



Paradise on Earth

A trip to Hawai'i

Paradise on Earth



Our honeymoon trip to Hawaiï in 2008



We landed in Kauaʻi, the Garden Island.

At the rental center, we got easily tempted to take a convertible car!





A long stretch with tall eucalyptus trees on both sides, creating a beautiful canopy. Known as The eucalyptus tunnel. Driving through this was so peaceful.



Driving through the small
roads in Kauaí is fun.
Greenery all around.
Rustic beauty.





The beauty and the beach :)



Our first stop was near Poipu beach. We stopped at Brennecker's restaurant by chance. Later we realized that the Brennecker's have a beach named after them!





Our condo at Castle Kaha Laní had an excellent ocean front view. From our balcony.



More views of the drawing room and the balcony





We went to Coconut Market Place in the evening which was very close to our condo. We had a local favorite, shave ice, which is similar to the ice candy we get in India.



Day 2. A beautiful sunrise over the ocean, right from our room!



Spouting Horn: A natural sea geyser. Every once in a while, it makes a hissing noise and spouts out a fountain of water.





And took several pictures with the geyser



A wallpaper photo



Some scenic spots on the way

A suspension bridge.

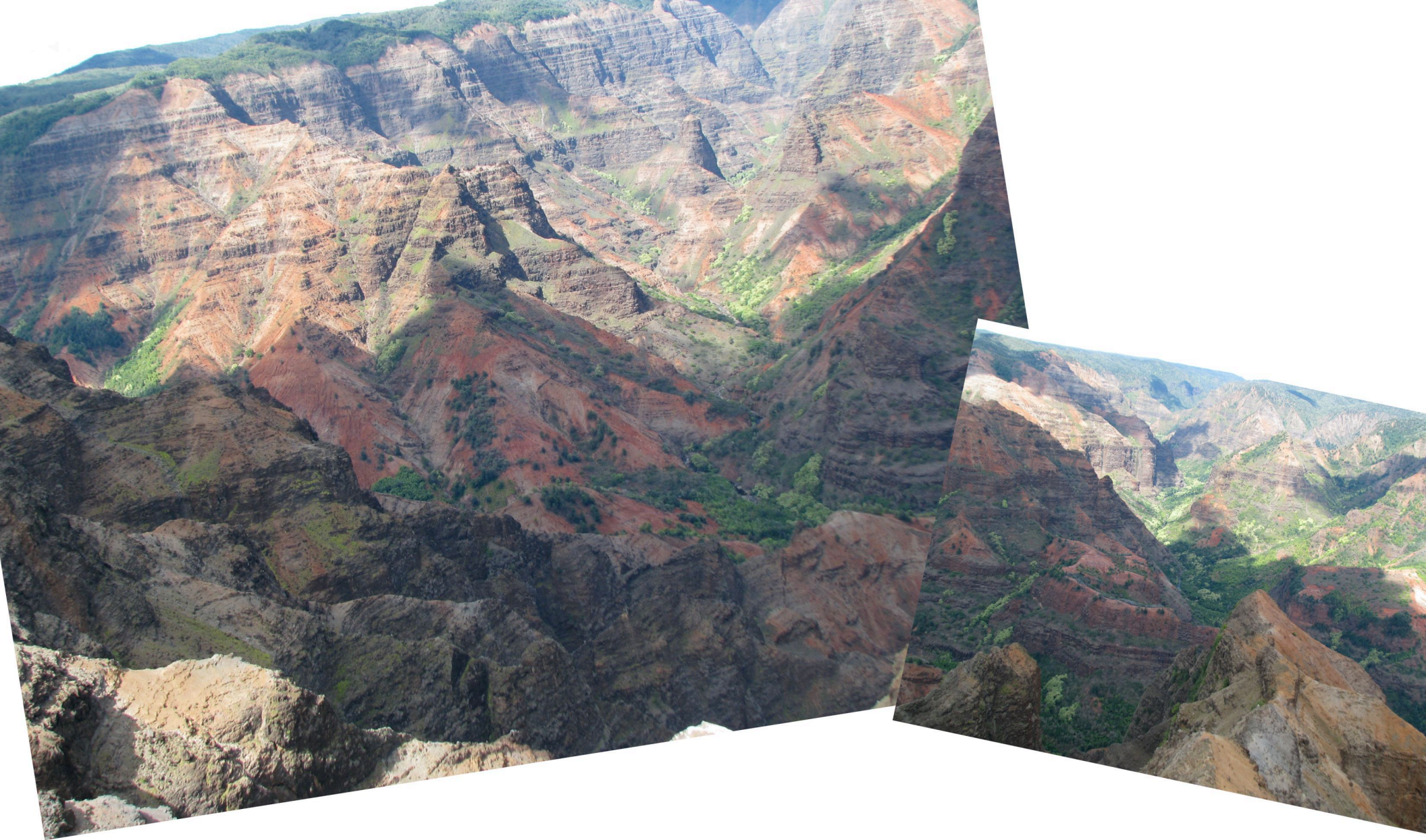


A rose is a rose is a rose





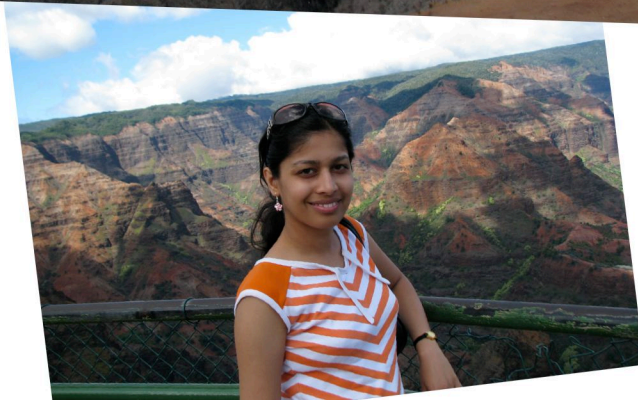
A view of the Waimea canyon



More views



More views

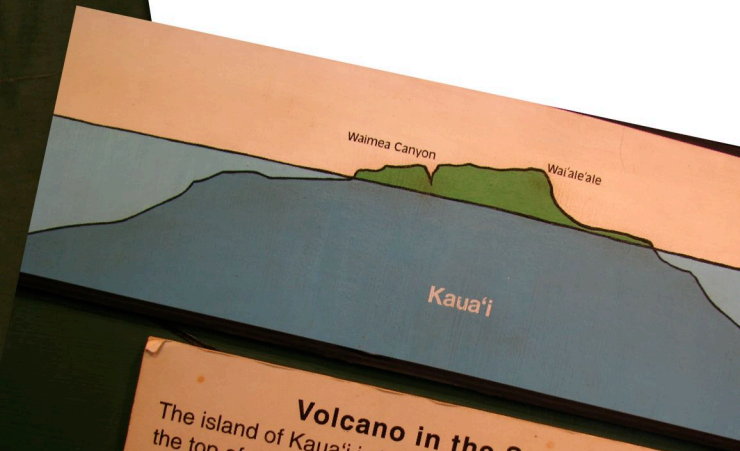
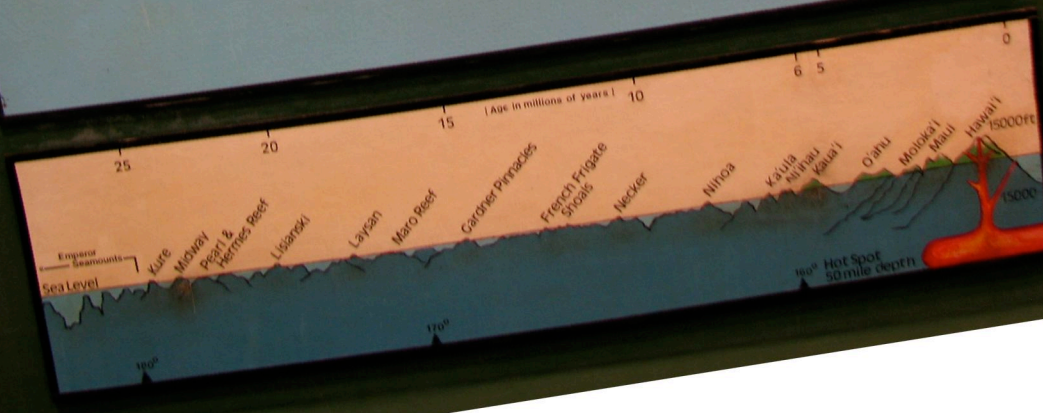
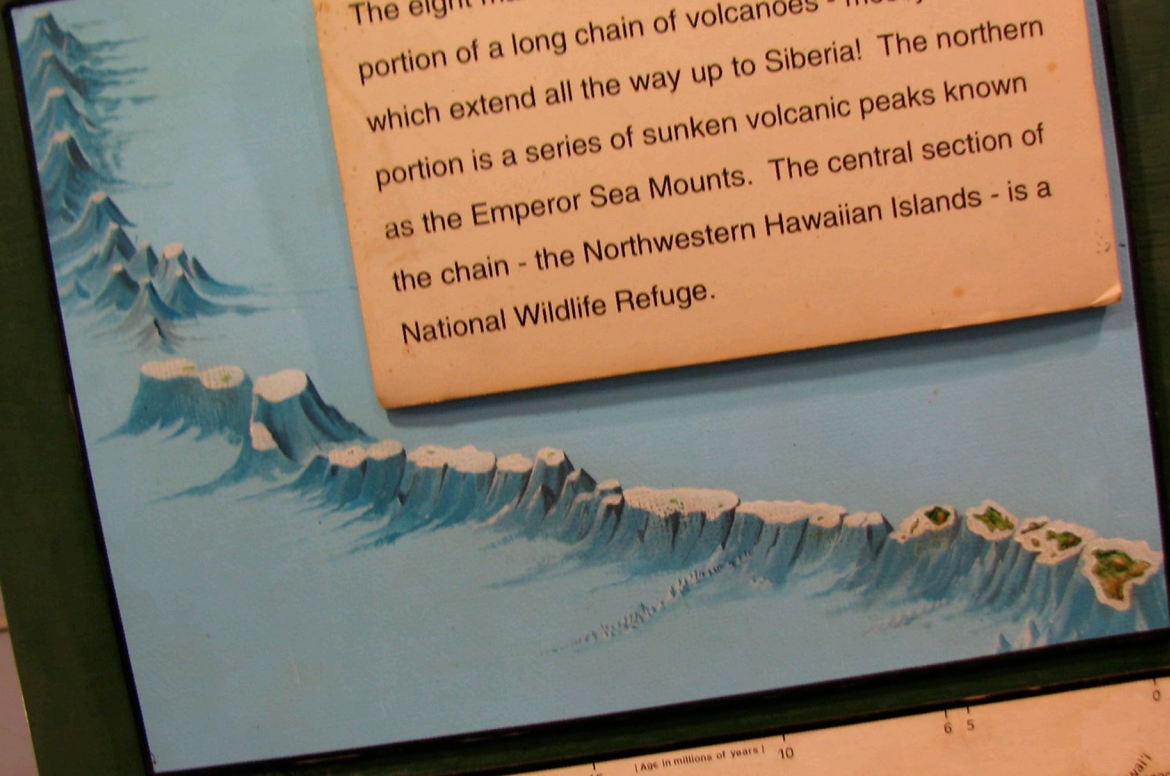




