

# 陳三 五娘 • dang-sañ ngou-nie

The story of 《陳三 五娘》 **dang-sañ ngou-nie** (“dang Three and Fifth Lady”) is one of the best known love stories in the Minnan region, and has been adapted into operas in both the Teochew and Hokkien languages. The earliest known printed version of this play is known as 《荔鏡記》 **li-giañ gi** (“Tale of the Lychee and Mirror”), and dates to the Ming era.

This Teochew version is from a popular 1961 movie, produced by the 珠江電影製片廠 (Pearl River Film Company) of Canton, starring 姚璇秋 as ngou-nie, 蕭南英 as iah-chung, and 黃清城 as dang-sañ. The film was distributed via Hong Kong, and found an enthusiastic reception among Teochew communities in Southeast Asia and elsewhere. For more information on the film company that produced this film, refer to [this thesis](#) by Yap Soo Ei.

The script has been transcribed with phonetic spelling (**Dieghv system**). The transcript generally follows the recording, although pronunciations may have been “regularized” with reference to the screenplay. The printed screenplay sometimes diverges from what is actually spoken in the movie; in that case, the character transcription here follows the movie, but the printed version is also given in a comment below. Vernacular characters are used for the most part, except for very common words 人 (original character 儂)、你 (汝)、看 (睇)、夜 (暝), where the borrowed character is almost always pronounced in the Teochew vernacular reading.

Time stamps for each scene are based on [this copy of the movie](#). Digitized versions of the **screenplay** have been put online by the National University of Singapore. This phonetic transcription and English translation by [Learn Teochew](#).

# Dramatis Personae

(in order of appearance)

## 五娘 • ngou-nie

The treasured fifth daughter of a landlord. Her beauty is well known in Teochew prefecture, and she is also talented in literature and poetry. Until this Lantern Festival she has not been allowed to venture out of the house by her father. Full name 黃碧琚 ng pek-geu.

## 益春 • iah-chung

The servant girl of Ngou-nie who accompanies her everywhere, a clever person with a close relationship to her mistress.

## 李姐 • li-je

An older woman in the town who serves as their guide during the Lantern Festival, but who has a weakness for money.

## 陳三 • dang-sań

A young scholar from Zuan-ziu visiting Teochew prefecture while accompanying his brother and sister-in-law to the latter's new post in Gvng-lam. Full name 陳伯卿 Dang Beh-keng.

## 林大 • lim-dua

Son of a rich family, known to be a bully and lecher who likes throwing his weight around.

## 卓二 • doh-yi

Manservant of lim-dua.

## 員外 • ueng-ghua

The father of ngou-nie, a landlord. Full name 黃九郎 ng gao-lang.

## 安人 • ang-ying

The mother of ngou-nie.

## 小安 • siou-ang

Servant of dang-sañ who accompanied him on the journey to geung-lam. Distant relative to Old Master Li 李公, the master mirror grinder whom dang-sañ apprentices himself to (not seen on stage).

## 小七 • siou-chik

Servant in the Ng household.

## 僕婦 • bok-hu

Maid servant in the Ng household.

# 第一章 • doiñ-ik-jiang • Act 1

## 第一場 • doiñ-ik-dieñ • Scene 1

2:00

幕外合唱 • mo-ghua hah-chiang • Chorus

jek-lung meng-ghueh kua gao-kong

一輪明月掛高空

The round wheel of a Moon hangs high in the sky

bhuang-juañ hue-deng jie mak-hong

萬盞花燈照目紅

Thousands of flowery lanterns light up the eyes

printed: 眼紅 (ngang-ang) for 目紅

goi-jieñ iu-ying yu dieñ-iong

街上遊人如潮湧

People throng the streets like a tidal wave

heu-deng dui-dui; dui-dui heu-deng sai iu-long

魚燈隊隊；隊隊魚燈賽游龍

The fish lanterns line up, they line up and compete to be the best

[...]

## 第二場 • doiñ-yi-dieñ • Scene 2

3:00

五娘 • ngou-nie

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

chuk guiñ-mung, hi buk-jing

出閨門 喜不盡

Stepping out of the inner courtyard's confines is joy beyond compare

mak-joiñ geng-mueh ying cheng-sing

目前 景物 盡 清新

The scene before my eyes is so refreshing and new.

printed: 眼前 (ngang-joiñ) for 目前

deng yu cheñ, ghueh yu giañ

燈 如 星、月 如 鏡

Lanterns like stars, the moon like a mirror.

hue-chiu-ngeung-hue buk-meñ siañ

火樹銀花 不夜 城

The fireworks' brilliant sparkle make this a city without night.

火樹銀花 - idiom, lit. "fire trees and silver flowers", i.e. "fireworks display"

益春 • iah-chung

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

nang ju-bi ueng-yu chuk-lang jiou

俺主婢宛如出籠鳥

Our household's young mistress is just like an uncaged bird

jeu-iu-jeu-jai jek-sing king

自由自在一身輕

Free and easy and light of body

自由自在 - idiom, lit. "self-willed and self-present"

二人合唱 • yi-nang hah-chiang • in unison

dua-goi jieñ, ang-nam-lek-neung do huañ-lak

大街上，紅男綠女多歡樂

On the great avenue, young people in their colorful finery are having a great time

紅男綠女 - idiom, lit. "men in red and women in green".

siang-hong gai-gai chie hie-hie

相逢個個笑吟吟

Laughing meekly as they pass each other

李姐 • li-je

〔唸 • liem • reciting〕

ho-deng ho-ghueh nang-nang aiñ

好燈好月人人愛

Everybody loves good lanterns and a good moon

jieñ-goi iu-sieñ sim-hue kai

上街遊賞心花開

To tour the streets makes the heart glad

o! ngueng-lai ng-ge ngou-nie!

啊！原來黃家五娘！

O! If it isn't the Fifth Lady of the Ng household!

a-nie bhueng-hok!

阿娘 萬福

A thousand greetings, Lady!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

ngueng-lai si li-je

原來是李姐

If it isn't Sister Li...

**李姐 • li-je**

iah-chung! leu-ge ueng-ghua, (?) -keng yiang a-nie chuk-meng?

益春！你家員外，怎肯讓阿娘出門？

Iah-cung! How is it that your master let Young Lady leave the house?

**益春 • iah-chung**

do-kui ang-ying sueh-cheng

多虧安人說情

It was thanks to my mistress, who pleaded on her behalf, saying

ngueng-siou hue-deng

元宵花燈

“The flowery lanterns of the Lantern Festival

jek-ni jek-cheu

一年一次

are only hung up once a year”



chai-keng yiang ung chuk-lai

才肯讓阮出來

that he was willing to let us come out.

printed: 我們 (ua-mung) for 阮

**李姐 • li-je**

o... nie-oi! leu jek-hiang jie chuk-gui-mung

啊！娘～！你一向少出閨門

O! Young Lady! You have rarely ever left the house

printed: 阿娘 (a-nie) for 娘-oi

dao-lou señ-so

道路生疏

So the road is all new and unfamiliar

dua-goi jieñ, nang-do hung-jap

大街上，人多混雜

On the great avenue, it is crowded and confusing

hueng si iu-ua chua leu ke sieñ-deng!

還是由我～你去賞燈！

Let me be your guide and bring you lantern-gazing!

printed: 陪 (bue) for cua

nie-oi! dañ leu tiañ no!

娘～！但你聽叻！

Young Lady-O! Let me tell you!

printed: 阿娘！講你聽呀！ (a-nie! giang leu tiañ ia!)

〔叩板 • kao-bang • tapping clappers〕

nang jueng-yip chak-iñ ghe,

俺 轉入 察院衙

We'll head to the public order bureau

dik-loh e dang-doi

直落 下 東堤

down the Eastern dike

giañ-hiang kai-ngueng joiñ

行向 開元 前

walk towards the opening of the Lantern Festival

jueng-gue sai-goi

轉過 西街

past the Western Avenue

toiñ-toiñ chik-jang seng

看看 七叢松

look at the seven pine trees

jai-gao cheng-jui-geng

再到 清水宮

then go to Clearwater Palace

iu-lang hong-lai-geng

遊覽 蓬萊宮

tour the Celestial Palace

蓬萊 hong-lai - mythical place where celestial beings live

chuk-liou dua-goi

出了大街

come out at the Great Avenue

ua-jo ing-lou-seu

我做引路師

I'll be your guide

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

bao-gueng [gak-sia] hue-deng dou leng toiñ

保管各社花燈都能看

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie, li-je lou-sek, u ta siang-puañ ia-ho

阿娘，李姐路熟，有她相伴也好

Miss, Sister Li knows the road, why not have her come along?

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

ia-ho! u-lao liou!

也好！有勞了！

Why not indeed! We'll trouble you to guide us, then

**李姐 • li-je**

nie-oi! sui ua lai!

娘～！隨我來！

Miss! Follow me!

## 第三場 • doiñ-sañ-dieñ • Scene 3

6:12

陳三 • dang-sañ

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

die-jiu boih-geng ho liu-lieng

潮州八景好流連

The Eight Views of Teochew are a delight to wander

i-di huang-guang biek u tiang

異地風光別有天

the scenery in a foreign land is another world of its own

kuang si ngueng-siou deng-ghueh meñ

況是元宵燈月夜

no less on the the night of the Lantern Festival

iu-tiam sing-ung yip si-pieng

又添新韻入詩篇

it adds new verses to this song I sing

〔白 • beh • speaking〕

ngueng-siou ho hue-deng

元宵好花燈

the fine flowery lanterns of the Lantern Festival

deng-e ho nang-mueh

燈下好人物

and fine folk beneath the lanterns

## 第四場 • doiñ-si-dieñ • Scene 4

8:37

幕外音 • mo-ghua im • voices offstage

toiñ, toiñ [ngao-suañ] a! [ngao-suañ] lai-liou ia!

看，看鰲山啊！鰲山來了呀！

Look! Look! It's the Ngau-suan! The Ngau-suan is here!

鰲山 ngao-suañ - a special lantern for the Lantern Festival, made of cloth, stacked in the shape of a mythical sea tortoise and peaked like a mountain.

李姐 • li-je

a-nie! je si si-mih gu-seu?

阿娘！這是是乜故事？

Miss! What story is this?

printed: 什麼 (sim-moh) for 是乜

五娘 • ngou-nie

je-si dieñ-señ eu eng-eng

這是張生與鶯鶯

This is the story of Dien-sen and Cui-eng-eng

ta-no-nang jek-giñ jeng-cheng

他二人一見鍾情

They fell in love at first sight

geh-chieñ Chiang-ho

隔牆唱和

Singing their love through a common wall

jong-yieng lao-hu-ying ge-gui ngiem-ging

縱然老夫人家規嚴緊

Even though her old mother was strict

jong-i bai-ghueh sai-sieñ

終於排月西廂

eventually they trysted in the Western chamber

鶯鶯傳 (eng-eng-tueng, “Tale of Eng-eng”), a story from the Tang period that was the basis for the opera 西廂記 (sai-hieñ-gi) “Romance of the West Chamber”).

## 李姐 • li-je

a-nie! je iu si si-mih gu-seu?

阿娘！這又是是乜故事？

Miss! What is this story, then?

printed: 什麼 (sim-moh) for 是乜

## 五娘 • ngou-nie

je si lao chui-ping chai-lao pao chai-giu

這是劉翠屏彩樓拋彩球

This is the story of Lau Cui-ping tossing a variegated ball from the festooned tower

A love story about a young lady from a landlord household who fell in love with a poor scholar. See 劉翠屏 (Baidu)

李姐 • li-je

o...

哦

oh.

五娘 • ngou-nie

ta-mng cheng-chiang ngi-chim

他們 情長義深

They had deep and intense feelings for each other

bho-mo iong-hua

無慕 榮華

and did not hanker for glory or riches

printed: 不慕 (buk-mo) 無慕

sang-sang hang-ie kou-siu

雙雙 寒窯 苦守

both suffered in the cold without heat

ho-bi soh-li bhue-hue

好比 雪裏 梅花

like plum blossoms that come out amid winter frost

jong-seng mui-mua ing-ueng

終成 美滿 姻緣

Finally they could fulfill their love and come together in marriage

jueng-ui nang-goiñ gia-ue

轉為人間佳話

becoming a popular tale among the people

### 益春 • iah-chung

a-nie! je jek-ping iu si si-mih?

阿娘！這一屏又是是也？

Miss! What about this one?

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘, and 什麼 (sim-moh) for 是也

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

je si nie suañ-beh eu jok eng-tai

這是梁山伯與祝英臺

This is the story of Nie Suan-beh and Zok Eng-tai

梁山伯與祝英臺 - The “Butterfly Lovers”, also commonly referred to as 梁祝, one of the most well-known Chinese love stories, which has been adapted into numerous plays, operas, and movies.

ta-mng señ-joiñ bhue-leng gak-ui hu-chi

他們生前未能結為夫妻

In life they were unable to become husband and wife

si-ao hue-joh sang bue-hu-diap

死後化作雙飛蝴蝶

After death, they were transformed into a pair of butterflies

ji-cheng ji-señ

至情至性

with such intense feelings and emotion



choiñ-gou liu-tueng

千古流傳

truly a story for the ages!

千古流傳 - idiom, “transmitted through a thousand ages”.

李姐 • li-je

o! si jieñ-señ a!

