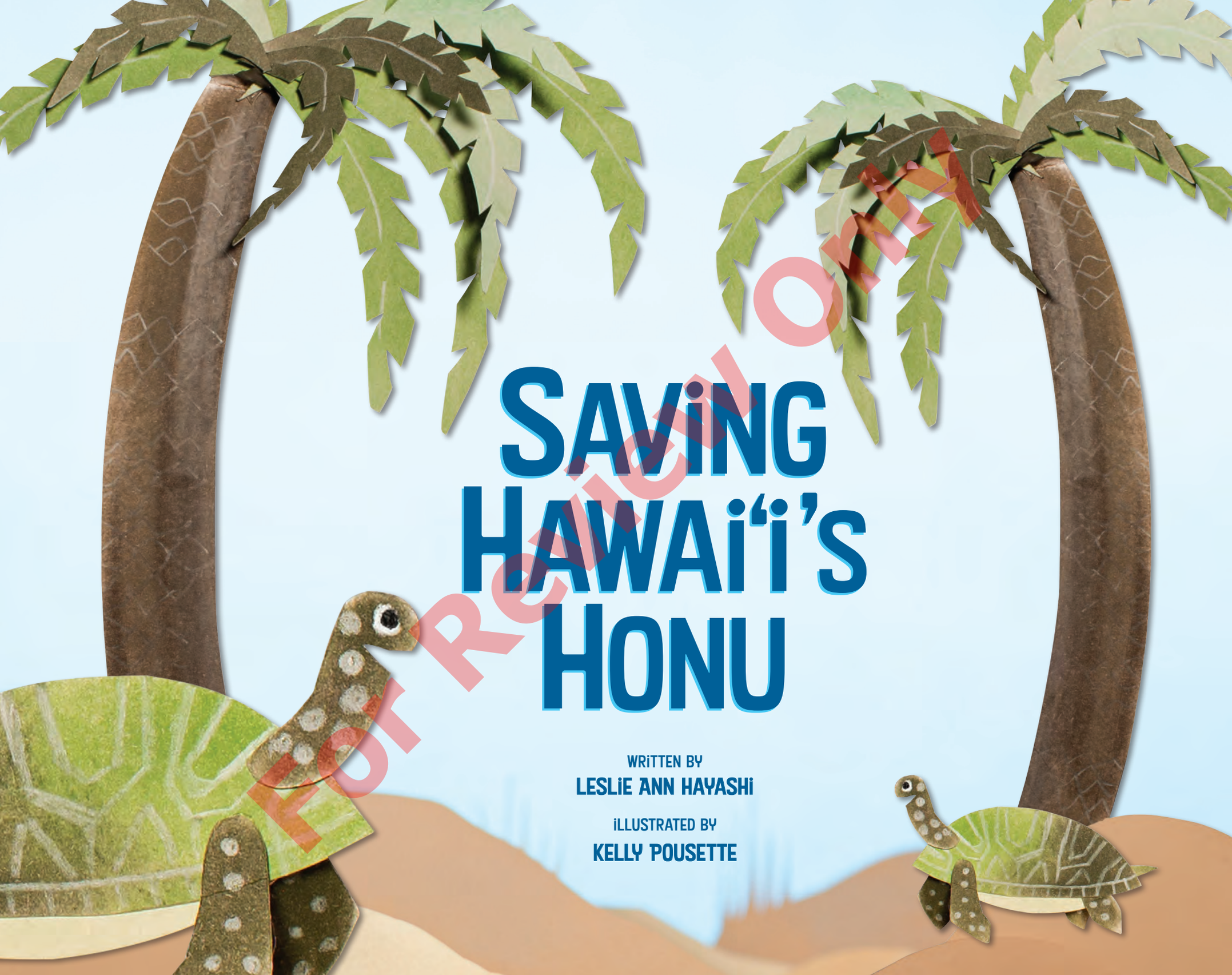
Saving Hawai'i's Honu

written by **Leslie Ann Hayashi**
illustrated by **Kelly Pousette**



Saving Hawai'i's Honu

WRITTEN BY
LESLIE ANN HAYASHI

ILLUSTRATED BY
KELLY POUSETTE

For Review Only

Mahalo nui loa to
George and the entire community
for their perseverance in bringing back
the honu from the brink of extinction.

And to my childhood friend,
Kathy Wong Bishop, for her idea to honor George.



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George Balazs has never met a sea turtle he didn't like. And he's met hundreds... thousands... maybe hundreds of thousands of turtles.

He loves them all.



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The funny thing is that he didn't even know what a sea turtle was when he was growing up in Yucca Valley, California.

There he only saw desert tortoises.



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But his whole world changed while sailing in Tahiti as a young man.

That's when George saw his first honu, or green sea turtle.



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George then moved to Hawai'i and began studying animal science.

One day he noticed fishermen tossing live sea turtles into a large truck. He watched as the driver stopped at various restaurants and unloaded the turtles. In nearby stores, George also saw jewelry made from sea turtle shells.

Turtle steaks... turtle soup... turtle jewelry... That's when George asked the question that started his life's journey:

How many sea turtles are in Hawai'i?



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