



**Linda Aronoff**  
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**BIG DOG PUBLISHING**

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**BIG DOG PUBLISHING**

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*We would like to dedicate this play  
to our family and friends,  
and to the staff at the Kennesaw Community Center  
in Kennesaw, GA.*

*Laurel Fleming and David Pies  
of Kennesaw Parks and Recreation  
have given us so much support.  
It is they who have made  
this publication possible.*

*A very special thank you  
to the children  
who brought their brilliance  
to the production.*

# Leilani

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**Leilani** was first produced at the Kennesaw Community Center, Kennesaw, GA in 2005: Darby Wills Chism, director and set designer; Leah Aronoff, Lindsey Braden, and Rebecca Chism, stage managers.

**LEILANI:** Susannah Murphine

**NARRATOR:** Bradley Hazel

**KING:** Tyler Goodson

**QUEEN:** Samantha Lockamy

**PRINCE MANU:** Jacob Drobney

**FAIRY SWEET:** Katie Bruno

**FAIRY QUEEN:** Kali Houston

**MESSENGER/VILLAGER 1:** Lindsey Braden

**VILLAGER 2:** Rebecca Chism

## Leilani

**CHILDREN'S COMEDY.** The King and Queen of Hawaii are anxious for their son, Prince Manu, to marry a smart girl and settle down. But Manu would rather spend his days hanging out with his friends swimming and surfing. To find a suitable bride, the royal family decides to visit all of the Hawaiian islands, where they hope Prince Manu will meet the girl of his dreams. On the smallest island lives a poor orphan girl, Leilani, who lives with her selfish and lazy cousins, Flora and Fauna, and her greedy Aunt Moola. Leilani has no gifts with which to honor the royal family at the upcoming luau, so with the help of the forest fairies, Leilani gathers flowers and makes beautiful flowered necklaces, which the fairies call "leis." Leilani welcomes the royal family by adorning them with her beautiful leis, and the leis become a symbol of acceptance and welcome. Flabbergasted that Leilani's leis are such a hit with the royal family, Aunt Moola tries to upstage Leilani by dancing her infamous "Moola Hula." Audiences will love this hilarious Hawaiian version of "Cinderella."

**Performance Time:** Approximately 30 minutes.

## Characters

(6 m, 11 f, 8 flexible, extras)  
(Flexible cast. Doubling possible.)

**NARRATOR:** Flexible.

**LEILANI:** Poor orphan girl who must live with her mean aunt and cousins.

**KING:** King of Hawaii.

**QUEEN:** Queen of Hawaii.

**PRINCE MANU:** Surfer and future king.

**AUNT MOOLA:** Leilani's greedy, selfish aunt.

**FLORA:** Leilani's mean and lazy cousin who makes trouble for Leilani every chance she can.

**FAUNA:** Leilani's mean and lazy cousin.

**FAIRY QUEEN:** Lives in the fairy forest; helpful and kind.

**FAIRY SWEET:** Helpful and kind; wears a crown of flowers.

**VILLAGER 1, 2, 3:** Flexible.

**SURFER BOYS 1, 2, 3, 4:** Wear surfer clothes.

**HULA GIRLS 1, 2, 3, 4:** Wear hula skirts and dance the hula; non-speaking.

**ROYAL MESSENGERS 1, 2:** Flexible.

**EXTRAS:** As Fairy Queen's attendants and additional villagers, surfers, hula dancers.

**NOTE:** Parts can be doubled to accommodate a smaller cast or extras can be added to accommodate a larger cast.

## Set

For a simple set, use a drawn or painted backdrop with an open hut in the center and Hawaiian landscapes on either side. One side should have the forest where the Fairies can pick flowers and the other side can be a beach scene, perhaps with a volcano.

For a more elaborate set, the open hut can actually be constructed downstage center. A beach umbrella and a small table can be used for this hut. Free-standing foliage and three-dimensional animals can be constructed where the Fairies can pick flowers. Luau decorations, surfboards, and Tiki torches can be incorporated. A totem pole can also be constructed and used.