哦！是照生呀！

Oh, so that’s how it is...

printed: 這樣 (je-ieñ) for 照生

陳三 • dang-sañ

je-ui sie-nie-giañ buk-dang jeng-tong jeu-seu

這位小娘囡不但精通書史

This young miss has not only mastered the books

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 小娘囡

geng-giem chai-diou bho-sang

更兼才調無雙

but has literary skill without par

lang-dik! lang-dik!

難得！難得！

How rare! How rare!

李姐 • li-je

m! je-ui hao-señ-go,

嚙！這位 後生哥

Hm! Who is this young guy,

ui-ho jeu-ngang jeu-gheu jeu-dik-i?

爲何 自言自語 自得意？

and why is he muttering to himself with glee?

m? do-e ?? u gi siñ a?

噯！地下 怎麼 有機 扇 呢？

Hm! What's this fan that is lying on the floor?

地 do3 - vernacular pronunciation (literary di7)

printed: 把 (ba) for 機

ai-ia! si jek-ba gim-jieng siñ

噯呀！是 一把 金牋 扇

Ah! It is a golden fan decorated with calligraphy!

je si lao-sing gai hok-ki

這是 老身 個 福氣

It's this old woman's lucky day.

a-nie, leu lai, leu lai

阿娘，你來，你來

Miss, come here, come here.

a-nie leu toiñ, leu toiñ no!

阿娘 你看，你看 𠂔！

Miss, have a look, have a look!

printed: 呀 (ia) for 𠂔

五娘 • ngou-nie

siñ-jieñ (?) doi u si!

扇上還題有詩！

There is a poem on this fan!

益春 • iah-chung

a! u si, chiañ a-nie liem

啊！有詩，請阿娘唸

Ah! There's a poem, please Miss read it for us.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-nie

〔唸 • liem • reciting〕

“hai-tieng moh-moh jui-hung hueñ

『海天漠漠水雲橫

Fog lies over the waters and the mists are flat

dao-jiu piang si bhueng-li-ching

斗酒篇詩萬里情

Drinking wine, I write this poem of distant longings

ding-si hung-jeng mia eu li

塵世紛爭名與利

In this dusty realm, fame and profit are fought over

塵世 - the mortal world, a Buddhist expression.

ho-yu jieng gieng-keh dang heng”

何如戰劍客中行』

How can one walk among the fighting swordsmen?

-- ung-leng dang beh-keng doi

溫陵陳伯卿題

-- composed by Dang Beh-keng of Ung-leng

### 益春 • iah-chung

ung-leng do ho-chu?

溫陵在何處？

Where is Ung-leng?

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

jiu-si juañ-jiu

就是泉州

It is in Zuan-ziu

泉州 juañ-jiu - a prosperous city and region in 福建 Hokkien province.

### 李姐 • li-je

nie-oi, na-baiñ u nang lai liou

娘～，那𠵼有人來了

Miss! There's someone coming from over there.

printed: 阿娘 (a-nie) for 娘-oi and 邊 (biñ) for 𠵼

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

li-je, siñ na-keu

李姐，扇 拿去

Li-ze, take the fan away

**李姐 • li-je**

si! a-nie, nang uang biek-chu tik-to

是！阿娘，俺 往 別處 迢迢

Yes! Miss, let's go somewhere else to have fun

printed: 我們 (ua-mung) for 俺 and 往別處去 (uang biak-chu keu) for 往別處迢迢

“tik-to” is a word that does not have standard Chinese characters.

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

liek-ui, chiañ-mng jek-siañ

列位，請問 一聲

Pardon me ladies, may I interrupt with a question?

**李姐 • li-je**

aiñ-mng mih-gai?

愛 問 乜個？

Whaddya want?

printed: 要問 什麼？ (iou mung sim-moh?)

li-je speaks in a more vernacular register compared to dang-sañ

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

gang-chai sie-seng do-cheu gueng-deng

剛才 小生 在此 觀燈

A moment ago, this humble person was admiring the lanterns

sik-loh jek-ba siñ

失落 一把 扇

and lost a fan

ko-u giñ-gao?

可有 見到？

Might you have seen it?

**李姐 • li-je**

leu sik-loh si-mih siñ?

你 失落 是乜 扇？

What kind of fan did you lose?

printed: 什麼 (sim-moh) for 是乜

a-nie! nang hañ-bho toiñ-dieh ho?

阿娘！俺 還無 看着 呵？

Miss! We haven't seen anything like that, have we?

printed: 阿娘！我們沒有看見呀？(a-nie! ua-mung mok-u toiñ-giñ ia?)

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

li-je, siñ si nang-ge sik-loh di

李姐，扇 是 人家 失落的

Li-ze, that fan is lost property,

sang-huañ ta ba!

送還 他 吧 !

just return it to him!

tai-hue ge keu, leng chu jek-ba keh leu

待回 家去 , 另取 一把 乞 你

When we are back home, I will give you another one

printed: 給 (gip) for 乞

**李姐 • li-je**

ia-ba... lai! ua lai mng leu

也罷 ! 來 ! 我來問 你

Alright, come! Let me ask you:

leu siñ-jieñ u si hueng-si bho-yi?

你 扇上 有詩 還是 無字 ?

Did you have a poem on your fan, or no words?

u-yi a, hueng-si bho si, leu dañ!

有字 呀 , 還是 無詩 ? 你 咀 !

If there were words, was there no poem? Tell me!

printed: 講 (giang) for 咀

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

siñ-jioñ u ua ching-bik doi-si

扇上 有 我 親筆 題詩

On the fan was a poem that I composed myself

ua-di mia-yi jiu-si dang beh-keng

我的 名字 就是 陳伯卿

My name is Dang Beh-keng

**李姐 • li-je**

di-nang (?) -keu leu-gai ho-miañ-yi a?

底人 XX 你個 好名字 啊？

Who asked you for your good name?

printed: 誰人問 你的 好名字？ (sui-nang mung leu-di ho miañ-yi?)

sik-ue gang leu dañ,

實話 共 你 坦

Let me be frank with you

printed: 實話 對 你 說 (sik-ue dui leu sueh)

yiak-hui ng-ge ngou-nie sueh-cheng

若非 黃家 五娘 說情

if not for the Fifth Lady of the house of Ng interceding for you

jiu iu-leu hek-meñ chue-gao tiñ-meng

就由 你 黑夜 找到 天明

you'd have been searching through the night to dawn with no success

找 chue - vernacular borrowed reading for 揣, usually pronounced dao or jao

ying cheng-cho a!

認 清楚 呀！

Don't forget that!

**陳三 • dang-sañ**



si, je jiañ-si sie-seng di siñ

是，這正是小生的扇

Yes, that is indeed this humble one's fan

do-seng do-gam

多承多感！

Much obliged, many thanks!

**李姐 • li-je**

[a-seng a-gam],

阿承阿感

kuai-kuai (?) liou keu, mai ho dañ oiñ-ue

快快 X 了去，勿好咀 閒話

Take it quickly and stop wasting your breath on idle talk

printed: 快快 拿去, 少講 閒話 (kuai-kuai na-keu, siou-giang oiñ-ue)

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

yi-ui sie-nie-giañ, do-seng do-gam

二位 小娘罔，多承多感

Ladies, much obliged and many thanks

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 小娘罔

yiak-hui yi-ui ui-ua sueh-cheng

若非 二位 爲 我 說情

If not for you interceding on my behalf

ieng-dik to-hue cheu siñ

焉得討回此扇

I would not have gotten my fan back

yi-ui sie-nie-giañ, chiañ! chiañ-liou....

二位小娘囡，請！請了！

Ladies, I take my leave, I take my leave

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 小娘囡

請 - a way of saying goodbye

[獨白 • dok-beh • speaking to himself]

je-ui ng-ge ngou-nie, jing-si ko-aiñ a!

這位黃家五娘，真是可愛啊！

This Fifth Lady of Ng is certainly lovable!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

juañ-jiu suañ-chueng leng-siu

泉州山川靈秀

The mountains and valleys of Zuan-ziu must be fertile grounds

chuk-u je-deng hong-ngia nang-mueh

出有這等風雅人物

to breed such an elegant and refined person

**李姐 • li-je**

a-nie! nang uang biek-chu tik-to

阿娘！俺往別處迤迤

Miss! Let's go somewhere else to have fun!

## 第五場 • doiñ-ngou-dieñ • Scene 5

15:39

林大 • lim-dua

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

guañ-ge, guañ-ge jeu-di lak-a lak siou-iou

官家，官家子弟樂呀樂逍遙

The scions of an official's household love to stroll about

卓二 • doh-yi

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

lak-a lak siou-iou

樂呀樂逍遙

Love, o love to stroll about

林大 • lim-dua

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

ji-mo gim-ok chang-a-chang giou-giou

指望金屋藏呀藏嬌嬌

Hoping to find some hidden beauty in a golden house

金屋藏嬌 - idiom, lit. “to hide a lovely in a golden house”, meaning “to keep a concubine”.

## 卓二 • doh-yi

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

chang-a-chang a-giou

藏呀 藏阿嬌

Golden, o golden house

## 林大 • lim-dua

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

chim-hue-mng-leng(liu?) huang-liu seu

尋花問柳 風流 事

Searching for flowers, seeking a willow, affairs of the heart

尋花問柳 - idiom, lit. “searching for flowers, seeking a willow”, meaning “to visit prostitutes”

## 卓二 • doh-yi

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

huang-a-huang-liu seu

風呀 風流 事

Affairs, o affairs of the heart

## 林大 • lim-dua

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

chueng-chah hue-jang nao ngueng-siou

穿插 花叢 鬧 元宵

Jump into a bed of flowers and enjoy the Lantern Festival

花叢 - lit. “a bunch of flowers”, figuratively referring to a group of prostitutes.

卓二 • **doh-yi**

〔唱 • **chiang** • singing〕

nao-a-nao ngueng-siou

鬧呀 鬧 元宵

Enjoy, o enjoy the lantern festival

二人 • **ri-nang** • together

ha ha ha ha ha!

哈哈哈哈哈！

hahahahaha!

Laughing as obnoxiously as possible

卓二 • **doh-yi**

lim-dua-ia! gim-me ngueng-siou

林大爺！今暝 元宵

Master Lim! Tonight at this Lantern Festival

printed: 晚 (mung) for 暝

ik-lai toiñ deng, yi-lai toiñ nang

一來看燈，二來看人

we'll keep one eye on the lanterns, and another on the crowd

yu-u mui-neung, buk-ko cho-gue!

如有美女，不可錯過！

If there is a beautiful woman, we can't miss the chance!

**林大 • lim-dua**

lao-doh jeu ngang u-li, jek-dang lai, jao!

老卓之言有理，一同來，走！

Old Doh what you say makes sense. Two birds with one stone, let's go!

**卓二 • doh-yi**

ho! lai-jao!

好！來走！

Good! Let's go!

**二人合唱 • ri-nang hah-ciang • singing together**

nang dua-goi jieñ, gueng-deng, toiñ gia-li

俺大街上，觀燈看佳麗

We go down the great a venue, gazing at lanterns and eyeing the beauties

siang-sui siang-puañ chie-hi-hi

相隨相伴 笑嘻嘻

having a good time in good company

**林大 • lim-dua**

a-ia!

啊呀！

Ah!

**益春 • iah-chung**

li-je! li-je!

李姐！李姐！

Li-ze! Li-ze!

李姐 • li-je

lai-liou! o! ngueng-lai si lim-dua-ia!

來了！啊！原來是林大爺！

I'm coming! Ah, so it is Master Lim!

gim-me u heng chuk-lai gueng-deng heñ?

今暝有興出來觀燈呀？

Feeling in a good mood to come see the lanterns?

printed: 晚 (mung) for 暝

林大 • lim-dua

li-je, na-ui sie-nie-giañ si sui?

李姐，那位小娘罔是誰？

Sister Li, who is that young maiden?

printed: 小娘子 (sie-nie-jeu) for 小娘罔

李姐 • li-je

o, dua-ia oi, na-ui si siañ-sai ng-gao-lang di choiñ-gim ngou-nie

啊，大爺（～），那位是城西黃九郎的千金五娘

Ah, sir, that is the fair fifth daughter of Ng Gau-lang of the Western district

nang die-jiu doiñ-ik mui-ying ne!

俺潮州第一美人呀（呢）！

The fairest beauty of our Teochew prefecture!

林大 • lim-dua

li-je, ngou-nie kah-jeng heu nang?

李姐，五娘 豈 曾 許 人？

Sister Li, is she betrothed to anybody?

printed: 可 (ko) for 豈

### 益春 • iah-chung

li-je, nang (uang) biek-(chu) keul

李姐，俺 往 別處 去！

Sister Li, let's go somewhere else!

### 李姐 • li-je

jiu-lai!

就來！

Coming!

### 卓二 • doh-yi

lim-dua-ia, lim-dua-ia! cheu-deng mui-ying leu dong-i ma?

林大爺，林大爺！此等 美人 你 中意 嗎？

Master Lim, Master Lim! Do you fancy that pretty lass?

### 林大 • lim-dua

jeu-yieng si dong-i, leu ka-u miou-goi?

