*Lāʻieikawai* Mele Composition

Name:

*Mele* can refer to a song or a chant (remember, a song is meant to be sung and a chant is meant to be chanted). For the last assignment, you will compose your own mele for a character from *Lāʻieikawai*. Your song can be one to express affection for a lover, adoration for an aliʻi, or maybe even disdain, but it must be written from the point of view of another character in Haleʻole’s novel.

Requirements

1. Contain at least 10 lines
2. Written for a character by a character
3. Use at least two of the poetic devices below (please identify your usage!)

**Examples**

We have seen ample examples of mele in the novel:

* ʻAiwohikupua’s mele for Lāʻieikawai (12).
* The maile sisters’ and Kahalaomāpuana’s chants for their brother, ʻAiwohikupua, before he abandons them (28-32).
* Hinaikamalama’s chant for ʻAiwohikupua as Poliʻahu sends her snow and sun kappa over Hinaikamala, her rival (50-52).
* Lāʻieikawai’s wailing mele for Halaaniani who she thought he was dead (63).
* The mele that Kahalaomāpuana must chant for Moanalihaikawaokele (75-76).
* Laukieleʻula’s oli to call the guardian bird, Haluluikekihiokamalama (79).
* Hinaikamalama for her “lover,” Kekalukaluokēwā (93).

Also, remember Frank Kawaikapuokalani Hewett’s two mele for the beloved aliʻi: “Lāʻieikawai” and “Ka Pilina.”

**Common Hawaiian Poetic Devices**

* *Moʻokūʻauhau*
  + Genealogy, going back and remembering names and places– Honors the past, lends authority to speaker, way to give a history and story.
* *Helu*
  + Listing, “recounting of knowledge, similar things, events, etc. in a narrative”– An effective device to aid memorization as was necessary before writing was available, shows the connection between different things by grouping them.
* *ʻĒkoʻa/kua a alo*
  + Diads, dualism– Creates a balance, a sense of pono.
* ʻ*Ōlelo noʻeau*
  + Proverbs or sayings– Gives authority and depth to text.
* *Hōʻailona*
  + Signs and symbols– Culturally specific but readers of that culture would recognize the symbolism and deeper meaning.
* *Kaona*
  + Layers of meaning – Allows for depth and complexity and requires the reader/listener to slow down to understand the true meaning of the text.