## Synopsis of Scenes

**Scene 1:** Main island.

**Scene 2:** Main island.

**Scene 3:** Smaller island, later that day.

**Scene 4:** Fairy forest.

**Scene 5:** Smaller island, the next day.

**Scene 6:** Luau, later that day.

**Scene 7:** Later that day.

## Props

Drums	Clamshells
Flutes	Beautiful dress, for Leilani
Coconuts	Assortment of flowers
Pineapples	including Hibiscus, Bird
Mangos	of Paradise, and
Wicker baskets filled with	anthurium.
fruit	Crowns made of flowers,
Gourds	for Fairies
Feathers	3 Leis
3 Hawaiian headdresses	

## Music

Hawaiian folk music (instrumental or vocal)

"When they come back,  
I'll dance the Mool a Hula.

That's always  
been a showstopper!"

—Aunt Moola

## Scene 1

*(AT RISE: Main island. Villagers enter, dancing and drumming to Hawaiian folk music. Enter in the following order: Narrator, Leilani, Fairy Queen, Fairy Sweet, Villager 1, 2, King, Queen, and Prince Manu, and extras as Villagers.)*

ALL: *(Sing.)* Aloha, aloha, a-lo-ha. *(Repeat until all characters are lined up on stage.)*

*(Narrator steps forward.)*

NARRATOR: Aloha, friends, we welcome you! *(Steps back.)*

ALL: *(Sing.)* Aloha, aloha, a-lo-ha.

*(Villager 1, 2 step forward.)*

VILLAGER 1, 2: "Aloha" means hello and goodbye, too. *(Step back and exit behind the line of characters.)*

ALL: *(Sing.)* Aloha, aloha, a-lo-ha.

*(King, Queen, and Prince step forward.)*

KING/QUEEN/PRINCE: Aloha, we hope you enjoy this Hawaiian play. *(Step back and exit behind the line.)*

ALL: *(Sing.)* Aloha, aloha, a-lo-ha.

*(Leilani, Fairy Queen, and Fairy Sweet step forward.)*

LEILANI/FAIRY QUEEN/FAIRY SWEET: Aloha, this is the story of Leilani and the flower lei.

*(Exit Leilani, Fairy Queen and Fairy Sweet.)*

VILLAGER 3: Aloha!

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*(All Villagers exit, waving to audience. Blackout.)*

## Scene 2

*(AT RISE: Main island. Enter Narrator to downstage right. Enter King and Queen to downstage center.)*

NARRATOR: Long ago, when the fairies danced in the cool green forests of Hawaii, there lived a wise king and queen.

QUEEN: You've been so quiet tonight, my sweet husband.

Were you not pleased with your birthday feast this evening?

KING: Oh, yes, it was a wonderful celebration. It's only that I am becoming old now, my queen. Our son, Prince Manu, will soon need to take my place as king. And this troubles me. I am concerned that he will not be ready.

QUEEN: You are not that old! But, I agree that Manu is not ready to become king.

KING: Yes, my queen. Manu likes to spend his days swimming with the dolphins and hunting and fishing with his friends. But, he has played around long enough. It is time that he started to settle down and look for a bride—a queen that can help him rule the islands.

*(Enter Prince Manu, Surfer Boy 1, 2, 3, 4 from SL. Enter Hula Girl 1, 2, 3, 4 from SR. The King and Queen greet the boys and girls, and laugh at how one group flirts with the other group. Enter Prince Manu, who stands in between the Surfer Boys SL.)*

NARRATOR: The King and Queen introduced Prince Manu to all of the beautiful girls on their island, but none of them could enchant him with ideas of love.

MANU: I am not ready for all this lovey-dovey stuff. I just want to have fun and hang out with my friends.

SURFER BOY 1: Yeah, dude.

SURFER BOY 2: As if. You're already married to the Big Blue.

SURFER BOY 3: Nuptials are a radical idea, totally!

SURFER BOY 4: *(Using a sing-song voice and making kissing noises.)* Lovey-dovey! Lovey-dovey!