自然 是 中意，你 豈 有 妙計？

Naturally I fancy her, do you have a plan?

printed: 可 (ko) for 豈

### 卓二 • doh-yi



li-je ui-nang jap-hung tang-chai, ko-eng jiñ-ngeung siu-bhoi

李姐 爲人 十分 貪財，可用 錢銀 收買

Sister Li is greedy for money, she can easily be bought with silver.

gie-ta keu ng-ge kiu-ching, i dua-ia chai-si

叫她 去 黃家 求親，以 大爺 財勢

Ask her to go to the Ng household to propose a match. Given your wealth and power, sir,

ing-gueng guak-bho buk-seng jeu li!

婚姻 自（xxx）無 不成 之 理！

they can't possibly refuse!

**林大 • lim-dua**

a-ia dui a! lao-doh gao-gieng, jiañ-hah ua i

啊呀 [對啊]！老卓 高見，正 合 我 意

Ah! Old-Doh you are clever, I like this plan

nang ko hue-ge im-jiu, soi-soi sieng-(lieng)

俺 可 回家 飲酒，細細 商議

Let's go home to drink wine and discuss this in detail

**卓二 • doh-yi**

ho!

好！

Good!

**林大 • lim-dua**

〔唸 • liem • reciting〕

ngueng-siou deng-e ngo gia-ying

元宵燈下遇佳人

Meeting a beauty under the lights of the Lantern Festival

yi-boih giou-nie lueng ua-sing

二八嬌娘亂我神

A girl of sweet sixteen stirring my soul

二八 - “twice eight”, i.e. sixteen years old

**卓二 • doh-yi**

〔唸 • liem • reciting〕

jing-cheng tiang im siou-me jiu

盡情暢飲宵夜酒

Drink the wine of the Lantern Festival night to your heart's content

**二人同唸 • ri-nang tong liem • both recite together**

eu-jok hue-jek dang bang chung!

預祝花燭洞房春！

Here's to the candlelit bridal bed on the wedding night!

洞房花燭夜 - idiom, lit. “night of the bridal chamber and flowery candles”, i.e. the wedding night

## 第二章 • doiñ-yi-jiang • Act 2

### 第六場 • doiñ-lak-dieñ • Scene 6

19:26

五娘 • ngou-nie

[...]

〔唸 • liem • reciting〕

lang-gui hue-mang pek-ing hueñ

蘭閨 迴夢 碧煙翻橫

Dreams churn in the orchid chamber as blue smoke spreads.

choiñ-li ghueh-meng choiñ-li cheng

千里 明月 千里 情

A distant full moon and distant longings.

cheu-di li-dang leng jui-keh

此地 荔丹 能 醉客

The red lychee of this place can captivate any guest.

ho-su huang-hong hai-tieng heng

何須 風雨 海天 行

Who needs the wind and rain to cross heaven and ocean?

## 益春 • iah-chung

eu! nie-oil! leu ngim cheu si, sie-bi seu-hu bak tiañ-gue

～！娘～！你吟此詩，小婢似乎聽過

Miss! This poem you recite - your humble maid has heard it before somewhere.

printed: 哎呀！小姐！你唸此詩，小婢似乎聽過 (ai-ia! siou-jia! leu liem cheu-si, sie-bi seu-hu tiañ-gue)

## 五娘 • ngou-nie

cheu-si ua huang-chai ngim-jiu

此詩我方才吟就

I just composed this poem,

leu chong ho-chu tiañ gue?

你從何處聽過？

where could you have heard it before?

## 益春 • iah-chung

a-nie leu m-sing, tai ua lai liem:

阿娘你唔信，待我來唸

If you don't believe me, Miss, let me recite to you:

printed: 小姐不信 (siou-jia buk-sing)

“hai-tieng moh-moh jui-hung-hueñ

『海天漠漠水雲橫

“Fog lies over the waters and the mists are flat

dao-jiu pieng-si bhueng-li cheng”

斗酒 篇詩 萬里 情』

Drinking wine, I write this poem of distant longings”

a-nie, kah dui?

阿娘，豈對？

Is that right, Miss?

printed: 小姐，可對？(siou-jia, ko-dui?)

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

hu-sueh, je eu ua nim-di buk-dang

胡說，這與我吟的不同

Nonsense, that is nothing like what I wrote.

printed: 唸 (liem) for 吟

### 益春 • iah-chung

nie-oi, di-go m-dang?

娘～，底塊唔同？

Miss, how is it different?

printed: 有何不同？(u ho buk-dang?)

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

leu liem-di si biek-nang siñ-di jioñ-doi di si

你唸的是別人扇上題的詩

What you recited is the poem from that fan.

### 益春 • iah-chung

heñ, ua jai, ua jai,

我知，我知

I know, I know

a-nie si do (?) siñ-jioñ gai si no!

阿娘是在人家扇上個詩叻！

Miss's mind is still on the one who wrote it!

printed: 小姐是在人家扇上的詩呀！(siou-jia si do nang-ge siñ-jieñ di si ia!)

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

(?)-bi-neung, ia buk-pa geh-chieñ u hiñ?

X-婢女，亦不怕隔牆有耳？

Silly maid, don't you fear that the walls have ears?

### 益春 • iah-chung

“do-seng do-gam, chiañ, chiañ-liou”

『多承多感，請，請了』

“Much obliged, and many thanks, I take my leave”

### 李姐 • li-je

〔唸 • liem • reciting〕

bu-gui iong-hua gai-iu-mia

富貴榮華皆由命

Riches and glory are matters of fate;

gim-ngeung ju-bo gik-liang ueng

金銀珠寶結良緣

Gold, silver, and precious jewels seal the bonds of destiny.

a-nie, giong-hi a ho-hi!

阿娘，恭喜呀 賀喜

Miss, congratulations, congratulations!

**益春 • iah-chung**

li-je, hi chong ho-lai?

李姐，喜從何來？

Li-ze, what's the congratulations for?

**李姐 • li-je**

a-nie oil!

阿娘呀（～）！

Miss!

jao jioñ-joiñ si jek-li

走上前施一禮

I come up to deliver a message,

ua eu a-nie lai dao-hi

我與阿娘來道喜

and to offer my congratulations to Miss

ji ing-ui,

只因爲

That's because

lim ui-yik dua-ia, ngueng-siou deng-e giñ ghek-mao

林XX 大爺，元宵燈下見玉貌

Big Master Lim, he saw your beautiful jade face under the lights of the Lantern Festival

jek-sim guah-mo gik lieng-li

一心 渴望 結 連理

and his whole heart was set on making a connection.

gim-yik sueh-mue ueng-ghua i eng-yung

今日 說媒 員外 已 應允

Today your Father has already consented to a matchmaking.

lai jiou gi-yik hia piañ-ngi

來朝 吉日 下 聘儀

When an auspicious date comes, to make the betrothal ceremony.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

leu sueh-di jiu-si na lim-dua?

你 說的 就是 那 林大？

Are you speaking of that Lim-dua?

**李姐 • li-je**

jiañ si, ueng-ghua ang-ying dou bhueng-hung huañ-hi a!

正是，員外 安人 都 萬分 歡喜 呀！

That is he! Your father and mother are both extremely glad!

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie! a-nie uañ-diañ!

阿娘！阿娘 安定！

Miss! Miss be calm!

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

**李姐 • li-je**



je si lim-ge di gim-toi, tai ua eu leu chah do tao-jieñ

這是林家的金釵，待我與你插在頭上

This golden hairpiece is from the Lim family, let me help you put it in your hair.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

leu lang-dao buk-jai lim-dua si ho-deng-ieñ nang?

你難道不知林大是何等樣人？

Don't you know what kind of a person that Lim-dua is?

yueng aiñ joiñ-lai sueh-mue, si ho dao-li?

還（～）愛前來說媒，是何道理？

And to come here matchmaking on his behalf, what is the meaning of this?

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

**李姐 • li-je**

eu! nie-oi!

～！娘～！

O Miss!

printed: 阿娘呀 (a-nie ia!)

〔叩板 • kao-bang • tapping clappers〕

ti-ki lim-dua-ia, sing-ui bhu-geu ho mia-siañ

提起林大爺，身為武舉好名聲

Speaking of Master Lim, he is a military man and of good name.

武舉 - military version of the 舉人 (geu-ying, “graduate”) degree in the examination system. These were looked down upon as less worthy than the civil degrees.

die-jiu hao-bu cheng doiñ-ik

潮州 豪富 稱 第一

Of the big dealers in Die-ziu he is number one.

liang-bik a-nie leu ia jai

諒必 阿娘 你 也知

Forgive me Miss but even you must know this!

gim-yik eu ta lai gik-ching

今日 與 他 來 結親

Today I come here to convey his proposal.

jiañ-si mng-deung-hou-dui

正是 門當戶對

Your two households are a good and suitable match.

門當戶對 - idiom, lit. “the doors are appropriate and the houses correct”, i.e. a good match between two families of prospective bride and groom.

neung-mao lang-chai

女貌 郎才

A beautiful maiden and a talented groom.

gue-mng jeu-ao, hu-iong chi-gui

過門 之後，夫榮 妻貴

After crossing the threshold, the husband will be proud and the wife fertile.

a-nie leu ing-ho buk-aiñ?

阿娘 你 因何 不愛？

What's there not to love about this, Miss?

益春 • iah-chung

hi!

呸（哼）！

Hmph!

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

me jek-siañ lao-hu-li!

罵一聲老狐狸！

You wretched old fox!

chuk-ngang bho juang yia nang ki

出言無狀惹人氣

Angering people with your senseless words.

leu ui tam siou-li

你為貪小利

You were greedy for a small profit,

buk-gueng nang-ge señ huañ si

不管人家生還死

and don't care if people's lives are ruined in the process.

hueng-gañ do a-nie meng-joiñ lueng-buañ kao-jih

還敢在阿娘面前亂搬口舌

You dare to come before our Miss and wag your lying tongue.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

leu lueng-buañ kao-jih

你亂搬口舌

You wag your lying tongue!

五娘 • ngou-nie

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

gim-yik lai ti-ching

今日來提親

This match proposed today

kuk-hai ua jek-señ jek-si

屈害我一生一世

will ruin my life, and all that I know.

ueng dia-dia, king-sing leu hue-ngang ka-gheu kiem si-chung

怨爹爹，輕信你花言巧語欠思忖

I resent my father for so easily believing your flowery words and cheap promises,

chueng buk ngueng-liem ching-señ neung-yi

全不願念親生女兒

but not believing the words of his own dear daughter.

**李姐 • li-je**

eu! nie-oi! gim-yik je-mng ching-seu

～！娘～！今日這門親事

O Miss! This proposal today

printed: 阿娘 (a-nie) for 娘-oi

si ning liang-ge cheng-ngueng

是恁兩家情願

is a matter between your two households.

printed: 你 (leu) for 恁

eu ua li-je bho-gang

與 我 李姐 無干

It is not my doing!

### 益春 • iah-chung

bhue-nang jiañ

媒人 精

The business of a matchmaker

mua-kao hue-ngang ka-gheu

滿口 花言 巧語

is to have a mouthful of flowery language at the ready.

Traditional matchmakers had a reputation for misrepresenting prospective marriage partners in order to collect their fees when the proposals were accepted.

hueng sueh eu-leu bho gang?

還 說 與 你 無干？

How can you say it is none of your doing?

### 李姐 • li-je

si-mih hue-ngang-ka-gheu? hng!

是也 花言巧語？哼！

What flowery language? Hmph!

printed: 什麼 (sim-moh) for 是也

sok-ue sueh: “be-bho u meng, yi-neung aiñ tiañ”

俗話說：『父母有命，兒女愛聽』

The proverb says: “If the parents have a comand, the children must obey.”

命 meng - meaning “command”, this character also pronounced mia “life”.

printed: 俗語 (sok-gheu) for 俗話, 要 (iou) for 愛

a-nie yiak buk sung-chong cheu-ching

阿娘若不順從此親

If Miss doesn't follow her parents' instruction

jiu-si heu-ngek buk-hao

就是許逆不孝

then she is simply not filial.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

iah-chung! ba ta guaň chuk-keu!

益春！把她趕出去！

Iah-cung! Chase her out!

**益春 • iah-chung**

tiaň-giň bho? meň-ge chuk, chuk-keu!

聽見無？猛加出，出去！

Don't you hear? Get out quickly, out!

printed: 聽見嗎？快些出，出去！ (tiaň-giň ma? kuai-se chuk, chuk keu!)

**李姐 • li-je**

ai-ia, pah-nang, pah-nang a!

哎呀，拍人，拍人呀！

Ah! They're hitting me! They're hitting me!

printed: 打 (da) for 拍

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

iah-chung, buk-dik bho-li, kuai-se hia-keu

益春，不得 無禮，快些 下去

Iah-cung, watch your behavior. Go downstairs.

bhue-i, siou-bi bho-li, do u dik-jue

媒姨，小婢 無理，多有 得罪

Matchmaker, this maid was out of line, and has grievously offended you.

toiñ do lao-hu ming-jieñ mai eu goi-ga

看在 老夫 面上 勿 與 計較

On my account, I hope that you will not pursue this complaint

**李姐 • li-je**

je-gai m-gaĩ

這個 唔敢

No I wouldn't dare.

printed: 不 (buk) for 唔

**安人 • ang-ying**

bhue-i, chiañ gao tiañ-jieñ eng jiu-bng

媒姨，請 到 廳上 用 酒飯

Matchmaker, please come to the hall for a meal.

