كان الزمان و كان | Kān az-zamān wa-kān

As sung by Fairouz

Adapted from https://lyricstranslate.com/en/Kaan-az-zaman-These-were-days.html by Christopher Witulski and based on the recording at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZBCGVAkZLI. 2021.

كان الزمان و كان في دكانة بالفي و بنيات و صبيان نيجي نلعب عالمي يبقى حنا السكران قاعد خلف الدكان بغني و تحزن بنت الجيران Kān az-zamān wa-kān fi dukāni bālfay wa bnayāt u-ṣabyān nayjī nl^cab ^cāl-may Yaba^o Ḥannā as-sikrān ^oā^cid khalf ad-dukān bghanī u-taḥzan bint al-jīrān

Those were the days, there was the shop in the shade and boys and girls came to play by the water. Drunk Henna remained sitting by the shop and sang, saddening the girl next door.

أوعى تنسيني أوعى تنسيني و تذكري حنا السكران Aw^ca tensīnī, aw^ca tensīnī wa-tadhkarī Hannā as-skīrān "Never forget me, never forget me! And remember Henna the drunk!"

نحنا و العصافير
كنا بالحي ندور
صوب الدكان نطير
حاملين غمار زهور
يبقى حنا السكران
ملهي و على الحيطان
عم بيصور بنت الجيران

Naḥnā w-al-cṣāfīr kunnā bil-ḥay ndūr Ṣawwab id-dukān nṭīr ḥamlīn [a]ghamār zuhūr Yaba' Ḥannā as-sikrān milhī wa cala al-ḥayṭān cam bīsawwir bint al-jīrān We and some birds used to wander the neighborhood. We flew toward the shop carrying bunches of flowers. Drunk Hanna remained distracted on the walls, drawing the girl next door.

حلوة ببيت الجيران راحت بليلة عيد و انهدت الدكان و اتعمر بيت جديد و بعدو حنا السكران على حيطان النسيان عم بيصور بنت الجيران

Ḥalwa babīt al-jīrān rāḥat bilīlat ^caīd wa-nhadat ad-dukān w-ata^camar bīt jadīd Yaba³ Ḥannā as-sikrān ^cala ḥayṭān an-nasayān ^cam bīṣawwir bint al-jīrān

The beauty in the next door house left on one Eid [holiday, festival] night and the shop was torn down and a new house put up.
Drunk Henna remained on the forgotten walls drawing the girl next door.