*(Surfer Boys ad-lib in agreement.)*

KING: *(Winks and nods knowingly to the Queen behind Prince Manu's back.)* Perhaps you are right. Maybe we should stop trying to rush things. I have an idea. Let's take a family vacation. We will go and visit all of the islands of Hawaii.

QUEEN: *That is a wonderful idea!* This will give Manu the opportunity to see all of Hawaii and meet all of our subjects before he becomes king.

KING: *(To Manu.)* Maybe you will feel differently about things when we return.

MANU: Sure, Pop, sounds radical, dude.

SURFER BOY 1: Hey, surf's up dude!

MANU: Gotta go, Pop!

SURFER BOY 2: Hey, girls, wanna come with?

*(Hula Girls nod and agree happily.)*

SURFER BOY 3: Last one to the beach is a stinky fish!

*(Exit Manu, Surfer Boys, and Hula Girls.)*

QUEEN: And maybe on this visit, Manu will meet the girl of his dreams. Perhaps an intellectual beauty who also knows how to cook!

*(King rubs his belly.)*

KING: Ahhh! That is my dream and my plan, my queen! Our recipes could use some spicing up. I'm tired of the same old mahi-mahi.

*(Exit King and Queen. Blackout.)*

## Scene 3

*(AT RISE: Smaller island, later that day. Narrator enters.)*

NARRATOR: So the royal family sent out royal messengers that very day.

*(Enter Royal Messengers 1, 2.)*

MESSENGER 1: The royal family will be coming to visit your island in the coming week.

MESSENGER 2: Prepare! Go fishing! Make feasts! Pick the pineapples and mangos! Build the ceremony fires! Crack those coconuts!

*(Exit Royal Messengers. Enter Leilani, Aunt Moola, Flora, and Fauna to downstage center.)*

NARRATOR: On one of the smallest islands lived a young orphan girl named Leilani. She lived with her Aunt Moola and her two cousins, Flora and Fauna. Leilani's Aunt Moola was a vain and cruel woman who thought of Leilani as a burden. Leilani's cousins were jealous of her and made trouble for her whenever they had a chance. They also made Leilani cook all of the meals and clean the hut while they did nothing but primp and preen all day.

AUNT MOOLA: Darlings! I've just been to the market for some beauty cream, and there was a royal messenger from the main island with the most amazing news!

FLORA: Oh, Mummy! How exciting! What did he say?

FAUNA: Tell me first, Mummy. Whisper it in my ear!

*(Fauna puts her ear to Aunt Moola's face. Flora pushes Fauna out of the way.)*

FLORA: No, tell me first, Mummy. I am the oldest.

*(Fauna struggles with Flora for position.)*

FAUNA: You are only older by a minute, you beast!

AUNT MOOLA: Girls, girls. No need to fight. I will tell you both, but you know my price... *(Aunt Moola holds out her hand, palm up.)*

LEILANI: *(Irritated.)* Oh, Aunt Moola, can't you just tell us?

AUNT MOOLA: No! But this news wouldn't be of any interest to a simple orphan such as yourself.

*(Flora hands Aunt Moola a couple of clamshells. Aunt Moola smiles and whispers in Flora's ear. Flora jumps up and down with excitement.)*

FLORA: Oh, I don't believe it!

*(Fauna hands Aunt Moola a couple clamshells.)*

FAUNA: *(To Aunt Moola.)* This better be worth it. Those are my last two clams! *(Aunt Moola whispers in Fauna's ear.)* Okay, that was worth it.

*(Fauna sticks out her tongue at Leilani.)*

LEILANI: Oh, forget it. I'm going out to the forest to gather some herbs for dinner.

AUNT MOOLA: Well, don't dawdle. I am so famished that I could even eat your horrendous cooking.

FLORA: *(To Aunt Moola, whispers.)* But she's a great cook.

FAUNA: *(To Aunt Moola, whispers.)* Yes, I love her cooking.