**李姐 • li-je**

mieng-eng keh-ki, yik-uañ, ua gao-si liou

免用 客氣，時候 日X，我 告辭 了

No need to be polite, it is late and I should be on my way.

printed: 不用 (buk-eng) for 免用, 不早 (buk-ja) for 日X

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

yu-cheu buk-gań kiang-lao, cheng-ung(?) ming-joiń ho-ue do sueh

如此 不敢 強留，親家（？）面前，好話 多說

If that is the case, we shan't detain you. When you see the Lims, do put in a good word for us.

**李姐 • li-je**

je-gai jeu-yieng

這個 自然

Naturally.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

dia-nie bhueng-hok

爹娘 萬福

Your daughter wishes Father and Mother a thousand blessings.

**安人 • ang-ying**

ua-yi mieng-li

我兒 免禮

Don't stand on ceremony, my child.

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

leu si mia-mng choiń-gim, jiu-gai siou-dik loi-ngi

你是 名門 千金，就該 曉得 禮儀

You are the precious child of an honorable household, you should know something about proper behavior.



geu-yieng guañ-dok bhue-i

居然 趕逐 媒姨

To think that you would chase the matchmaker away!

jing-jing seng-ho ti-tong?

真真 成 何 體統？

What is the meaning of this?

**安人 • ang-ying**

yi a, gim-yik ti-ching, si leu dai-hi jeu yik

兒呀，今日 提親，是 你 大喜 之 日

Child, this proposal today should be a big joyous day for you.

ui-ho chou-bhai-buk-dieng?

爲何 愁眉不展？

Why is your brow furrowed in despair?

愁眉不展 - idiom, lit. “permanently furrowed brow”

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

bho-ching, ko-hng li-je bho-li

母親，可恨 李姐 無理

Mother, I resent how Sister Li was out of line.

hu-ngang-lueng-gheu, yia neung-yi señ-ki!

胡言亂語，惹 女兒 生氣！

She spouted much nonsense, and made your daughter angry!

**安人 • ang-ying**

li-je ui-ho yia ua-yi señ-ki?

李姐 爲何 惹 我兒 生氣？

How did Sister Li make my child angry?

printed: 吾 (u) for 我

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

bho-ching, neung-yi buk-hi-huañ ta lai ti-ching

母親，女兒 不喜歡 她 來 提親

Mother, your daughter doesn't like the proposal she brought.

### 員外 • ueng-ghua

hoñ? je si ho-gu?

啊？這是 何故？

Huh? What's the reason?

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

dia-nie iong-bing!

爹娘 容稟！

Father, Mother, please hear my plea!

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

liem dia-nie bho lam-yi

念 爹娘 無 男兒

Father and Mother have no sons,

pek-geu bho hiañ-di

碧琚 無 兄弟

your daughter Pek-gv has no brothers.

sang-ching ni-mai

雙親年邁

When my dear parents advance in age

gou sui hong-si

靠誰奉侍

who would care for them?

ing-cheu siang yi buk-ying lai hung-li

因此上兒不忍來分離

Because of this, your child does not want to be separated from you,

nguang sui chek-e hong gam-ji

願隨膝下奉甘旨

but continue to wait upon you on bended knee.

員外 • ueng-ghua

nga-giañ, jeu-gou lam dua deung-hung

慇罔，自古男大當婚

Silly child, from ancient times men have brought brides home

printed: 痴女 (chi-neung) for 慇罔

neung jiang deung-ge

女長當嫁

and women have been sent off to marry.

na-u neung-yi jong-sing si-hong be-bho jeu-li?

那有女兒終身侍奉父母之理？

Who has heard of a daughter who has stayed home to serve her parents?

chiañ-hi gim-yik pang-jieñ je-mng ho ing-ching

且喜 今日 攀上 這門 好 姻親

Be happy that we have made an advantageous match today

sueng-dik je-ieñ ho neung-sai

選得 這樣 好 女婿

and have chosen such a good son-in-law;

be-bho ming-jieñ ia diem guang-chai ia!

父母 面上 也 沾 光彩 呀！

the glory will be reflected on your parents!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

dia-dia yiak- si tong-aiñ neung-yi

爹爹 若是 痛愛 女兒

If Father truly loves his daughter dearly,

jiu choiñ-bhuang mai yung je-mng ching-seu

就 千萬 勿 允 這門 親事

please do not consent to this proposal

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

hañ?!

啊！？

What?!

**安人 • ang-ying**

yi a, jo be-bho jia, dou si ui-leu da-seung a

兒呀，做 父母 者，都是 爲你 打算 呀

Child, as parents, all we do is for your benefit.

五娘 • ngou-nie

bho-ching!

母親！

Mother!

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

bai-siang dia-nie tiañ yi sueh-ki

拜上爹娘聽兒說起

I plead with Father and Mother to listen to their child.

neung-yi ni-king, sieñ neung-yi ni-king

女兒年輕，想女兒年輕

Their daughter is still young,

printed: 念 (liem) for 想

deng-hung jeu seu, hueng si jiem-mang gi-si

訂婚之事，還是暫緩幾時

this matter of marriage, why not put it off for now?

員外 • ueng-ghua

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

gie neung-yi mo jip-i

叫女兒莫執意

Daughter, do not be stubborn.

tai-ui be sueh eu leu di

待爲父說與你知

Let Father tell you about this:

lim-dua sing-ui bhu-geu

林大 身爲 武舉

Lim-dua is a military graduate

kuang iu-si siang-mng ao-i

況 又是 相門 後裔

and comes from an official family.

ho mng-hong

好 門風

They have a mighty reputation,

geng jeng ge-chai geu-hok u kueng-si

更 曾 家財 巨福 有 權勢

his family fortune is rich and substantial.

na iong cho-gue yu-cheu liang-gi?

那 容 錯過 如此 良機？

How could we forgo this great opportunity?

**安人 • ang-ying**

neung-yi, leu hueng-si...

女兒，你 還是

Daughter, you should...

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

bho-ching, lim-ge jeu-di, ui-nang chou-pi

母親，林家 子弟，爲人 粗鄙

Mother, the scions of the Lim family are scoundrels!

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

hañ?! hu-sueh, ua peng-si ja-ieñ ga-dao i leu?

～？！胡說，我平時怎樣教導於你？

What?! Nonsense, how have I taught you to behave?

printed: 平日 (peng-yik) for 平時

aiñ leu sam-chung-si-dek geung-gi do sim

愛你三從四德謹記在心

Remember the “three obediences and four virtues”?

三 sam - literary pronunciation, vs. vernacular “sañ”

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

gim-yik si ua jah-ju jiang leu heu-pue lim-ge

今日是我作主將你許配林家

Today I, as the head of this household, have decided to accept this proposal from the Lim family.

leu ngueng ia-ba, buk-ngueng ia-ba

你願也罷，不願也罷

It doesn't matter whether you like it or not.

je-mng ching-seu i-geng diañ-hia liou!

這門親事已經定下了！

It has already been decided!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

kou....!

苦！

Woe!

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

ai-ial jing-jing ka-u-cheu-li?

哎呀！真真 豈有此理？

Gah! Never in my life...

**安人 • ang-ying**

ueng-ghua, nang hia-lao keu ba

員外，俺 下樓 去 吧

Sire, let us go downstairs.

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

hng! dou-si leu peng-yik ge-ga buk-ngiem

哼！都是 你 平日 家教 不嚴

Hmph! You have been too lax in teaching her.

chai iang-ik je-ieñ di ho neung-yi

才 養X 這樣 的 好 女兒

That's how we have ended up with such a daughter.

buk-iou li ta! hia lao! jao ba!

不要 理她！下樓！走吧！

Don't pay her any heed. Go downstairs. Come!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

cheñ-tieng pik-liek, sai-nang sim bui!

青天 霹靂，使人 心悲

A thunderclap on a clear day, leading one to heartbreak.



dia-dia leu ui-ho cho ju-i?

爹爹 你 爲何 錯 注意？

Father, why have you made this mistake?

buk-ngueng neung-yi jek-señ siu-kui

不願 女兒 一生 受虧

Don't wish upon your daughter a life of suffering.

na lim-dua... na lim-dua ta si king-kuang-jeu

那 林大，那 林大 他 是 輕狂子

That Lim-dua, that Lim-dua is a dastardly creature;

ua leng-si ia buk eu ta pik-pue

我 寧死 也 不 與 他 匹配

I'd rather die than to be his woman.

bhueng-buañ sim-seu, bhueng-buañ sim-seu hu liu-jui

萬般 心事，萬般 心事 付 流水

My heart is in turmoil, turning like flowing water.

jek-señ ngueng-mo, jek-señ ngueng-mo jing seng hue...

一生 願望，一生 願望 盡 成 灰

A whole life's hopes, all turned into ash.

**益春 • iah-chung**

ngou-nie!

五娘！

Ngou-nie!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

iah-chung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

## 第三章 • doiñ-sañ-jiang • Act 3

### 第七場 • doiñ-chik-dieñ • Scene 7

32:36

陳三 • dang-sañ

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

gie siou-ang dai-lou uang siañ-si

叫 小安 帶路 往 城西

Siou-ang, bring us to the Western city.

小安 • siou-ang

jung-meng!

尊命！

Yes sir!

陳三 • dang-sañ

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

ngueng-siou deng-joiñ, li-iañ kou iong-hi

元宵 燈前，麗影 苦 縈系

A beautiful silhouette under the lights of the Lantern Festival, so hard to forget.

guang-lam hueng-hua, bho-sim gi-chi

廣南繁華，無心棲遲

My restless heart is far from bustling Guang-lam.

廣南 guang-lam - A county in 雲南 (hung-lam, Yunnan) province.

biek-liou go-so, gip-gip jai-lai die-jiu di

別了哥嫂，急急再來潮州地

After saying goodbye to my brother and his wife, I hurriedly came back to Die-ziu,

dang ngueng tieng chong nang-i

但願天從人意

in the hope that Heaven will fulfill a mere mortal's wish

deng-giñ gu gia-li

重見舊佳麗

and that I can see that beautiful woman again.

〔白•beh•speaking〕

deng-lai die-jiu, iñ u do-yik

重來潮州，已有多日

It has been several days since we have come back to Die-ziu.

dua-goi siou-hang, gu-iñ chim-bing

大街小巷，俱已尋遍

Broad streets and narrow alleys – I've walked all of them in vain.

buk-giñ i-nang, jing leng nang sim-jiou ia

不見伊人，真令人心焦也

Never once catching sight of her, it makes one despair.

published version: 好不心焦也 (ho buk-bik jiou ia)

小安 • siou-ang

bing sañ-ia, joiñ-ming buk-ieng, jiu-si sai-ou

稟三爺，前面不遠，就是西湖

Sir, not far ahead is the Western Lake.

陳三 • dang-sañ

o! tieng-seng li-jieh bik do suañ-meng-jui-siu jeu di

哦！天生麗質必在山明水秀之地

O! A natural beauty like her must surely be found in such a picturesque landscape.

siou-ang, dai-lou joiñ uang!

小安，帶路前往！

Siou-ang, bring us there!

小安 • siou-ang

si!

是！

Yes sir!

## 第八場 • doiñ-boih-dieñ • Scene 8

34:05

益春 • iah-chung

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

keung a-nie, mo bui-seu

勤阿娘，莫悲思

My lady, do not pine,

printed: 小姐 (siou jia) for 阿娘

hueng su dieng-dong choiñ-gim ti

還須珍重千金體

you must preserve your precious health.

leu toiñ na, lak-ghueh sai-ou ho geng-di

你看那，六月西湖景緻

Look yonder, the scenery of the Western Lake in the sixth month.

sieñ-sim giañ-lak, mo hu siou-ni-si

賞心行樂，莫負少年時

Smile and rejoice, do not waste your youth on worry.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

ua na-u sim-cheng sieñ geng-di?

我那有心情賞更遞？

Where is there reason for me to smile?

ueng dia-nie, ueng dia-nie cho ju-i

怨爹娘，怨爹娘錯主意

I resent Father and Mother, resent their wrong decision.

ga ua lui-tiem sai-ou-jui, chou Chiang seu liu-si

教我淚添西湖水，愁長似柳絲

My tears fill up the Western Lake, my worries trail like willow branches.

## 益春 • iah-chung

a-nie, seu iñ yu-cheu, su-deung mang-mang siek-huap

阿娘，事已如此，須當慢慢設法

Miss, things are as they are, you have to slowly make plans,

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

hueng-chiañ kueng-huai ui si

還請寬懷爲是

and keep your inner calm.

a-nie, leu toiñ na (biñ) li-gi señ-dik do-moh ko-aiñ!

阿娘，你看那邊荔枝生得多麼可愛！

Miss, see how prettily that lychee branch grows!

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

dang li ang aiñ dih, tai ua sing-chiu diah jek-gi

丹荔紅欲滴，待我伸手摘一枝

The lychees are red with ripeness, let me stretch out my hand to pluck a branch

欲 - vernacular substitute character for 愛

sang eu a-nie goi chou-seu

送與阿娘解愁思

and present it to Miss to ease her worries.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

〔白 • beh • speaking〕

a-nie, leu toĩ je-bao li-gi no!

阿娘，你看這苞荔枝𠵼！

Miss, look at this lychee branch!

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

a! beng dih li-gi

啊！並蒂荔枝

Ah! This lychee branch...