Shark Jaw
Thought to be from a
21-foot long Tiger Shark.
Pua ka wiliwili nanahu ka mano:
pua ka wahine u'i nanahu ke kana wai.
This Hawaiian proverb, found in Olelo No'eau,
means "when the wiliwili tree blossoms, sharks
bite; when a pretty woman blossoms, the law
bites." The law prevents rivalries between
young men, sharks, from getting out of hand.

Hímaní was as hungry as this wide-open mouth suggests

The eight main Hawaiian islands form but a small portion of a long chain of volcanoes - mostly extinct - which extend all the way up to Siberia! The northern portion is a series of sunken volcanic peaks known as the Emperor Sea Mounts. The central section of the chain - the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands - is a National Wildlife Refuge.



Volcano in the Sea

The island of Kauai is like the tip of an iceberg. It is the top of a large shield volcano which rises three miles (4.5 km) above the ocean floor. Of the 1,000 cubic miles of lava which make up this volcano, more than 95% is below sea level! Two mountain peaks - Kawaikini and Waialeale - are located near the original summit of the shield volcano, which is slowly eroding away into the ocean.

We learnt more about the geology of the island at the museum



The Niihau Island in the distant. Also known as the forbidden island. It's not open to any visitors.



A view of the exotic Napali coast



More exotic as we catch a rainbow. A sign of good luck, a passerby said.



