

Quinoro's Pearl

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and folk-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "Be - neath the blue Pa - ci - fic sky, Lies the is - land of Min - do - ro Where in a Fi - li - pi - no bay, Lived a boy called Quin - o - ro. He'd watch the boats go out to sea, And their white sails un - furl, While the oy - ster fleer was leav - ing Quin - o - ro would be griev - ing, Too young to dive for pearl."

Beneath the blue Pacific sky,
Lies the island of Mindoro
Where in a Filipino bay,
Lived a boy called Quinoro.
He'd watch the boats go out to sea,
And their white sails unfurl,
While the oyster fleer was leaving
Quinoro would be grieving,
Too young to dive for pearl.

One day Quinoro made a raft
From the timbers of tindalo,
When next the boats put out to sea,
He would secretly follow,
Across the silver-bright lagoon,
And the ocean of blue,
To the coral reefs of wonder,
Where pearls were divers' plunder,
Quinoro would go too.

But when he dived beneath the sea
Where the coral weeds were swaying,
He found a water-jungle world,
Tiger-sharks ever preying,
And when a giant manta-ray,
Stirred a cloud-burst of sand,
Poor Quinoro, scared and lonely,
Regained his raft with only
One oyster in his hand.

The laughing fishermen returned
To the island of Mindoro,
And last of oysters to be shelled
Was the catch of Quinoro.
It held a brightly gleaming pearl,
Round as moon in its prime,
Now they take Quinoro fishing,
With all Mindoro wishing
He'll do it every time!