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie! leu dañ mai jie-señ no

阿娘！你旦勿照生𠵼

Miss! Don't be like this.

printed: 小姐！你不要傷心 (siou-jia! leu buk-iou sie-sim)

leu jek sieñ-sim, ua sim-lai jiu jing gang-kou

你一傷心，我心內就真艱苦

It is difficult for me to see you so heartbroken.

printed: 我心裏就很難過 (ua sim-li jiu hng lang-gue)

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

iah-chung, ba ju-liem bang-hia

益春，把珠簾放下！

Iah-cung, put down the bead curtains!

**益春 • iah-chung**



si!

是！

Yes miss!

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

siou-ang, ua aiñ iu-lang jek-hueng

小安，我愛遊覽一番

Siou-ang, I want to tour about this place.

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

leu ko do-cheu seng-liang

你可在此乘涼

You can rest here in the shade.

**小安 • siou-ang**

si!

是！

Yes sir!

**益春 • iah-chung**

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

toiñ i-nang ho-señ ming-sieng

睇伊人好生面善

He looks well bred and has the face of a decent man,

printed: 觀 gueng for 睇

seu jeng siang-hong do ho-di

似曾相逢在何地

like someone familiar, but from where?

ing-ho jek-si gi-buk-ki?

因何一時記不起？

Why can't I remember?

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

gueng ta si-sui, ba ju-liem bang-hia

管他是誰，把珠簾放下

Who cares who he is, put down the bead curtains.

**益春 • iah-chung**

si

是

Yes miss.

**陳三 • dang-sań**

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

gao-lao u neung, beng-lang siang-i

高樓有女，憑欄相倚

A lady is in the tower, leaning at the balcony.

ju-liem huang-dong, ghek-iań i hi

珠簾風動，玉影依稀

The bead curtains are stirred by the wind, and a silhouette like rare jade is seen.

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie, lao-e jeu nang, ho-sieñ jiu-si deng-e jeu-seng?

阿娘，樓下之人，好像就是燈下書生？

Miss, that man down below, could he be the scholar we met under the lanterns?

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

a-nie, [...] leu jeu-soi ying-cheng no!

阿娘，[.....] 你仔細認清叻！

Miss, look carefully!

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

陳三 • dang-saň

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

lao-jieñ nie-giañ, jiañ-si deng-e gia-li

樓上娘囡，正是燈下佳麗

The young lady in the tower, was the beauty under the lanterns.

printed: 娘子 (nie-jeu) for 娘囡

jiou-seu mo-sieñ buk-dik giñ

朝思暮想不得見

The one I thought of day and night, but never met.

iu sui-liou kiak do je sia-si

又誰料卻在這城西

Until now, but who would guess, here in the Western city.

hng-buk-dik, sing-tiem chai-hong sang bue

恨不得，身添彩鳳雙飛

How I wish that I could turn into a phoenix and fly.

bue-jieñ lao-tao su siang-seu

飛上樓頭訴相思

Fly up that tower and tell her how I feel.

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie, leu choiñ-pang bhueng-pang

阿娘，你千盼萬盼

Miss, you have hoped a thousand times,

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

gim-yik dik-giñ, u ho ju-i?

今日得見，有何主意？

and now he is here, what shall we do?

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

ji-dao si cheu-seng iñ-iñ

只道是此生已矣

This path is the road my life takes.

iu sui liou, gim-jiou lao-tao deng siang-giñ

又誰料，今朝樓頭重相見

Who could foresee that we would see each other again today at the tower,

mo buk-si, tieng-gong u i lieng ua chi

莫不是，天公有意憐我癡

unless it is that Heaven has taken pity on me.

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie!

阿娘！

Miss!

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

## 五娘 • ngou-nie

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

ua tai ba mua-huai sim-seu hiang ta su

我待把滿懷心事向他訴

I want to tell him everything that weighs in my heart,

ja nai si neung-yi-ge yu-ho ba ue ti, yu-ho ba ue ti?

怎奈是女兒家如何把話提，如何把話提？

but as a woman, how can I be the first to speak? How can I speak to him?

## 益春 • iah-chung

a-ia! ta sieñ-si iou jao-liou

啊呀，他像是要走了

Alas, he looks to be leaving.

## 五娘 • ngou-nie

jek-dang cho-gue liang-gi, ji kiong ao hue iong lang-ki

一旦錯過良機，只恐後會永難期

To lose this brief window of opportunity, and see only suffering in my future.

choiñ-ngang bhueng-gheu, dang beng je li-gi di sim-i

千言萬語，但憑這荔枝致心意

Tens of thousands of words, but only this lychee branch to say how I feel.

陳三 • dang-saň

lao-jieñ dao-hia ho-mueh?

樓上 投下 何物？

What is this that has fallen from above?

kiak-si beng-dih li-gi

卻是 並蒂 荔枝

It is a lychee branch with two fruit on a stalk,

並蒂 - a stalk with two flowers, symbolizing a married couple.

o! ua meng-beh liou!

啊，我明白了！

Ah, I understand!

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

nie-giañ lao-tao jang biou-gi

娘囡 樓頭 贈 表記

The young miss in the tower has sent me a sign,

printed: 娘子 (nie-jeu) for 娘囡

jing ga beh-keng hi aiñ-kuang

真教 伯卿 喜欲狂

that makes me Beh-keng wild with joy.

beng-dih li-gi cheng-i dong

並蒂 荔枝 情意 重

This lychee branch is weighted with meaning,

meng-sim kek-guk iong lang-bhuang

銘心 刻骨 永 難忘

carved in my heart and bones, which I will not forget.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

cheng meh-meh bho-hang siu-i

情脈脈 無限 羞意

My pulse is quick with limitless trepidation,

sim huiñ-huiñ yu do mang-li

心 懸懸 如 在 夢裏

My heart hangs as if in a dream.

**益春 • iah-chung**

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

u-ueng na-pañ geh choiñ-li?

有緣 那怕 隔 千里？

If it is willed by Fate, what is a thousand miles' separation?

do-cheng tieng ia chong nang-i

多情 天 亦 從 人意

If love is true, Heaven will even fulfill the wishes of mortals.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

iah-chung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

leu su soi-sim mok lu-mang

你 須 細 心 莫 魯 莽

You must be careful, do not be reckless.

nang-ngang ko-ui aiñ geung-gi

人 言 可 畏 愛 謹 記

Loose talk is a fearsome thing, you must be careful.

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

tang-yiak iang-siañ tueng ling-li

倘 若 揚 聲 傳 鄰 里

If rumor spreads about

lao-joiñ dao li jao mueh-ngi

樓 前 投 荔 遭 物 議

and this lychee branch before the tower becomes a theme of speculation,

heu si-joih

許 時 節

at such a time,

printed: 那 (na) for 許

dia-dia dong-nao nie lang-hu

爹 爹 動 腦 娘 難 護

even Mother will not be able to protect us from Father's fury.

leu-ua si bho jeung-sing-di

你 我 死 無 葬 身 地

You and I will both die and our corpses exposed without burial.



益春 • iah-chung

si! a-nie bang-sim!

是！阿娘 放心！

Yes, you can trust me, Miss.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

陳三 • dang-sañ

nie-giañ jing-lao keu liou, siou-ang!

娘囡進樓去了，小安！

The young miss is returning back inside. Siou-ang!

printed: 娘子 (nie-jeu) for 娘囡

小安 • siou-ang

sañ-ia ho-seu?

三爺 何事？

Yes sir?

陳三 • dang-sañ

leu u-bho hieñ-ching do-cheu die-jiu geu-ju?

你有無鄉親在此潮州居住？

Do you have kin who live here in Die-ziu?

小安 • siou-ang

bing sañ-ia, u jek-ui li-gong, ju do sieng-goi-tao

稟三爺，有一位李公，住在仙街頭

Yes sir, there is Old Master Li, who lives at the head of Fairy Lane

bhua-giañ ui-seng

磨鏡 爲生

polishing mirrors for a living

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

leu ko ing ua joiñ-keu tam-huang?

你可引我前去探訪？

Could you bring me there for a visit?

**小安 • siou-ang**

si!

是！

Aye!

## 第四章 • doiñ-si-jiang • Act 4

### 第九場 • doiñ-gao-dieñ • Scene 9

44:25

益春 • iah-chung

a-nie, [chiañ lai] siu-juang

阿娘，請來梳粧

Miss, please come to your toilet.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-nie

jiu-lai!

就來！

Soon!

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

gu-hng bhue-giem

舊恨未減

Old resentment has not subsided

sing-chou iu tiem

新愁又添

but new worries have come on top.

yik-yik lao-tao kong leng-mo

日日樓頭空佇望

Every day I sit wearily gazing from this tower.

si-hua si-hok [no] mang-yieng

是禍是福兩茫然

Disaster or fortune? I am at a loss.

〔白 • beh • speaking〕

je giañ ui-ho yu-cheu hung-am?

這鏡為何如此昏暗？

Why is this mirror so dim?

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie gu buk siu-juang

阿娘久不梳粧

Miss has not performed her toilet for such a while,

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

bo-giañ lang-mieng ding-hong!

寶鏡難免塵封！

it is hard to avoid dust settling on the precious mirror.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

bo-giañ a! bo-giañ, buk jai leu ho-yik huang-leng deng-giñ guang-hui!  
寶鏡呀！寶鏡，不知你何日方能重見光輝！  
O precious mirror, mirror, who knows when you will again see glory?

## 第十場 • doiñ-jap-dieñ • Scene 10

47:34

陳三 • dang-sañ

bhua-giañ a! bhua-giañ a!  
磨鏡呀！磨鏡呀！  
Mirrors to polish! Mirrors to polish!

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

lao-tao dik-giñ i-dang nang  
樓頭得見意中人  
To see the person of my dreams at the top of the tower

dao ua noi-gi gia chim-cheng  
投我荔枝寄深情  
drop me a lychee branch to convey her deep feelings;

noi - vernacular pronunciation

ji ui ta, teh-iñ chim seu hai  
只爲她，宅院深似海  
only for her, amid this sea of houses and courtyards,

aiñ hue buk-leng

欲 會 不能

unable to meet despite longing to.

欲 - vernacular substitute character for 愛

ua ji-dik sieng-goi-tao, oh bhua-giañ

我 只得 仙街頭，學 磨鏡

I went to Fairy Lane, learned how to polish mirrors,

kiou-juang gi-mo deng-hue giou-eng

喬裝 企望 重會 嬌英

and disguised myself in the hope of seeing that fine flower of womanhood again.

## 第十一場 • doiñ-jap-ik-dieñ • Scene 11

48:45

陳三 • dang-sañ

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

sañ-bou biah-joh no-bou heng

三步 併作 兩步 行

Bounding three steps in just two,

heng - literary pronunciation

buk-gak lai-gao ng-ge mng-teng

不覺 來到 黃家 門庭

soon I come to the Ng household's threshold.

〔白 • beh • speaking〕

li-gong sueh-dao: ta mue-lai bhua-giañ

李公說道：他每來磨鏡

Old Master Li said, every time that he comes to polish mirrors,

dou do ao-iñ, ui-mieng tong-tueng

都在後院，爲免通傳

he would always go to the rear courtyard,

iñ tih-buañ ui ho, soiñ no-siañ, ao boih-siañ

以鐵盤爲號，先兩聲，後八聲

and clap an iron plate as his sign: first two claps, then eight.

yi-boih gia-ying jiu chuk-tiañ, tai ua lai!

二八佳人就出廳，待我來！

A pretty maid would then come out. Now let me try!

二八 – twice-eight, i.e. aged sixteen.

**益春 • iah-chung**

lai-liou!

來了！

Coming!

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

huk tiañ-giñ ghua-ming tih-buañ siañ-hiang

忽聽見外面鐵盤聲響

Hearing unexpectedly the iron clapper outside,

i-bou jieñ-joiñ toiñ dueng-siang

移步 上前 看 端詳

walking up to see who it is,

ji-giñ jek-ui siou-ni bhua-giañ-chieñ

只見 一位 少年 磨鏡匠

only to find a young mirror-grinder

seu na deng-e jeu-seng jek-buañ iang?

似 那 燈下 書生 一般 樣？

who looks just like that scholar under the lanterns.

**陳三 • dang-saň**

sie-nie-giañ, sie-nang u-li

小娘囡，小人 有禮

Young miss, this humble one offers his salutations.

printed: 小娘子 (sie-nie-jeu) for 小娘囡

**益春 • iah-chung**

mieng jeu-soi!

免 仔細！

There's no need for fuss!

**陳三 • dang-saň**

sie-nie-giañ, tiañ-sueh leu hu-jieñ u giañ aiñ bhua

小娘囡，聽說 你 府上 有 鏡 愛 磨

Young miss, one hears that your manse has a mirror that needs polishing,

printed: 子 (jeu) for 囡, 要 (iou) for 愛



ua dek-di joiñ-lai

我 特地 前來

so I have come here specially.

### 益春 • iah-chung

siou-sek do leng-tong a!

消息 倒 靈通 呀！

News does travel fast!

ung ju-si u gai giañ aiñ bhua

阮 就是 有個 鏡 愛 磨

We do have a mirror that needs polishing,

printed: 鏡 倒 是 有 (giañ dao si u)

ji-si aiñ lao-keh jek-ui lao seu-hu

只是 愛 留 乞 一位 老師傅

it's just that we are leaving it for an old master craftsman.

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛, 給 (gip) for 乞

### 陳三 • dang-sañ

si na-jek-ui lao-seu-hu?

是 那一位 老師傅？

Which old master craftsman is it?

