

LAUPAHOEHOE HULA

Key of F Major

LAUPAHOEHOE HULA (Boy from Laupāhoehoe)

Words by Mary Pukui, Music by Irmgard Farden `Āluli

F

Eia mai au `o ka boy lā

Here am I

C7

F

A`o Laupāhoehoe lā

A boy of Laupahoehoe

Bb

F

Kihikihi nā po`ohiwi lā

Broad are my shoulders

C7

F

Pūkonakona ke kino lā

Husky is my body

Mea `ole ka pi`ina pali lā

I don't mind climbing the hills

Ka ihona me nā `alu lā

Going down the slopes

I ke kahawai aku au lā

I go to the river

I ka `o`opu nāwao lā

For fresh water fish

A he hoe wa`a ia hana lā

Canoe paddling I also do

I ke kai hānupanupa lā

Over the rising waves

`A`ohe a`u mea hopo lā

I have no fears

I nā`ale o ke kai lā

Of the bellows of the sea

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Words by Mary Pukui, Music by Irmgard Farden `Āluli

Ho`i mai au i ka hale lā

I come home

Nunui nā miki`ai lā

And eat big fingers of poi

Kū`ono`ono `o loko lā

Fill my insides well

Pūkonakona ke kino lā

And keep my body husky

Ha`ina mai ka puana lā

This is the end of my story

Eia mai au `o ka boy lā

Here I am

A`o Laupāhoehoe lā

A boy of Laupāhoehoe

Kihikihi nā po`ohiwi lā

With broad shoulders

Source: In the late 1950's, as the composer was doing her housework, Laupāhoehoe, a little village on a tiny promontory hit by the tidal wave of April, 1946, stuck in her mind. A short time later, it came to her again, prompting her to call Mary Pukui who referred her to someone familiar with the place. Gaining insight, Irmgard called Mary Pukui again to tell her of what she had learned. Mary then wrote some lyrics about a boy from Laupāhoehoe, called Irmgard back, who immediately sat down, picked out the tune on her ukulele which came to her quickly and completed the song in a few minutes. This song, composed entirely on the phone, was recorded by Bill Kaiwa in 1963, and became an instant hit. Translation by Mary Pukui. Copyright 1959-63 Criterion Music Corp Renewal 1987