

Kamakau, S. M.  
Mo'olelo o Hawaii

Part II, Chapters 12-13

Hawaiian text

Extract from manuscript draft of Ch. 12 "Death and the Guardian Spirits" part of *Mo'olelo o Hawaii* part II by S.M. Kamakau.

Originally published in *Ke Au Okoa*, October 13, 1870.

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He mea kupanaha ka hoi ana mai o na 'uhane o ka po'e make  
a me na anela o na 'aumakua a uluhia iluna o na kanaka ola. 'Aole  
mea hiki 'ole i ke akua. Eia na kumu, o ka uluhia ana ma ka makemake  
o ke akua e ho'ike mai i na mea huna a me ka wanana ana i na mea  
nui e hiki mai ana i ka manawa mahope, a ua kapa'ia ka inoa oia po'e,  
o'na Kaula. O ka lua; o ka po'e i alakai 'ia ma ke koho ana mai a na  
'aumakua, i mau mea malama i ke kino a me na pono kino. O ke kolu,  
o na 'uhane unhipili, i alakai 'ia e na 'aumakua. O ka ha; o na  
'uhane hoolaa ma ka makemake o ka 'uhane. O ka lima; o ka huipu ana  
o na 'uhane unhipili me na 'uhane o ka po pau'ole. I ka wa kahiko ma  
Hawaii nei; ua hilinai nui 'ia na 'olelo na wanana, a me na 'olelo  
huna; ua paulele nui 'ia ka 'olelo a ka po'e kaula, he mau 'olelo hooko

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wale no ka na kaula, 'aole e hiki i kekahi alii, a i kekahi Mo'i o ke aupuni ke hoomaloka i na olelo a na kaula, a me ka po'e i uluhia i na aumakua, a me na kupuna, a ua pololei wale no ke kuhikuhi ana, a pela i mana'o ai o Kamehameha I i kekahi o kona mau Akua; O Kaho'alii ke Akua kanaka o Kamehameha I. 'Aole pela ka 'oia'io, ua paulele o Kamehameha I, ua noho mai ke Akua o Kaho'alii maluna o ua kanaka kahu Akua Kaho'alii ia, (pela no o Kiha wahine. I kekahi manawa he kii o Kihawahine, ua kahiko'ia i ke kapa olena me ke kapa puaniu a me ka pokohukohu, he kii'ano wahine keia ua pukai'ia, he hoailona wale no keia, aka, e noho'uhane ana no o Kihawahine me ka uluhia maluna o kekahi kanaka, a i'ole ia, ma ka ho'ike ana o na kino Akua me ka weliweli 'eehia a me ka makau nui, a pela no kekahi mau Akua a pau o Kamehameha I, a ua kapaia keia mau Akua na Akua aumakua o Kamehameha, a he aumakua no na alii; a pela kela Akua keia Akua i malama ia e Kamehameha.

Kamakau, S. M.  
Mo'olelo o Hawaii  
(History of Hawaii)

Part II: Traditional beliefs  
and customs.

Chapters 12-13  
12. Death and guardian spirits  
13. Stories of early chiefs

Notes to all chapters

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to be used

It is a wonderful thing how the spirits of the dead, the angels, and the aumakua can possess a living person. Nothing is impossible to the god. The reasons for such possession are, first, the god's desire to reveal secret things and foretell what is coming to pass, and persons so possessed are called prophets (kaula). Second, when the aumakua have chosen persons to become their keepers or the keepers of some object belonging to them, <sup>3</sup>Third, when the aumakua have chosen persons to care for a <sup>n</sup>unihipili, <sup>4</sup>Fourth, when spirits are consecrated at the desire of the spirit, <sup>5</sup>Fifth, when the unihipili spirits are combined with the spirits of endless night. In the old days in Hawaii

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prophetic utterances and hidden sayings were fully believed in; the words of prophets were always fulfilled, no chief or ruler over the land would disregard the sayings of the prophets and of those possessed by an aumakua and by ancestors. Their direction was always right. Kamehameha I was believed to rely upon the deified human being Kahoali'i as his god. That was not so. Kamehameha really believed that the god Kahoali'i possessed the human keeper of the god Kahoali'i. So also with Kihawahine. Sometimes Kihawahine was an image in the form of a woman with hair stained [red] with lime and dressed in deep saffron yellow, in light yellow, [or] in patterned tapa. This was a painted image of a woman and this image was only a symbol. Kihawahine's spirit possessed a certain man or she was revealed in one of her own terrible bodies. So it was with all of Kamehameha's gods; they were called aumakua gods of Kamehameha and an aumakua for chiefs, and so it was with every god kept by Kamehameha.

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