### 益春 • iah-chung

jiu-si ju-do sieng-goi-tao di na-ui li-gong

就是 住在 仙街頭 的 那位 李公

It is that Old Master Li of Fairy Lane.

### 陳三 • dang-saň

a! na li-gong jiu-si ua gai seu-hu

啊！那李公 就是我 個師傅

Ah! I am apprenticed to that Master Li.

printed: 的 (di) for 個

How convenient.

### 益春 • iah-chung

ua! heu-li toiň-m-chuk

哇，許哩睇唔出

Wow, one sure can't tell that by looking.

printed: 看不出呀 (toiň buk-chuk ia)

li-gong di-si siu jek-gai je-señ-ieñ gai tu-di ia?

李公 底時收 一個 這生樣 個 徒弟 呀？

When did Old Master Li take on an apprentice like you?

printed: 李公 何時 受了一個 這樣的 徒弟 (li-gong ho-si siu-liou jek-gai jeñ-ieñ di tu-di)

### 陳三 • dang-saň

sie-nie-giaň, chia mai chu-chie

小娘囡，請勿取笑

Young miss, please don't make fun of me.

printed: 子 (jeu) for 囡

gi si u giañ aiñ bhua li, jiu chiañ chu-chuk-lai

既是有鏡愛磨哩，就請取出來

Since you have a mirror to be polished, please bring it out.

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛, utterance particle 哩 omitted

**益春 • iah-chung**

heu-li dieh huañ ua keu mung a-nie!

許哩着還我去問阿娘！

In that case I'll have to go ask my mistress!

printed: 等我去問問我家小姐 (dang ua keu mung-mung ua-ge siou-jia)

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

u-lao liou! u-lao liou!

有勞了！有勞了！

Much obliged!

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie, giañ-lai ia!

阿娘，行來呀！

Miss, come here!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

chi-bi-neung, ui-ho je-ieñ huang-huang dieng-dieng?

癡婢女，爲何這樣瘋瘋癲癲？

Silly maid, what's all this commotion about?

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie u-so-m-jai! ghua-ming lai jek-gai bhua-giañ seu-hu

阿娘 有所 唔知！外面 來 一個 磨鏡 師傅

You don't know half of it, Miss! There is a mirror-grinder outside

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘, 不知 (buk-jai) for 唔知

i dañ si li-gong tu-di, señ-dik siou-ni cheng-siu ia!

伊 咀 是 李公 徒弟，生得 少年 清秀 呀！

who says that he is apprenticed to Old Master Li; he is youthful and handsome!

printed: 自稱 (jeu-cheng) for 伊咀

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

gueng nang-ge siou-ni cheng-siu jo-mih?

管 人家 少年 清秀 做乜？

Who cares if he is youthful and handsome?

printed: 什麼 (sim-moh) for 乜

### 益春 • iah-chung

a-nie! leu do m-jai no, i señ-lai jing siang jek-gai nang

阿娘，你 在 唔知 乜，伊 生來 真 象 一個人

Miss, you don't know half of it, he looks just like a certain someone.

printed: 你 不知道 (leu buk jai-dao) for 你在唔知乜, 他 (ta) for 伊

kuai (?) chuk-lai keu toiñ ia!

快 X 出來 去 看 呀！

Come out quickly to see!

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

joiñ-yik i-nang gue lao-sai

前日 伊人 過 樓西

The other day he passed the Western Tower,

ki-u-hng-ngang, jing si jung-siu eng-chai

氣宇軒昂，真是 雋秀 英才

fine and magnificent, with the bearing of a talent,

氣宇軒昂 - idiom

gao gim-jiou, gao gim-jiou ui-sim-moh bieng-joh liou bhua-giañ-chieñ

到 今朝，到 今朝 爲甚麼 變作 了 磨鏡匠

but today, but today, how has he become a mirror grinder?

cheu-seu ga-nang hui i-chai

此事 教人 費意 猜

This really makes one puzzled.

**益春 • iah-chung**

tai ua lai keu mung-i

待 我 來 去 問伊

Wait, let me go ask him.

printed: 他 (ta) for 伊

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

iah-chung! buk-ko

益春！不可

Iah-cung, no!

**益春 • iah-chung**

mung jek-e, u-ho buk-ko?

問一下，有何不可？

What's wrong with asking?

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

nang u siang-seu, buk-ko jao-cheu

人有相似，不可造次

People do look alike, don't be rash.

**益春 • iah-chung**

(yu-cheu) aiñ jo-ni ju-i?

（如此）愛做呢主意？

What do you propose?

printed: 怎生主意 (jai-señ ju-i) for 做呢主意

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

ta gi-si li-gong tu-di, chiu-ghoi liang-bik buk-cha

他既是李公徒弟，手藝諒必不差

Since he is an apprentice of Old Master Li, his handiwork must be not bad.

giañ jiu kieh bung i bhua

鏡就挈分伊磨

Give him the mirror to polish.

printed: 鏡就拿給他磨 (giañ jiu na gip ta bhua)

**益春 • iah-chung**

hiou-dik!

曉得！

Understood!

ng-hng!

嗯哼！

Yup!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

iah-chung! ghua-ming yik-tao iem-yuah

益春！外面日頭炎熱

Iah-cung! It is hot outside under the sun.

leu ko dua na bhua-giañ seu-hu jip-lai iñ-lai jo gong-hu?

你可帶那磨鏡師傅入來院內做工夫？

Could you bring that mirror-grinder inside to do his work in the courtyard?

printed: 進來 (jing-lai) for 入來

**益春 • iah-chung**

hiou-dik!

曉得！

Understood!

seu-hu, leu do jo mih-seu a?

師傅，你在做乜事啊？

Master craftsman, what are you doing?

printed: 你在做什麼？ (leu do jo sim-moh?)

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

ua aiñ jung-bi bhua-giañ gai ge-si

我 愛 準備 磨鏡 個 傢俬

I am preparing my tools to polish the mirror.

**益春 • iah-chung**

m-jai nang gai giañ aiñ bung leu bhua a-m

唔知 俺個 鏡 愛 分你 磨 啊唔

I don't know if we want to give you our mirror to polish,

printed: 還不知鏡可要你磨 (huañ-buk-jai giañ ko iou leu bhua)

jiu do jo jung-bi

就 在 做 準備

if you are only just making preparations.

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

je... chueng-jiang sie-nie-giañ seng-chueng

這.....全仗 小娘 囡 成全

This... it is all in your hands, young miss.

printed: 子 (jeu) for 囡

**益春 • iah-chung**

eu... ho oi dañ-ue a, siang-yiang(?), gai giañ leu bhua

啊.....好會 咀話 呀 , XX , 個 鏡 你磨

Ah, you do have a way with words. Fine, I'll let you polish the mirror.

printed: 真會說話 (jing oi sueh-ue) for 好會咀話

**陳三 • dang-sañ**



ho jek-ming bo-giañ

好一面寶鏡

What a fine mirror this is.

**益春 • iah-chung**

seu-hu! ua ge a-nie chiañ leu yip iñ-lai jo gong-hu

師傅！我家阿娘請你入院內做工夫

Master! My mistress invites you to do your work in the courtyard.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘, 進 (jing) for 入

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

jung-meng!

尊命！

And I obey the command!

**益春 • iah-chung**

cheu-chu im-liang, jiu do je-li hiah-dañ ba

此處陰涼，就在這裏歇擔吧！

It is cool here in the shade, rest for a while here!

seu-hu, li-gong mue lai bhua-giañ jiu Chiang-gua, leu ka oi?

師傅，李公每來磨鏡就唱歌，你豈會？

Master craftsman, Old Master Li would always sing while polishing, can you do so too?

printed: 可 (ko) for 豈

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

oi si oi, ji pa bho jai-im

會是會，只怕無知音

Sure I can sing, but I fear that I won't hold a tune.

### 益春 • iah-chung

leu yiak Chiang-lai ho, na-pa bho jai-im

你若唱來好，那怕無知音

Sing anyhow you please, who cares if you go off key?

### 陳三 • dang-saŋ

hia li tai ua lai Chiang

遐哩待我來唱

In that case let me sing:

┃ printed: 如此 (yu-cheu) for 遐哩

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

chik-chieh jiang-hu mo bhueng-chai

七尺丈夫莫漫猜

Who would guess, a fully grown man

┃ 七尺 - average adult's height in traditional Chinese feet.

cheñ-bhue u-ieh gu-ying lai!

青梅有約故人來！

A familiar figure coming to an appointment under the green plums!

hng-keung ui sia chim cheng-i

殷勤爲謝深情意

Giving polite thanks for the sincere feelings,

ngueng hia ung-giou ghek-giañ-tai

願下溫嶠玉鏡臺

TK

益春 • iah-chung

seu-hu, chiañ jiah de!

師傅，請食茶！

Master craftsman, come drink some tea!

| printed: 飲 (im) for 食

陳三 • dang-sañ

u de! hia-li geng-ho, u lao liou

有茶！遐哩更好，有勞了

There's tea! This is even better. Much obliged.

| printed: 那就 (na jiu) for 遐哩

sie-nie-giañ, ji-bue de, si nang gie-leu kieh lai?

小娘囤，只杯茶，是人叫你挈來？

Young miss, who instructed you to bring me this cup of tea?

| printed: 小娘子，這杯茶是誰叫你端來的？ (sie-nie-jeu, je-bue de si sui gie-leu dueng lai di?)

益春 • iah-chung

leu ji-gai nang a, gue-dou jiu gue-dou

你只個人呀，過渡就過渡

You are really too much.

| printed: 這 (je) for 只

ho-ui dieh mung-gao jung-doiñ u gui-go bang?

何爲着問到船底有幾塊板？

Who asks how many planks there are in a boat?

printed: 何必 (ho-bik) for 何爲着

### 陳三 • dang-saĩ

ka buk-mung? im-jui seu-nguang!

豈不問？飲水思源

Why not ask? One must think of the spring when drinking water!

ho-kuang u cheu ho-de, geng-deung dao-sia

何況有此好茶，更當道謝

Let alone with such good tea, one must be grateful.

### 益春 • iah-chung

si ua a-nie gie ua kieh-lai di

是我阿娘叫我挈來的

It was my mistress who told me to bring it to you.

printed: 是小姐命我端來的 (si siou-jia meng ua dueng-lai di)

### 陳三 • dang-saĩ

heu li toih ua hiang ning a-nie dao-sia

許哩代我向恁阿娘道謝

In that case, please convey to your mistress my deep thanks.

printed: 請你代我向小姐道謝 (chia-leu toih ua hiang siou-jia dao-sia)

toih - pronunciation for 代

益春 • iah-chung

do-seng do-gam!

多承多感！

Much obliged, many thanks!

Sarcastically quoting the overly polite phrase that he used when they returned him his fan at the Lantern festival.

陳三 • dang-sań

do-seng do-gam! chiań!

多承多感！請！

Much obliged, many thanks! Please!

益春 • iah-chung

seu-hu, bue de ngang liou, dań jiah no

師傅，杯茶凝了，旦食𠵼

Master craftsman, the tea has gone cold. Just drink it.

printed: 師傅，茶涼了，快喝吧 (seu-hu, de liang liou, kuai hak ba)

“dań jiah no” - interesting grammatical construction.

陳三 • dang-sań

gu-lao sie-nie-giań liou

劬勞小娘𠵼了

Much obliged, young miss.

not in printed

益春 • iah-chung

seu-hu, gang-hu dieh jo i ho se a

師傅，工夫着做伊好些啊

Master craftsman, you'd better do a good job.

printed: 你工夫要做得好些 (leu gong-hu iou jo-dik ho-se)

### 陳三 • dang-sań

na jeu-yieng no! bo-giań a, bo-giań!

那自然𠂇！寶鏡呀，寶鏡！

But of course! O precious mirror!

printed: 那是自然 (na si jeu-yieng) for 那自然𠂇

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

ua ieng leu iam-hok bho-bi

我羨你艷福無比

I envy how you are splendid beyond compare,

eu gia-ying heng-iań buk-li

與佳人形影不離

not far from the perfection of a beautiful lady.

hng buk-dik, jiang sing-hue bo-giań

恨不得，將身化寶鏡

Alas, your fate is to be a mirror,

do gui-dang jiou-sek jiang siang-i

在閨中朝夕長相依

spending your time hidden in the depths of the women's chambers.

〔白 • beh • speaking〕

huai-liou, huai-liou!

壞了！壞了！

It is broken! Broken!

### 益春 • iah-chung

seu-hu, huang-chai sim-moh siañ-hiang?

師傅，方才甚麼聲響？

Master craftsman, what was that sound?

bo-giañ ne? eu! keh leu da-pua liou!

寶鏡呢？～，乞你打破了！

Where is the mirror? Oh no, you have broken it!

printed: 給 (gip) for 乞

huai-liou, huai-liou!

壞了，壞了！

It is broken, broken!

a-nie (?) - lai a!

阿娘 X 來呀！

Miss, come here!

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

bo-giañ pah-pua liou?

寶鏡拍破了？

The mirror is broken?

printed: 打 (da) for 拍

gi si pah-pua, chiak-mok siañ-jiang, siek-huak iem-chang ho

既是打破，切莫聲張，設法掩藏好

Even if it's broken, don't make a scene, let's find a way to hide this.

**益春 • iah-chung**

si!

是！

Yes!

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

sui-nang do-cheu chao-nao?

