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## "The Missing Lover"



"Kīpahulu", title of the Cover Art for last September 1998, depicts a legend of two lovers in the Kīpahulu district on Maui.

When I first looked at this very Hawaiian block print, typical of our covers by Dietrich Varez, I saw a possible lover to the left of the waterfall.

Then, when several of our readers also asked about the second lover, I was not sure of the location of the mysterious visage.

Recently, Varez has edified us by explaining there is a second lover -- but not visible. Only a voice was heard, so said the legend.

Mahalo, Dietrich, for perpetuating Hawaii mythology on the covers of our journal.

## February is the Month for Lovers

An interesting article<sup>1</sup> by New York Times syndicated columnist, Jan Sheehan, says "Love is the Drug that Keeps Many Healthy". She reports on studies linking love; in another study, it was found that participants who reported being in love have high levels of euphoria-producing, pain-reducing endorphins (and no side effects from overdose - Ed.)

Our Poet Laureate, Dr. Robert Flowers' poetry and prose have appeared in the journal for many years, but his poems, "Mother of My Children", "More Beautiful", "Who Are You, Woman", and "Lovers and Friends" are most appropriate for February.

1. Sheehan, Jan. Love is the Drug that Keeps Many Healthy. Honolulu Star-Bulletin p.3 Feb 4, 1997.

## This Month in the Journal

Janet Onopa MD of the Department of Medicine, University of Hawaii, presents an excellent review of CAM, complementary and alternative medicine in this issue. Because of patient interest in CAM, especially here in Hawaii, the Hawaii Medical Journal is planning a special issue dealing with "non-allopathic" medicine or CAM.

The Manuscript by medical residents, Sandi Kwee MD and Leilani Ka'anehe MD on "Occupational exposures and knowledge of universal precautions among medical students" emphasizes common exposures to blood among medical students and should be of interest to all physicians.

### LOVERS AND FRIENDS

by Robert S. Flowers For my wife

<i>How gently</i>	<i>How softly</i>
<i>How gently</i>	<i>How softly</i>
<i>You walked upon the stage</i>	<i>You touched my skin</i>
<i>Of my presence</i>	<i>You touched my heart</i>
<i>And eclipsed the memories</i>	<i>And you touched my life</i>
<i>Of my past</i>	
<i>How silently</i>	<i>How solemnly</i>
<i>How silently</i>	<i>How solemnly</i>
<i>Your soul whispered</i>	<i>We shared our sorrows</i>
<i>Into the ear</i>	<i>Our aloneness</i>
<i>Of my despair</i>	<i>And talked of tribulations</i>
<i>Sighs of hope</i>	<i>How reverently</i>
<i>Sounds of sustenance</i>	<i>How reverently</i>
	<i>We shared our hymns</i>
<i>How sweetly</i>	<i>We shared our faith</i>
<i>How sweetly</i>	<i>And shared our prayers</i>
<i>You sang to me</i>	
<i>Songs of friendship</i>	<i>How joyfully</i>
<i>And the suggestion</i>	<i>How joyfully</i>
<i>Of something more</i>	<i>We stood before our peers</i>
<i>Something yet</i>	<i>And stood before</i>
<i>To be defined</i>	<i>Our Lord</i>
	<i>And spoke our vows</i>

*How powerfully*  
*How powerfully*  
*You seized my future*  
*As I seized yours*  
*And built a home*  
*And bonded lives*

*How proudly*  
*How proudly*  
*You hosted my seed*  
*You swelled with pride*  
*And you bore our son*

*How dearly*  
*How dearly*  
*You held him close*  
*You nurtured his needs*  
*And gave him milk*  
*Of maturation*

*How intimately*  
*How intimately*  
*You brought the world*  
*To his shores*  
*And escorted him*  
*Down its ancient corridors*

*How tirelessly*  
*How tirelessly*  
*You followed*  
*My wanderings*  
*Wearied and worn*  
*Forsaking composure*

*How wondrously*  
*How wondrously*  
*You conceived again*  
*And formed another life*  
*For us to love*  
*For us to share*

*How patiently*  
*How patiently*  
*You committed your time*  
*You shared your sleep*  
*And rationed your rest*

*How wisely*  
*How wisely*  
*You studied the art*  
*And mastered the task*  
*Of guiding precious*  
*And youthful lives*

*How selflessly*  
*How selflessly*  
*You gave yourself*  
*To become and be*  
*Not just one*  
*But the pivotal part*  
*Of a greater whole.*

*And*  
*How splendidly*  
*How splendidly*  
*You came upon my stage*  
*And moved beyond*  
*The beautiful lover*  
*That you are*  
*To give me what*  
*I most revere*

*Intimate*  
*And loving*  
*Friendship*

