

Aurora

A One-Act Play
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SYNOPSIS:

A young woman is haunted by dreams in another language. As she studies Hawaiian in college, she discovers they are warning her of a fatal illness. A dream lover attempts to guide her to the other side, but she is not sure she wants to go.

CHARACTERS:

Aurora	A young collage woman. Thin and pale, but pretty. Dark hair and eyes. Romantic and idealistic.
Nicole	Her roommate. Pretty, blonde, popular, out-going.
Mother	Aurora's mother, Anna. A kind, intelligent, caring woman in her early 40s.
Dream Lover	A very handsome, charismatic, virile Hawaiian man.
Dream Talker #1	A Hawaiian man.
Dream Talker #2	A Hawaiian man in his early 40s. Also plays Aurora's father, Gerry.
Dream Talker #3	A Hawaiian woman.
Dream Talker #4	A Hawaiian woman.

(Note: The dream talkers speak in Hawaiian. The words in English within brackets [. . .] are for the benefit of the actors to understand what they are saying in Hawaiian. These lines should not be spoken in English.)

Hawaii Tribune-Herald, Friday, October 27, 2000—9

Arts & Entertainment

Student thespians set to dish out 'Two Scoops of Obake'

For the Tribune-Herald

Obake stories are as familiar to Hawaii as two scoops of rice. This weekend, the Performing Arts Learning Center will serve up "Two Scoops Obake," the first show of its season.

"Two Scoops Obake" is comprised of two one-act plays written by Hawaii writers. The first play, "Paradise Tours," by Robert Morris, was a featured play in the Kumu Kahua play collection. The comic story focuses on a group of tourists who end up on a tour bus in Hell. The cast has found it challenging having to emulate mainland tourists. "I found it difficult having to mispronounce Hawaiian words that I have spoken all my life," says Jackie Araujo, who portrays Bertha, one of the tourists.

The second play, "Aurora," by Justina Mattos, is a serious, touching story of a young woman contacted by Hawaiian spirits as she battles can-

cer. For Mattos, "Aurora" has special meaning, as it is based on her real-life experience with a high school friend. The play is premiering at Hilo High School, which she attended from 1979 through 1980, when her family relocated to San Francisco. "I was a student at Hilo High when the Aurora I knew waged her battle with cancer. So it seems fitting that the play receive its premier here," says Mattos with a shy smile, "where the seeds of the drama were sown."

The cast of "Aurora" has also been challenged by the language contained in the play. Most of the cast speaks Hawaiian at various times throughout the play. One cast member, Malu Debus, is fluent in Hawai-

ian and has been the kumu for the rest of the cast. "I think that it's wonderful that our Hawaiian characters are reciting ancient sayings from the 'Olelo No'eau, that Pukui wrote," Malu says with pride. "You don't hear a lot of the traditional sayings anymore. It's very moving." The other cast members smile and nod in agreement.

"This show is close to my heart," says Jackie Seaquist, the director and PALC coordinator, "When Justina sent me a copy of 'Aurora,' I knew we had to produce it."

The technical aspects of the production, from makeup to light design, are being carried out by the Theatre Crafts class under the guidance of

Ravani Flood, PALC technical director.

The opening night performance of "Two Scoops Obake," will be dedicated as a benefit for the American Cancer Society, and all proceeds will be donated to the ACS in Hilo. The plays will be performed at the Hilo High auditorium tonight and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. with a Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5. For further information, call the PALC office at 974-4060.

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