誰人 在此 吵鬧？

What is all this shouting here?

printed: 何人 (ho-nang) for 誰人

ui-ho bang-jing ghua-nang lai-gao cheu-di?

爲何 放進 外人 來到 此地？

Who let a stranger into this place?

**益春 • iah-chung**

si bhua-giañ di

是 磨鏡 的

It is the mirror polisher.

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

bhua-giañ di ia buk-gai jing-lai, kuai gie-ta chuk-keu!

磨鏡 的 也不該 進來，快 叫 他 出去！

The mirror polisher should also not be in here. Tell him to go outside!



益春 • iah-chung

si, leu chuk-keu ba

是，你出去吧

Yes. You had better leave.

陳三 • dang-sań

bing ueng-ghua, leu ge bo-giań bi ua jek-si sik-chiu pah-pua-keu liou

稟員外，你家寶鏡被我一時失手打破去了

Sir, I was careless and with a slip of the hand I broke your precious mirror.

員外 • ueng-ghua

hań? pah-pua na jek-jo?

～？打破那一座？

What? Which one did you break?

pah - 拍

ai-ia, ko-nao, ko-nao a!

哎呀，可惱，可惱呀！

Aiyah, how vexing, how vexing!

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

giń pua-giań, nao-chong sim-dang ki

見破鏡，惱從心中起

Seeing this broken mirror is raising my hackles.

siou tiok-seń, bho dao-li, bho dao-li!

小畜生，無道理，無道理

You little brute, you unreasoning brute!

cheu giañ nai-si tueng-ge-bo

此鏡乃是傳家寶

This mirror was an heirloom treasure.

toiñ leu yu-ho bue-dik-ki?

看你如何賠得起？

Do you fancy that you can compensate me?

〔白 • beh • speaking〕

lai! cheu-seu u ua jo-ju

來！此事有我做主。

I'll make the decisions.

jo-ning yip-keu!

做慫入去！

The rest of you, go inside!

printed: 你等進去 (leu-deng jing-keu)

tiok-seng, leu gim u ho-ue sueh?

畜生，你今有何話說？

Do you have anything to say for yourself, brute?

**陳三 • dang-saĩ**

bhoi-jai ueng-ghua aiñ bue do-siou

審知員外愛賠多少？

Sir, how much compensation do you seek?

printed: 不知員外要我賠償多少 (buk-jai ueng-ghua iou ua bue-sieñ do-siou)

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

ba leu jek-gai nang bhoi lai bue

把你一個人賣來賠

Even if you sell yourself,

ia di buk-gue ia

也抵不過呀！

it would not be enough!

**陳三 • dang-sań**

chia-ju! ueng-ghua jek-ngang, ba ua ti-cheń

且住！員外一言，把我提醒

Wait a moment! What he said gave me an idea.

printed: 將 (jiang) for 把

ua ho-buk jieng cheu gi-uang, yu-cheu yu-cheu

我何不趁此機緣，如此如此

Why don't I use this opportunity? So be it.

ueng-ghua, liem ua jo gang-nang

員外，念我做工人

Sir, take me on as a worker

printed: 想我做工之人 (sień ua jo-gang jeu nang)

na u jiń-ngeung bue-dik cheu giań

那有錢銀賠得此鏡

and let me pay off my debt with my labor.

printed: 賠償寶鏡 (bue-sień bo-giań)

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

hng! gi bho-jiñ pue giañ

哼！既無錢賠鏡

Hmph! Since you have no money to compensate me,

ji-u jiang leu sang guañ giu-poiñ!

只有將你送官究辦

the only thing left to do is to send you off to the magistrate.

siou-chik gue lai!

小七過來！

Siou-cik, come here!

**小七 • siou-chik**

ueng-ghua ho seu?

員外 何事？

What is it, Sir?

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

ba ta kung-liou!

把他捆了！

Cuff him!

**小七 • siou-chik**

si

是

Yes.

**益春 • iah-chung**

ueng-ghua chia-mang!

員外 且慢！

Please wait, Sir!

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

ho-seu?

何事？

What is it?

**益春 • iah-chung**

bi hong a-nie jeu meng, u ngang siang-bing

婢奉阿娘之命，有言上稟

Miss has instructed me to plead on her behalf.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

gim-yik bo-giañ pah-pua

今日 寶鏡 打破

That this mirror was broken,

nai si seu-hu buk-sim sik-chiu, beng hui u-i

乃是師傅 不慎失手，並非有意

was because of a slip of the hand, and not by intention.

bhuang ueng-ghua sek-nao, chong-kueng chu-li

望 員外 息惱，從寬 處理

May you retreat from anger, Sir, and deal with him generously.

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

hu-sueh! siou-chik, kung!

胡說！小七 搵！

Nonsense! Siou-cik, cuff him!

**小七 • siou-chik**

si

是

Yup.

**陳三 • dang-sań**

chiań-mang!

且慢！

Please delay!

ueng-ghua, liem ua jek-ping yu-soi

員外，念我一貧如洗

Sir, I have not a cent to my name.

一貧如洗 - idiom

jong ba ua sang guań ia i seu bho-bou

縱把我送官也於事無補

Sending me to the magistrate will not help anybody.

ua gim cheng-ngueng yip hu ui-iong

我今情願入府爲傭

I'm willing to enter your household as a servant

jo-gang sień-giań jiu si

做工償鏡就是

and work off my debt to you.

## 員外 • ueng-ghua

toiñ leu go-heng

看你 XX

Look at you,

printed: 看你 這個人 (toiñ leu je-gai nang)

bhung-buk-bhung, bhu-buk-bhu

文不文，武不武

neither a scholar nor a warrior.

u sim eng-chu?

有甚用處？

What use are you to me?

## 陳三 • dang-saň

ua oi jo-gang, ia u bak su-yi

我會做工，也有捌數字

I can work hard, and I can count and write.

printed: 我會做粗工，也認得幾個字 (ua oi jo chou-gang, ia ying-dik gui-gai yi)

sao-piañ, ak-hue, li-siou, sia-sing dou leng seng-yim

掃～，沃花，理數，寫信都能勝任

Sweeping the floor, watering plants, doing accounts, writing letters, are all things I can do.

printed: 掃地，澆花，理賬 (sao-di, giou-hue, li-dieñ)

## 員外 • ueng-ghua

lai, leu gie ho mia-yi?

來，你叫何名字？

What is your name?

陳三 • **dang-sañ**

sie-nang señ dang, mia... sañ

小人姓陳，名..... 三

My humble surname is Dang, and my name is... San (three).

員外 • **ueng-ghua**

dang-sañ, lung je bo-giañ, ge-dak beh nie

陳三，論此寶鏡，價值百兩

Dang-san, this mirror here was bought for a hundred taels.

yu-gim ji seung-jo sañ-jap nie

如今只算做三十兩

Let's amortize that to say thirty taels.

leu do ua-hu jo-gang, mue-ni gang-jeu jap-nie

你在我府做工，每年工資十兩

If you work in my household, you would get wages of ten taels a year.

In the Ming period, one tael of silver could buy about 0.94 piculs (about 60 kg) of rice ([source](#)), so a year's wages was about 600 kg of rice. In Swatow, 1 kg of rice costs about 7 RMB retail today ([source](#)), hence his annual income was the equivalent of about 4200 RMB, or about 660 USD, in purchasing power terms.

sañ-ni gang-mua, huang-jung hue-ge

三年工滿，方准回家

So, in three years, you'd work it off and can go home.



陳三 • dang-sań

sie-nang cheng-ngueng

小人 情願

Your humble servant is willing.

員外 • ueng-ghua

ua-ge nai-si mia-mung, jieñ-e u hung, lai-ghua u biek

我家 乃是 名門，上下 有分，內外 有別

Bear in mind that mine is a house of good repute. The upstairs staff don't mix with the downstairs staff. The inner and outer courts are separate.

Inner courtyard - the women's part of the house where outsider men were not allowed.

leu do hu-lai su-iou sung-gui dao-geu

你 在 府內 須要 循規 蹈矩

In here you had better adhere to the household rules,

buk-ko huam ua ge-huap

不可 犯 我 家法

and not flout the law of my family.

陳三 • dang-sań

jai-dao!

知道！

Understood!

員外 • ueng-ghua

siou-chik, dua ta hia-keu!

小七，帶他下去！

Siou-cik, bring him downstairs!

**小七 • siou-chik**

si, sui ua lai

是，隨我來

Yup, follow me.

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

ha ha ha ha ha!

哈哈哈哈哈！

Hahahahaha!

## 第五章 • doiñ-ngou-jiang • Act 5

### 第十二場 • doiñ-jap-yi-dieñ • Scene 12

1:03:45

五娘 • ngou-nie

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

bo-dueng hiang-siou, ngeung-tai jek-sia

寶篆 香銷，銀臺 燭炮

By a precious seal, the incense burns out. On a silver platform, the candle is snuffed.

buañ-gui chang-ghueh jie so leng

半規 殘月 照 疏櫺

A waning half-moon casts light through the latticework.

aiñ ming ming-buk-dik, aiñ jo jo-buk-leng

愛 眠 眠 不 得，愛 坐 坐 不 寧

Weary but sleepless, tired but restless.

printed: 欲 for 愛, vernacular substitute character

sim-dang seu, choiñ-deng bhueng-tah hiang sui-su?

心 中 事，千 重 萬 疊 向 誰 訴？

A thousand weights heavy in my heart, with no one to tell them to.

kong niou sung liang-bhai cheñ

空皺損兩眉青

My brow turned pale from furrowing,

sieñ ja-yik siang-seu, siang-seu hung liang di

想昔日相思，相思分兩地

I think about the past and pine between two places.

昔 - vernacular substitute character for ja, original pronunciation sik

hi gim-jiou tong-chu jek-mng teng

喜今朝同處一門庭

Today we are indeed under one roof.

ta kuk-sing ui ua, yu-cheu do-cheng gou-lai jie

他屈身爲我，如此多情古來少

To debase himself for me, such love is seldom seen.

ua jek-i lieng ta, buk-jai ho-yik gak ueng-meng

我一意憐他，不知何日結鴛盟

I pity him with all my heart, not knowing when we shall be together.

pañ ji pañ, jek-jiou siep-lao chung siou-sek

怕只怕，一朝洩漏春消息

Fearing that our secret shall spill out,

loi-huap ge-gui buk iong-cheng

禮法家規不容情

flouting of the family law is not easily forgiven.

jong-siou dieng-jueng kou bho-cheh

終宵 輾轉 苦 無策

All night I toss about in agony without aim,

lui sui chang-lah siang dih-gao tieng-meng

淚 隨 殘蠟 相 滴到 天明

my tears dripping like the wax from a dying candle until daylight comes.

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie, tieng jiang liang-liou, ui-ho hueng bhue uañ-sui?

阿娘，天將亮了，爲何還未安睡

Miss, it is almost dawn. Why have you not yet gone to sleep?

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

a-nie, kuai sui ba

阿娘，快睡吧

Miss, do sleep.

## 第十三場 • doiñ-jap-sañ-dieñ • Scene 13

1:09:38

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

ui bo li-gi chim cheng-i, sing-chao kou-hiah buk chui-si

爲報荔枝深情意，身操苦役不推辭

To fulfill the wish cast down with that lychee branch, I could not refuse this life of hard labor.

ngueng-ki jiou-sek leng siang-giñ

原期朝夕能相見

On which day shall we meet again?

sui jai ji-chieh nang choiñ-li

誰知咫尺人千里

Who can truly reckon with a thousand-mile journey?

┃ 咫尺千里 - idiom

teng gai ng-hieh sao goi jing

庭階黃葉掃易盡

These yellow leaves can be easily swept clean,

je-dieñ siang-seu bho jing-ki

這場相思無盡期

unlike these thoughts in my head.

〔白•beh•speaking〕

iah-chung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

hieng-mue, ua jing-hu iñ-u su-yik, hueng bhue eu leu tam-su

賢妹，我進府已有數日，還未與你談敘

Sister, I have been in this household for several days, but have not yet been able to speak with you.

**益春 • iah-chung**

hai! ueng-ghua ge-gui ngiem-ging, mo sañ-hiañ mai guai

唉！員外家規嚴緊，望三兄勿怪！

The master's house rules are strict, please don't take it personally.

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

a-nie ging-lai ka ho?

阿娘今來豈好？

How has your mistress been?

printed: 小姐可好 (siou-jia ko-ho)

**益春 • iah-chung**

jeu leu yip-hu iñ-lai, a-nie sieñ-si jong-siou bhue-ming

自你入府以來，阿娘時常終宵未眠

Since you have entered the house, Miss has often been unable to sleep the whole night long.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

kiak-si ui-ho?

卻是爲何？

Why is that so?

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie ta sim-seu deng-deng o

阿娘 她 心事 重重 啊

My mistress is weighed down with matters of the heart.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

u ho sim-seu, mo hieng-mue meng-gao

有 何 心事 , 望 賢妹 明告

What matters of the heart? Please explain, Sister.

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie ta...

阿娘 她.....

Miss, well she...

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

ta ja-ieñ?

她 怎樣 ?

She what?

**益春 • iah-chung**

ia ba!

也罷 !

So be it!



〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

a-nie ta, a-nie ta yiak-neung lang-ui be-bho meng

阿娘她，阿娘她 弱女難違父母命

Miss, she, Miss is but a lady who cannot disobey her parents' orders.

printed has typo 安 for 女

heu pue lim-ge, ja iñ ji-liou piañ-ngi

許配林家，早已接了聘議

She has been promised to the Lim family, and has already received a proposal.

