

No Ke Kaiakahinali'i

*Composed by Roxane Kapuaimohalaikalani Stewart
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This chant was written to pay homage to many deities associated with the generation and movement of tsunami waves. This chant provides a means for us to communicate with the very deities who will decide the fate of lands and people with the coming of the next tsunami. This chant is executed in the olioli style.

E kai ulukū o Kanaloa	Oh restless sea of Kanaloa
Hāweo la i ka 'āpapa lani	Your abode of gods are honored
'O Hinaka'alu'alumoana	Hinaka'alu'alumoana ¹
'O Kahinali'i	Kahinali'i ²
'O Nāmakaokaha'i	Nāmakaokaha'i ³
'O Hi'iakaika'ale'i	Hi'iakaika'ale'i ⁴
'O Hi'iakaika'alemoe	Hi'iakaika'alemoe ⁵
'O Hi'iakaika'alekuamo'o	Hi'iakaika'alekuamo'o ⁶
'O Hi'iakaika'alepo'i	Hi'iakaika'alepo'i ⁷
'O Hi'iakaika'aleweke	Hi'iakaika'aleweke ⁸
Na hoa ali'i	And all other such deities
Ke hiki mai he kai a kahinali'i	When your next flood arrives
Ha'i aku kai i one	Breaking upon these shores
Kahe nā nalu me ke aloha	May your waves be merciful
Waiho ke kulaīwi	Forbearing these native lands
Waiho ke ola o ke kanaka	Sparing the lives of men
Maliu mai i ka leo kaupē	Hear this humble plea

¹ Hina who follows the ocean (wife of Kahinali'i), said to live undersea outside of Waiākea, Hilo. In some accounts, believed to be Pele's mother who sent a tsunami to propel Pele's canoe throughout the Pacific to find her new home.

² In some accounts, named as the mother of Pele who propelled Pele's canoe with tsunami waves. In other accounts referred to the husband of Hinaka'alu'alumoana. A number of "floods" in Hawaiian mythology have been termed Kaiakahinali'i.

³ Elder and more powerful sister of Pele, a goddess of the sea who controls tsunamis, said in some versions to have chased Pele out of Kahiki (as a tsunami) after Pele married Nāmakaokaha'i's husband Aukelenuiaiku

⁴ Hi'iaka in the giant billows, eldest of the Hi'iaka sisters

⁵ Hi'iaka in the low lying billows, second Hi'iaka sister

⁶ Hi'iaka in the overturning wave, third Hi'iaka sister

⁷ Hi'iaka in the breaking waves, eighth Hi'iakasister

⁸ Hi'iaka in the open billows, ninth Hi'iaka sister