

Henehene Kou `Aka

Traditional; Translation by Ka`ini Garza-Maguire

Vamp: D7 G7 C

Tempo: 130/140/170

C C7 F C
Henehene kou `aka | kou le`ale`a paha
A7 D7 G7 C
He mea ma`a mau ia | *for you and I*

Your laughter is contagious, it's fun to be with you

Always a good time for you and I

C C7 F C
Ka`a uila mā`kēneki | hō`onioni kou kino
A7 D7 G7 C
He mea ma`a mau ia | *for you and I*

The streetcar wheels turn, vibrating your body

Always a good time for you and I

C C7 F C
I Kaka`ako mā`kou | `ai ana i ka pipi stew
A7 D7 G7 C
He mea ma`a mau ia | *for you and I*

To Kaka`ako we go, eating beef stew

Always a good time for you and I

C C7 F C
I Waikīkī mā`kou | `au ana i ke kai
A7 D7 G7 C
He mea ma`a mau ia | *for you and I*

To Waikīkī we go, swimming in the sea

Always a good time for you and I

C C7 F C
I Kapahulu mā`kou | `ai ana i ka lipo`a
A7 D7 G7 C
He mea ma`a mau ia | *for you and I*

To Kapahulu we go, eating seaweed

Always a good time for you and I

C C7 F C
Our eyes have met | our lips not yet
A7 D7 G7 C
But oh you sweet thing | I'm gonna get you yet
Alt.: Pālama pono kou kino | I'm gonna get you yet

Protect yourself carefully, I'm going to get you yet

C C7 F C
Ha`ina mai ka puana | kou le`ale`a paha
A7 D7 G7 C
He mea ma`a mau ia | *for you and I*

Tell the refrain, it's fun to be with you

Always a good time for you and I

A-3-3-3-3-0-----3-3-3-3-0-0-----0-0-3-7-5-3---5-3-2-3-
E-----3-0-----3-0---3-3-3-----
C-----
G-----

According to Nona Beamer, this song was composed by a few Kamehameha students as they traveled by trolley and on foot around various districts of Honolulu in the 1920s. The song was later copyrighted by at least two of the students who later became professional musicians, Andy Cummings and Webley Edwards. The English verse frequently sung as the second to last verse was recorded by Israel Kamakawiwo`ole (with the alternate line), and is also included in *He Mele Aloha*. Sources: [hulapala.org](http://hulapala.org) (as told by Nona Beamer per Leilehua Yuen); *He Mele Aloha*, p. 60. Recorded by Richard Ho`opi`i (*Treasures of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar*, 2007), Kahauanu Lake Trio (*At the Kaimana Beach Hotel*, 1968/2006), Pahinui Brothers (*The Pahinui Brothers*, 1992), Eddie Ku (*Mele Hula #1*, 1998) and Israel Kamakawiwo`ole (*Facing Future*, 1993 & *Alone in Iz World*, 2001).