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Kanaloa Transformed

Olivia Ng

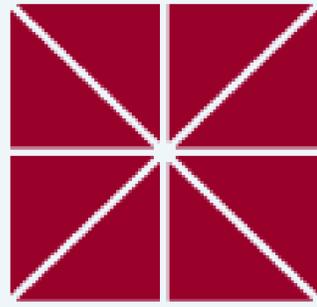
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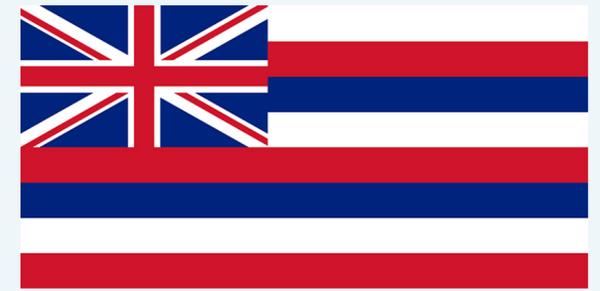
Kanaloa Transformed

Olivia Ng

Sailing the Wine Dark Sea: The Power of Myth

Instructor: Dr. Eileen Jankowski

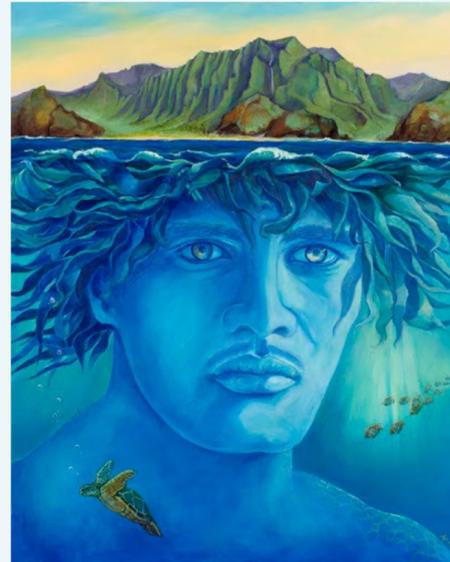
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Hawaiian flag

The Hawaiian Pantheon

- 400 C.E.: Polynesian voyagers travel 2,000 miles
- Polynesians (polytheists) colonize Hawaiian islands
- Polynesian gods are adopted and transformed
- 4 major gods: Ku, Lono, Kane, and Kanaloa
- Hawaiian/Polynesian religion focus on natural forces; major gods exhibit characteristics of nature
- Rocks, plants, and animals are reincarnations of gods



Kanaloa in Polynesia

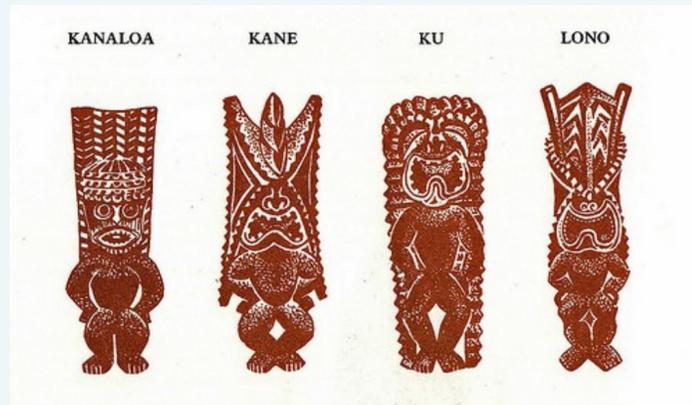
- Tagaloa (Samoan name) worshipped as the god of the underworld/death
- Somewhat resembling the Christian devil
- Teacher of magic
- One of the gods who created the world (water)
- Kanaloa is jealous of the other gods, who unlike him were successful in the creation of man
- Kanaloa desires to bring bitterness/sorrow

Kanaloa in Hawaii

- Kanaloa and Kane roam Hawaiian islands upon arrival
- Oceans are expanded; fresh water springs are created
- Transformation: god of underworld to ocean deity
- Hawaiian island Kaho'olawe: once named Kanaloa
- Kaho'olawe: center for ocean navigation in Hawaii
- Assists and protects fishermen and voyagers
- Patron god of healing
- Eye of Kanaloa: gazing into the Eye of Kanaloa can bring healing and produces sense of harmony/energy

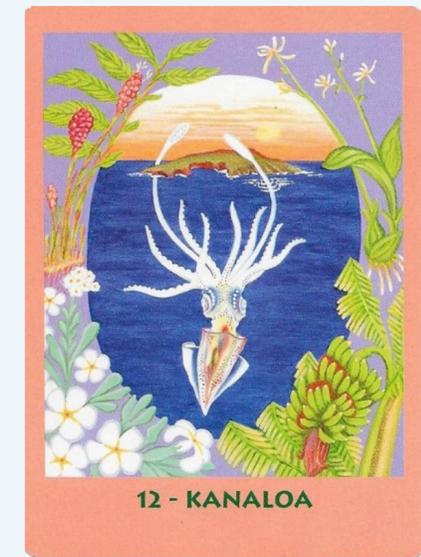
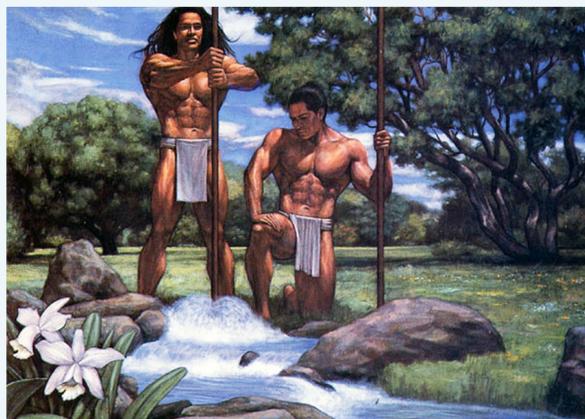
Kanaloa's Kinolau

- Kino - "forms", "embodiments"; Lau - "many"
- Kinolau: "many bodies"; "many forms"
- Hawaiians believe natural forces/objects/creatures were all bodily forms of the gods
- Many sea creatures act as Kanaloa's kinolau
- Waltheria Indica plant, bananas, octopus, squid, dolphin, whale and other sea creatures



Arrival of Kanaloa and Kane

- Kanaloa and Kane arrive together from Kahiki pillars
- Awa drinkers: Polynesian drink of the gods
- Kanaloa and Kane strike the ground - fresh water springs scattered all around Hawaii ("water finders")



Worshipping Kanaloa

- Chants worshipping Kanaloa ask for assistance in healing a patient
- Fisherman and sailors pray for protection on the seas