AUNT MOOLA: *(Quietly through her teeth.)* She doesn't need to know that, now does she?

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*(Aunt Moola, Flora, and Fauna wave goodbye to Leilani as they exit  
SR. Blackout.)*

## Scene 4

*(AT RISE: Fairy forest. There are many beautiful flowers scattered about. Narrator enters.)*

NARRATOR: Leilani did her best to ignore her mean aunt and cousins. She spent as much time as possible with her friends, the fairies, who lived in the forest.

*(Fairy Sweet enters, wearing a crown of flowers.)*

FAIRY SWEET: Leilani, you won't believe what's going on down in the village. A messenger was sent out from the main island. The entire royal family is coming here to visit us. We should help prepare for the special occasion.

LEILANI: That must be the big news that my aunt was telling my cousins about this morning. Fairy Sweet, what are we going to do? I don't have any special talents or gifts. Oh, goodness, what shall I make for the queen? And the king? And the prince? I have heard he is very, very handsome.

FAIRY SWEET: Remember, you are beautiful, too. Your greatest gift to the royal family will be your lovely smile. Let's go tell the Fairy Queen and the others. *(Enter Fairy Queen and her Attendants.)* My queen, have you heard? The royal family is coming here for a visit.

FAIRY QUEEN: Yes, it is very exciting. I have not seen my friends the king and queen in many years. I expect that little Prince Manu is all grown up. He has his father's smile and his mother's kind nature.

FAIRY SWEET: What can we do to help?

FAIRY QUEEN: I told the villagers that we would pick flowers to use as decorations.

*(Fairy Queen and Attendants turn away and begin gathering flowers.)*

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LEILANI: But there must be something more that we could do.

FAIRY SWEET: Don't worry, Leilani, you will think of something.

*(Leilani pauses and thinks for a moment.)*

LEILANI: Fairy Sweet, your crown of flowers gives me an idea. The flowers of our island are so beautiful that they can be used for more than just decoration. We should use the flowers to make a special gift for the royal family. We should make something like your crown. They could wear it and take it with them.

FAIRY SWEET: I know a perfect place to pick flowers. Let's get started.

LEILANI: I suppose Aunt Moola and Flora and Fauna can make their own dinner tonight.

FAIRY SWEET: But won't you be in trouble?

LEILANI: This is worth it.

*(Leilani and Fairies exit. Villagers 1, 2, 3 enter carrying three headdresses. They also carry fruit baskets, large gourds, and feathers. Villagers sit cross-legged and begin decorating the headdresses with feathers.)*

VILLAGER 1: I think this should be beautiful enough for the queen.

VILLAGER 2: I think this should be the best for the king!

VILLAGER 3: And I think this is fit for a prince!

VILLAGER 2: And I think this will fit me!

VILLAGER 3: Quit messing around, Lulu! Keep those coconuts a-crackin'. We're on a deadline, people!

*(More Villagers enter, carrying flutes, drums, pineapples, coconuts, flowers, and mangoes. They mime playing their instruments while others dance.)*

NARRATOR: Some villagers practiced playing their flutes and drums while others practiced their dancing. Everyone helped to make the food, drinks, and gifts all ready.

VILLAGERS: Partay! Partay! Partay! *(Sing.)*

“Crack, crack, crack the coconuts.

Crack, crack, and crack the coconuts.

Crack, crack, crack the coconuts!

Make a celebration feast.

Pick, pick, pick the pineapple.

Pick, pick and pick the pineapple.

Pick, pick, pick the pineapple!

Make a celebration feast.

Mash, mash, mash the mangos up.

Mash, mash, and mash the mangos up.

Mash, mash, mash the mangos up!

Make a celebration feast.”

*(Exit Villagers. Enter Leilani and Fairies.)*

LEILANI: Yes, this is such a good idea! I will make a necklace of flowers for each member of the royal family.

FAIRY SWEET: We will name the necklace after you, Leilani. We will call it a “lei.”

*(Leilani picks up a flower.)*

LEILANI: What is this flower called again?

FAIRY QUEEN: That’s a hibiscus, silly.

