

The Starfish | Ka Hôkû Kai

The Tale of the Starfish

"I MADE A DIFFERENCE FOR THAT ONE."



ONCE UPON A TIME, there was a wise kupuna (elder) who went to the sea to contemplate. The kupuna saw a keiki (child) reaching into the sand and gently throwing something into the sea. The kupuna called out "Aloha! What are you doing?" The keiki looked up and replied, "Throwing starfish into the sea." "WHY?" the kupuna asked. The keiki smiled brightly and replied, "The sun is up, and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them in, they will die." "But there are miles of beach and starfish all along it? You can't possibly make a difference!" The keiki listened politely, picked up another starfish, threw it gently into the sea, and exuberantly declared, "I made a difference for that one."



The Tale of the Starfish is one of many inspired by the original work by Loren Elseley – published in 1968 in this book *The Unexpected Universe* – as *The Star Thrower*. Our version of *The Tale of the Starfish* is an edited version of the story.

SandBox
Baby

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