Some nice poses



A couple of couple poses



Scaling the canyons



Don't know why I sat



Both of us with the rainbow and a view of Napali



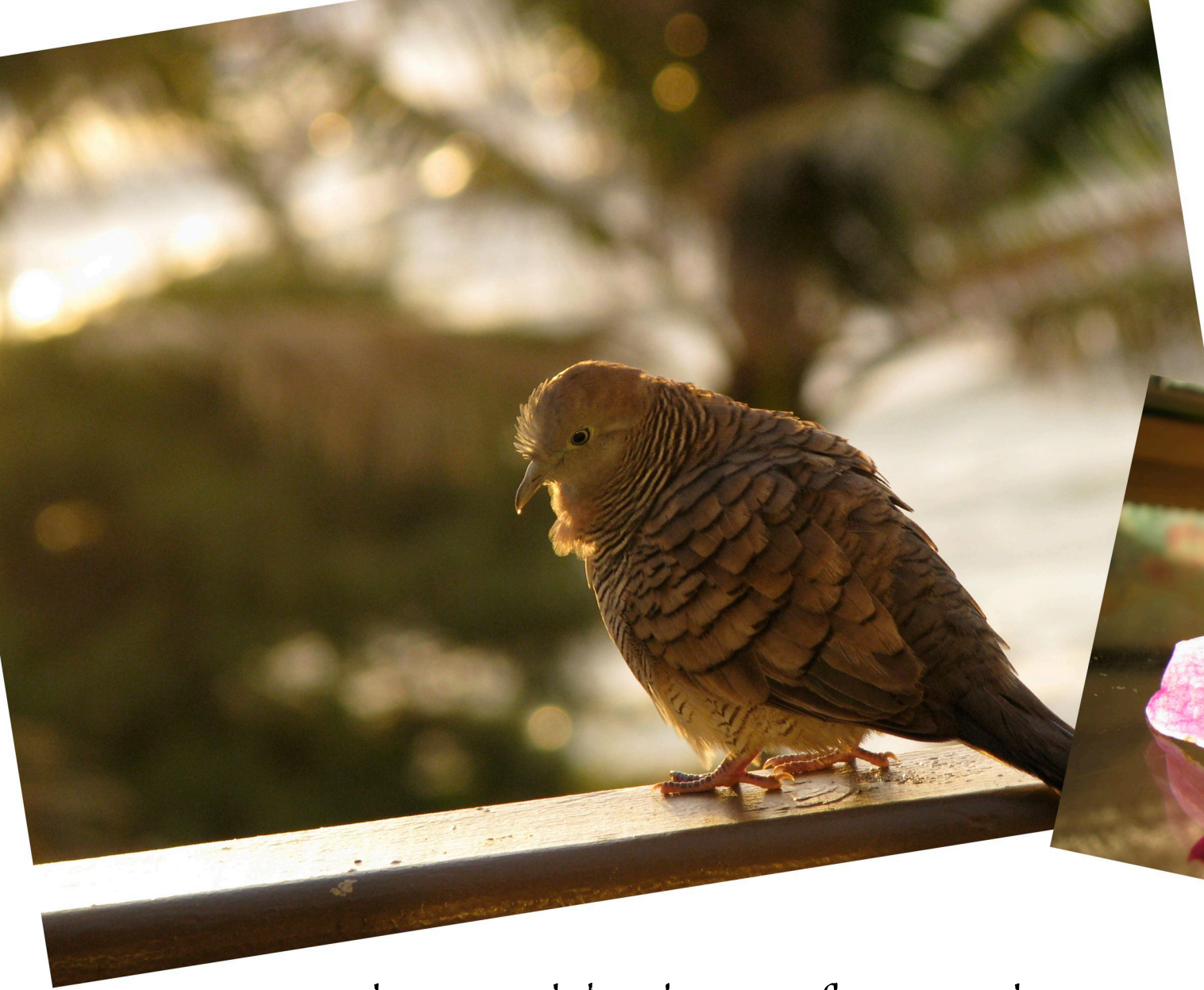
The drive back with the ocean view



Both of us up early on day 3 to catch the beautiful sunrise from our balcony again



The view was so beautiful that the cushion wouldn't let Himani get up



We discovered the close-up flower mode on our camera!



Last shots from our balcony



We went to Wailua water falls.



A glimpse of a village set up at Smith's Luau from the top, and the Wailua river

Poses by the Wailua river





Roosters are abundant in Kauaʻi. Any time of the day one can expect to hear a cock-a-doodle-doo. Rumors abound that a big storm in the 90s set a rooster farm open

Photos with the wonderful
car we had





We left for Oahu, and reached a whole new world! High rises, well developed, a shopping maniac's paradise it felt like.



