

# 'Opae E

Words by Pilahi Paki, Music by Irmgard `Âluli



C  
'Opae E 'Opae ho'i  
G7  
Ua hele mai 'au, ua hele mai 'au  
C  
Na kuahine

Chorus  
C  
'Ai a wai, 'ai a puhi  
G7  
Nui o puhi a li'i li'i au  
C  
A'ole loa

C  
Pupu e pupu ho'i  
G7  
Ua hele mai 'au, ua hele mai 'au  
C  
Na kuahine  
(Chorus)

C  
Ku pe'e e ku pe'e ho'i  
G7  
Ua hele mai 'au, ua hele mai 'au  
C  
Na kuahine

(Chorus)  
C  
Pi pipi e pi pipi ho'i  
G7  
Ua hele mai 'au, ua hele mai 'au  
C  
Na kuahine

(Chorus)A7  
D  
'Opihi e 'opihi ho'i  
A7  
Ua hele mai 'au, ua hele mai 'au  
D B7  
Na kuahine

E  
Wai maka'u, na'u e pani  
B7  
I ka maka a'i ke 'ole  
E  
Kela puhi

'Opae  
'Opae  
I have come to you  
For my sister  
With whom is she?  
With puhi  
Puhi is large and I am tiny  
No way

Pipipi  
Pipipi  
I have come to you  
For my sister  
With whom is she?  
With puhi  
Puhi is large and I am tiny  
No way

Pûpû  
Pûpû  
I have come to you  
For my sister  
With whom is she?  
With puhi  
Puhi is large and I am tiny  
No way

Kûpe'e  
Kûpe'e  
I have come to you  
For my sister  
With whom is she?  
With puhi  
Puhi is large and I am tiny  
No way

'Opihi  
'Opihi  
I have come to you  
For my sister  
Fear not  
For I will cover  
The eyes so that  
Puhi can't see

Source: Legend tells of a maiden from Kahakulaoa, Maui, kidnapped by an eel. Her brother, intent on saving her from the eel's cave, summoned sea creatures to help. All refused except the 'opihi, who clamped themselves over the eel's eyes, blinding him. The brother was able to rescue his sister. 'Opae is shrimp, Pûpû is seashell, Pipipi is mollusk, Kûpe'e is marine snail, 'Opihi is limpet.

