O'Brien is Tryin' to Learn to Talk Hawaiian
by Rennie Cormack and Al Dubin (1916)

Chorus 1: O'--- Bri-en, is try-in', to learn-- to talk-- Ha-wai-ian to

C . . . | F . . . . ' | C ' . . . . . . . . . .
Pat O' Bri-en, af-ter buy-in' a ticket for the Sand-wich Isles----
G7 . . . . . . . | C . . . . . . . . . .
His face all full of smiles, and aft-er many-y trials----
C . . . | F . . . . ' | C ' . . . . . . . . . .
Pad-dy land-ed, then me-an--dered where the hula maid-ens sway----
Oh, he met a hul--la danc-er down be--side Ha--wai-i Bay-------
(Slow) She won his heart a-----way------- and I heard the oth------er day-------

Chorus 1: O'--- Bri-en, is try-in', to learn-- to talk-- Ha-wai-ian to

his Hon--- o---- u---- Lu--- Lu-------
He's sigh-in', and cry-in', and all-- the time he's try-in'
D7 . . . . | . . | G7 . . . . . .
just to say-- "I--- love-- you-- true------"
With his "ar-rah ya-ka hu-la be-gor-rah hick--i du-la"
D7 . . . . | . . | G7 . . . . . .
and his l------rish-- "ji--- ji--- boo------"
Sure, O' Bri-en, is try-in', to learn to talk Ha-wai-ian
D7 . . . . | . . | G7 . . . . | C . . . . . . . . . .
to his Hon-- o-- lu--- lu-- Lu-------

C . . . | F . . . . . ' | C ' . . . . . . . . . .
Pad-dy's yearn-in' to be learn-in' to play the uku-le-le too----
G7 . . . . . . . | C . . . . . . . . . .
For his Hon-o--- lu---lu Lu------, like all Ha--wai--ians do------
C . . . | F . . . . | C ' . . . . . . . . . .
Pad-dy's danc-er does-n't an-sw'er when he starts to talk and shout
For when Pad-dy talks Ha--wai--ian no one knows what it's a---bout.
(Slow) If his wife on------ly knew------, he'd be in an l------rish stew------
Chorus 2:

O'-- Bri-en, is try-in', to learn-- to talk-- Ha-wai-ian to

his Hon-- o---- u---- Lu---- Lu-------

He's sigh-in', and ly-- in', in I---rish and Ha-wai-ian,

to his wife-- and-- Lu-- Lu-- too-------

While he writes a lot of blar-ney to Ka-tie in Kil-- ar-ny,

and she thinks-- that-- he-- is-- true-------

Sure, O' Bri-en, is try--in', to learn to talk Ha-wai-ian

to his Hon-- o---- lu---- Lu-------

C . . | F . . | C . . . . . . . . . .

Pad-dy likes Ha-wai-ian mu--sic be-cause it's such a nov--el----ty-------

He thinks the har-mon--y is sweet as it can be.

If he tries to, he'll get wise to all the mel-o-dies he's heard------

and he knows some tunes al--read-y but he does-n't know a word-----

(E) Ha-wai-ian's hard to get------- with an I---rish al----pha----bet-------

Chorus 3:

O'-- Bri-en, is try-in', to learn-- to talk-- Ha-wai-ian to

his Hon-- o---- u---- Lu---- Lu-------

He's sigh-in', and cry-in', and all-- the time he's try--in'

just to say-- "I---- love-- you-- true------"

He won Brid-get, Kate and Ma-ry by sing-ing Tip-per- ar--y"

and he'll win-- his-- Lu-- Lu-- too-------

For O' Bri-en, is try--in', to learn to talk Ha-wai-ian

to his Hon-- o---- lu---- Lu-------

San Jose Ukulele Club
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