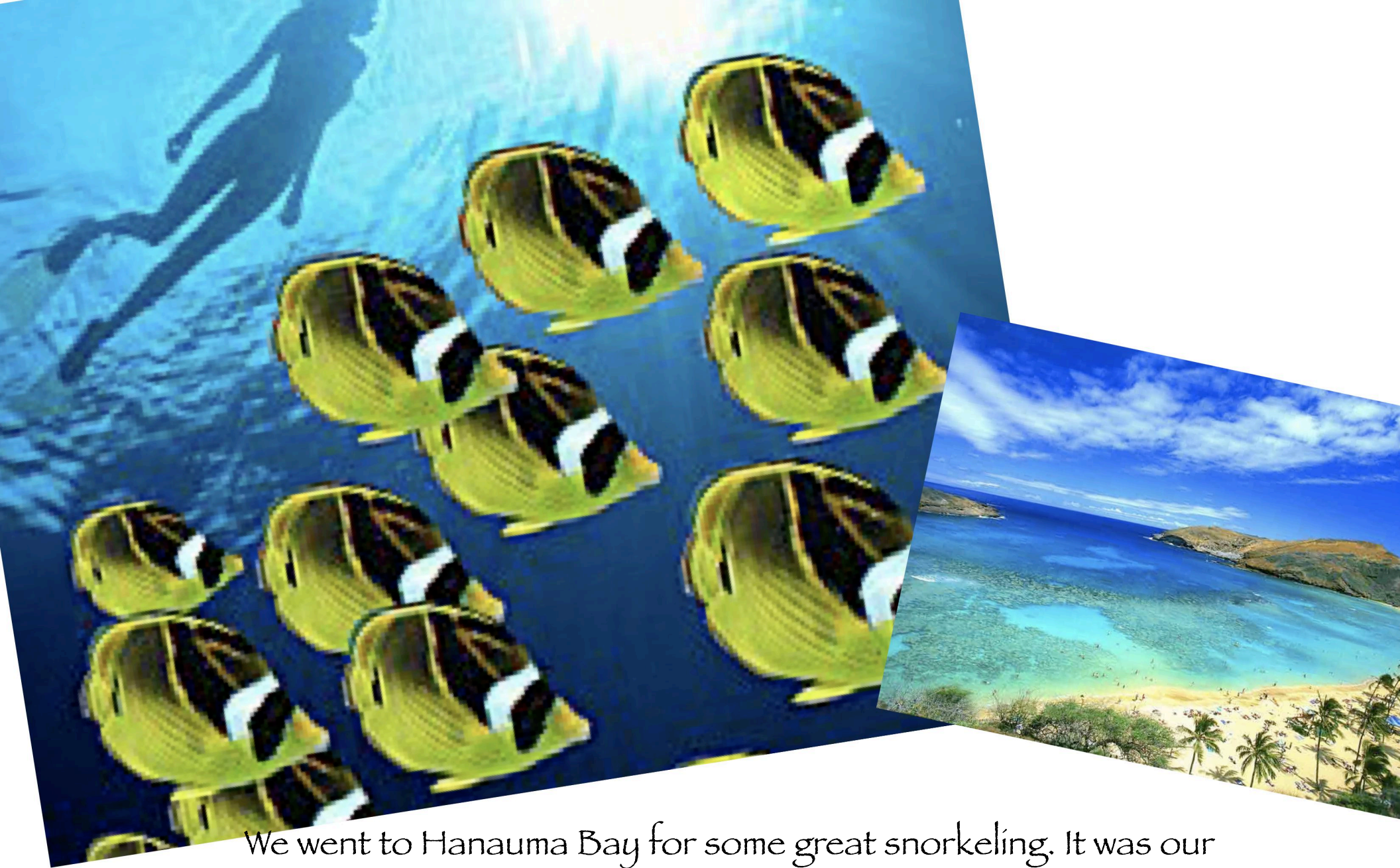


We were welcomed in our Hyatt room with champagne. Himani was complemented by many for her pretty dress (& looks, she insists!)



We woke up to a beautiful morning with a rainbow filled sky.





We went to Hanauma Bay for some great snorkeling. It was our first time snorkeling, and once we observed the peaceful fishes, we felt like never leaving ~ until we saw the tan on our bodies!



In front of the statue of a Duke Kahanamoku ("Duke" is part of his name, not title) who modernized the sport of surfing. He was also a Olympic champion.



Last shots from the Hyatt before leaving



At the Polynesian Cultural center.

Canoe presentations from the different villages





And we live happily ever after!