FAIRY SWEET: And this is a Bird of Paradise! *(She makes the flower fly around in the air like a bird.)*

FAIRY QUEEN: And this is anthurium. Do they look like hearts to you?

*(Fairies and Leilani begin to pick up flowers.)*

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NARRATOR: The Fairies and Leilani worked all day until the sun went down. The Fairies went back into their forest tree homes. *(Exit Fairies. Leilani steps to downstage center, and curls up to sleep.)* Leilani was so tired that she fell asleep right on the spot. She slept right through until the big day.

*(Blackout.)*

## Scene 5

*(AT RISE: The next day. Leilani is still asleep. Fairies enter.)*

FAIRIES: Wake up, Leilani! The royal family will be here soon!

LEILANI: Oh my goodness! We don't want to be late!

FAIRY SWEET: Wait! Before you go, the girls and I have made a surprise for you. *(Fairy Sweet pulls out a beautiful dress from behind her back.)*

LEILANI: Oh, my goodness, it's so beautiful! Thank you.

FAIRY QUEEN: It is as beautiful as you are, my child.

*(Fairies dance in a ring around Leilani to rejoice as Leilani holds up the new dress. Blackout.)*

## Scene 6

*(AT RISE: Luau, later that day. The Villagers enter from SR, wearing flowers in their hair and carrying gifts and baskets of fruit. The Villagers chatter excitedly and keep adjusting their fine clothes. Leilani and Fairies enter SL, adjusting the flowers in Leilani's hair. Enter Aunt Moola, Flora, and Fauna SR.)*

AUNT MOOLA: *(To Flora and Fauna.)* What's Leilani doing here? That's why she didn't come home to make our dinner! And where did she get that dress? *(Flora and Fauna shrug.)* Well, I hope she has fun today because she is going to be paying for this stunt for a long while.

*(Enter the King, Queen, Prince and rest of royal procession to CS. The Fairies push Leilani forward to greet the royal family. Leilani is holding three leis in her arms. She bows her head and holds her hands together in front of her heart.)*

LEILANI: My lovely queen, my handsome king, my ...huh....huh....hubba....hubba. *(Leilani swoons, and the Fairies catch her, laughing. Leilani recovers, remembering the leis in her arms.)* Welcome to our island. We are so honored. Please accept this humble gift on behalf of the fairies and myself. These necklaces are called "leis." They are symbols of the fairy ring, which is a place of acceptance and welcome.

*(Leilani puts leis around the King, Queen, and Prince.)*

QUEEN: These are the most beautiful flowers I have ever seen.

KING: Yes, these leis are most extraordinary.

*(Prince looks at Leilani.)*

PRINCE: Yes, what a beauty.

*(Villager 1 hands the King a headdress.)*

VILLAGER 1: *(To King.)* We made this for you.

*(Villager 3 hands the Queen a headdress.)*

VILLAGER 3: *(To Queen.)* And we made this for you with our loving hands.

*(Villager 2 reluctantly hands the Prince a headdress.)*

VILLAGER 2: *(To Prince.)* And this would look really good on me, but you can have it!

KING: Thank you, all of you, for the beautiful gifts. Please show us the rest of your island. *(He turns to Leilani.)* Will you please be our guide?

AUNT MOOLA: Oh, for cryin' out loud! She has all the luck.

LEILANI: Yes, yes, follow me. This is the way to the coral reef, the funniest dolphins, and the highest palm trees.

*(Leilani and the royal family exit. Villagers set out the feast on mats on the earth.)*

AUNT MOOLA: *(Stamps her foot.)* Flora, why couldn't you have invented some new....*something*, and made us all important? And Fauna, you should have insisted on being their tour guide.

FAUNA: But I don't know my way around. And you know Flora can't even make mud.

*(Flora nods in agreement.)*

AUNT MOOLA: I guess it's up to me. We have one last chance. When they come back I'll dance the Moola Hula. That's always been a showstopper!

*(Blackout.)*

**[End of Freeview]**