lā o Kaiona is grieving
She who chases after mirages
“Auē, my hānai child from the ‘Ōlauniu wind in the uplands of Kaiwi‘ula”
Kamōkila Wahineokama‘o is grieving
Adorned in lei kauno‘a in the kaha lands of Lanikūhonua
“Auē, my kahu hānai of the fish of ‘Ewa who cherish their ali‘i”

This is an expression of grief and love for my uncle friend
Kekele is overcome, made heavy, moldy in the hala pelting rain

The eyes are soaked upon recognizing this thing, this emotion
It is grief-stricken love
Beloved is the unbroken view of Nāmokulua in the sea
Beloved is the obliquely-cut hala of Ka‘ōhao, notched and strung by the lei-stringing family
Beloved are the ‘ilima flowers glowing in the sun of Ka‘iwa
Beloved is the Kilinoe breeze that bends the leaves of ‘uki
Beloved is the ko‘olani that rose from the memory-faded waters of Wai‘auia
Beloved is the fish-attracting branch, the Mākālei
Beloved are the women of heaped-up hair and bright, slippery skin, guardians of the pond
Beloved are Hauwahine and Kahalakea, the women of Kailua in the calm
Beloved is the sheltered tranquility of Kahiauakamalanai where Ko‘olau blossoms thrive
Beloved is the food that seeks the mouth, that looks to the uplands, that is shared with all
Beloved is Ku‘uleihie of Mokulana grieving over her departed husband.

Auē, the spirit of Ahuwela has departed
We hope you are there in the lofty heights of Ahiki
Gazing at the delicate beauty of Kailua
So beautiful from high to low
Beloved is this place where we live, steadfast
Beloved is Olomana by the kūpuna-seeking fish of Kawainui
Stunned ‘o‘opu afloat in the water
So like water overflowing is the outpouring of love
For the uncle friend who has died
Oh, the sighing and regretting, the grieving over you
Alas, Ahuwela Stender has passed away.