陳三 • dang-saň

ja-sueh! ta iñ-siu liou lim-ge jeu-piañ?

怎說！她已受了林家之聘？

What did you say? She is already betrothed to the Lims?

益春 • iah-chung

jiañ si!

正是！

That is so!

陳三 • dang-saň

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

sik ji-mo, siang-ieh beh-ni dung iong haoñ

實指望，相約百年敦永好

One would hope, that a promise made is a promise kept.

u sui jai, mia-hue-u-ju i lai chi

有誰知，名花有主已來遲

Who could tell, that she is already spoken for, and I am too late?

名花有主 - idiom

ta gi ji-liou lim-ge piañ

她既接了林家聘

Since she is already betrothed to the Lims,

ing-ho lao-tao iu gak li-gi?

因何樓頭又掬荔枝？

why did she throw the lychee branch from the tower?

printed: 擲 (dañ) for 掬, semantic replacement

**益春 • iah-chung**

sañ-hiañ! leu u-so buk-jai!

三兄！你有所不知！

Brother! You don't know the full story!

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

na lim-dua, ui-nang do chou-pi

那林大，爲人多粗鄙

That Lim-dua, is a crude and uncouth person.

si-kiang-leng-yiak ba nang ki

恃強凌弱把人欺

He uses his strength to bully the weak.

恃強凌弱 - idiom

je-deng nang, a-nie ka keng-lai pik-pue

這等人，阿娘豈肯來匹配

How could Miss consent to be matched with such a person?

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

豈 is indeed in the printed

ing-cheu siang, lao-tao ga li-gia siang-seu

因此上，樓頭掬荔寄相思

Therefore, she let loose the lychee branch from the tower.

printed: 投 (dao) for 掬; 掬 is probably a phonetic character

### 陳三 • dang-sań

gi-yieng yu-cheu, jiu hueng-hue-bing a-nie

既然如此，就煩回稟阿娘

If that is the case, then please report back to your mistress,

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

ja diań ju-i, ming siang liang-cheh,

早定主意，面商良策

to come up with a plan, that we discuss a strategy

huang-mieng u-liou dai-seu

方免誤了大事

to avoid this great tragedy.

### 益春 • iah-chung

leu chiañ mok-gip, siang-giñ jeu-seu, tai ua siek-huap jiu-si

你且莫急，相見之事，待我設法就是

Do not be hasty. Let me find a way to arrange a meeting.

### 陳三 • dang-sań

u-lao hieng-mue liou!

有勞賢妹了！

Much obliged, Sister!

### 員外 • ueng-ghua

eñ? hng! jam-jul

嗯？哼！站住！

Huh? Hmph! Stand still!

ning no-nang gui-gui jui-jui, do-cheu ho-seu?

恁二人鬼鬼祟祟，在此何事？

You two stalking about, up to good?

printed: 你們 (leu-mung) for 恁

hng! ka buk-jai lai-ghua u-hung, lam-neung u-biek

哼！豈不知內外有分，男女有別

Hmph! Don't you know that the inner and outer courts are separate? Men and women have their own places.

ning deng do-cheu gao-tao jih-yeu, seng ho ti-tong?

恁等在此交頭接耳，成何體統？

What schemes are you hatching, whispering into each others' ears?

交頭接耳 - idiom

耳 yeu2 - literary pronunciation

kuai jieñ-lao keul

快上樓去！

You go upstairs!

益春 • iah-chung

si!

是！

Yes sir!

員外 • ueng-ghua

cheu nai lai-iñ, ka iong leu sui-bieng jao-dong

此乃內院，豈容你隨便走動

This is the inner court, not a place for you to saunter about.

iñ-ao buk-hong u-hueng, buk-heu jing-lai!

以後不奉呼喚，不許進來！

In the future, unless you are summoned here, you may not enter!

yiak jai ui-huam, da-dueng leu di gao-tui, hia keul!

若再違犯，打斷你的狗腿，下去！

If you break this rule again, your ass will be whipped. Go downstairs!

## 第十四場 • doiñ-jap-si-dieñ • Scene 14

1:16:49

幕外合唱 • mo-ghua-hak-ciang • singing offstage

liang-siñ mung, hung lai-ghua

兩扇門，分內外

Between the inner and outer worlds stands but a doorway.

jek-dao chieñ, geh dong-si

一道牆，隔東西

A wall between East and West.

liang sim kong siang-ing

兩心空相印

Two hearts strain for each other in vain,

siang-giñ jong lang-ki

相見總難期

a meeting proves difficult to arrange,

guang-im yim-yiem

光陰荏苒

while time slips away.

jek-ni iong-goi chung iu jil

一年容易春又至

A year has passed, Spring is here again.

jek-gai si siu-tak (?) -mieng beñ iem-iem

一個是綉榻纏綿病懨懨

One wastes away in the embroidery room, weak with sickness.

jek-gai si gou-deng siang-dui leng-leng chi-chi

一個是孤燈相對冷冷淒淒

The other faces a lone lamp in the cold.

geu-tao mo meng-ghueh, sim-seu beng sui gia

舉頭望明月，心事憑誰寄

Raising their heads to gaze upon the moon. Who can pass on their thoughts?

ji-loh-dik chiang-u do-tang! chiang-u do-tang

只落得長吁短嘆

These fall away in long and short sighs.

liang di kou siang-seu, liang di kou siang-seu

兩地苦相思，兩地苦相思

Two places filled with anguished pining.

## 第十五場 • doiñ-jap-ngou-dieñ • Scene

### 15

1:20:12

五娘 • ngou-nie

〔唱 • chiang • singing〕

ueng-siañ jiem-lao, chung-sek jiang lang

鴛聲漸老，春色將闌

The song of the mandarin ducks grows old, the colors of spring will soon fade.

beñ-eu chui-siu kiak king-hang

病余翠袖怯輕寒

In illness these green sleeves fear the slightest cold.

lui-ngang mung-hue hue buk-gheu, sui goi huang-sim jek-chung seung

淚眼問花花不語，誰解芳心一寸酸

In tears I ask the flowers, but flowers don't speak. Who understands even an iota of my anguish?

### 益春 • iah-chung

a-nie leu toĩ na-jang sui-liu, dang-i sai-sia, si ho ueng-gu?

阿娘你看那叢垂柳，東倚西斜，是何緣故？

Miss, look at that willow there. It leans to the East and bends to the West, what is the reason for this?

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

ji ui liu-gi bho-lak, ing-cheu sui-huang iou-hi

只爲柳枝無力，因此隨風搖曳

It is because the willow's branches are weak, and so bend along whichever way the wind blows.

### 益春 • iah-chung

ai! liu-gi bho-lak, ing-cheu sui-huang iou-hi

噯！柳枝無力，因此隨風搖曳

Ah! The willow's branches are weak, and so bend with the wind.

ying yu-yiak bho ju-i, ia jiu jiang(?) sui-nang bai-yim

人如若無主意，也就將誰人擺任？

If people are just as directionless, who will then decide their fates?

printed: 人若是無主意，就只好任人擺佈



a-nie! leu toiñ na sang-bue hu-diep

阿娘！你看那雙飛蝴蝶

Miss! Look at that pair of butterflies,

jeu-iu jeu-jai, (?)-dieh ho no!

自由自在，x 着好叻！

so free and easy, is it not good to behold?

printed: 多末好啊 (do-mueh ho a)

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

iah-chung, leu ja-leng jiang nang eu hu-diep siang-bi?

益春，你怎能將人與蝴蝶相比？

Iah-cung, how can you compare people to butterflies?

printed: 把 (ba) for 將

ba ta guañ-diou!

把它趕掉！

Chase them out!

### 益春 • iah-chung

a-nie, toiñ je hu-diep seng-sang seng-dui

阿娘，看這蝴蝶成雙成對

Miss, see how these butterflies have paired up.

ja jiang ta guañ-diou ne?

怎將它趕掉呢？

How can I chase them out?

printed: 怎忍把它趕掉呢 (ja-yim ba-ta guañ-diou ne)

## 五娘 • ngou-nie

gie leu guañ, leu jiu guañ, hueng do ngang-dang-sueh-sai

叫你趕，你就趕，還在言東語西

I've told you to do it, so just do it. Don't stand there muttering.

## 益春 • iah-chung

ho, a-nie gie ua guañ, ua jiu-lai guañ!

好，阿娘叫我趕，我就來趕！

Fine, if Miss commands me to, then I shall!

hu-diep ia! leu keu biek-chu, mai lai ji-go biang a-nie señ-ki

蝴蝶呀！你去別處，勿來只塊變阿娘生氣

Butterflies, begone! Go somewhere else, and don't come here to annoy my mistress.

printed: 休來惹我家小姐生氣 (hiuñ-lai yia ua-ge siou-jia señ-ki)

keu! keu! keu-a!

去！去！去呀！

Shoo! Shoo! Begone!

toiñ-gao (??) hu-diep chuang-gai m-(?) nang-i

看到 XX 蝴蝶 全個 唔曉人意

You butterflies have no understanding of human feelings.

printed: 全然 (chueng-yieng) for 全個

yiak-(?) (?) ua iah-chung señ-ki, tai ua lai-pah!

惹 XX 我 益春 生氣，待我來打！

If you make me Iah-cung angry, I'll give you a beating!

## 五娘 • ngou-nie

iah-chung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie iou si chui ga sim (??)

阿娘 又是 嘴 合 心 XX

Miss, your words once again do not align with your thoughts.

printed: 小姐原是口心不一 (siou-jia ngueng-si kao-sim-buk-ik)

chui dañ yiou, sim iu dañ ai lao!

嘴 咀 擾，心 又 咀 愛 留！

You say “begone” but think “stay”!

printed: 口說趕，心卻要留 (kao sueh guaň, sim kiak-aiñ lao)

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

iah-chung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie hueng-si je-buañ na-buk-diañ ju-i, leu jiu kui-liou

阿娘 還是 這般 拿不定 主意，你 就 虧 了！

Miss is still so indecisive, it is to your loss!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

kui si-mih?

虧 是乜？

What loss is this?

printed: 什麼 (sim-moh) for 是乜

**益春 • iah-chung**

kui na sañ...

虧 那 三.....

To lose that San....

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

leu iu-si lai do suañ-dañ

你 又是 來在 散坦

Again with your loose talk.

printed: 你又亂說 (leu iu lueng-sueh)

**益春 • iah-chung**

ue mo suañ-dañ, deung-cho gai li-gi jiu buk-gai lueng-ga

話 孿 散坦，當初 個 荔枝 就 不該 亂掄

If one should not speak loosely, then one should not throw lychee branches from balconies either.

printed: 不可 (buk-ko) for 孿, 投 (dao) for 掄

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

iah-chung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

## 益春 • iah-chung

a-nie!

阿娘！

Miss!

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia)

## 五娘 • ngou-nie

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

ai-ia iah-chung, leu ngang-dang u-i ua gai hiou

哎呀 益春，你言中 有意 我皆曉

O Iah-cung, I understand everything that you are trying to tell me.

ua sim-dang tong-kou u sui-di?

我心中 痛苦 有誰知？

But who can know my inner pain?

知 di - literary pronunciation

dang-sañ ui ua siu jing-kou, ua ia ui-ta hui-jing sim-gi

陳三 爲我 受盡苦，我也 爲他 費盡心機

Dang-san is suffering on my account, and for him I am pining away.

jong lang-dik ho ju-i

終 難得 好主意

And still we have no way out.

## 益春 • iah-chung

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

seu leu je-buañ chi-ghi, ji-pañ je siang-seu bho-liou si

似你這般遲疑，只怕這相思無了時

With hesitation like yours, one fears that there will be no end to the pining.

jong-gek si hai-liou dang-sañ, ia dam-ghou a-nie leu jeu-gi

終局是害了陳三，也耽誤阿娘你自己

The fact is that Dang-san is hurt, and you Miss are wasting your own time.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

kuang gim-jiou, beñ ho-deung

況今朝，病好轉

If today your health should return,

na lim-dua, jai jui-ching

那林大，再摧親

that Lim-dua will come again to press for your hand.

na-si u ho ngang-gheu jai tui-si?

那時有何言語再推辭？

At that point, what other excuses could you possibly give?

keung a-nie hueng su gip ja-diañ ju-i

勤阿娘，還須及早定主意

Please, Miss, come quickly to a decision,

mok-sieñ na liu-gi bho-lak

莫像那柳枝無力

don't be weak like the willow branches,

sui-hong iou-hi

隨風搖曳

waving in the breeze.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

kou-mia pek-geu, ka bho je-buañ sim-i

苦命碧琚，豈無這般心意

Woe is Pek-gv, who does not lack such intention,

ji ing-ui, dia-nie huang-huam yik-yik ging

只因爲，爹娘防範日日緊

but who is caught between Father and Mother have been daily tightening their  
forbiddances,

kuang iu na lim-dua si-dai yu-tiñ

況又那林大勢大如天

and that Lim-dua who is so rich and powerful.

ua jong jek si-buk-jok-sieh

我縱一死不足惜

I am not afraid to die,

死不足惜 - idiom

pañ ji-pañ, lui gip dang-sañ siu jue-lui

怕只怕，累及陳三受罪淚

but only fear that my death would burden Dang-san with guilt.

**益春 • iah-chung**

nie leu gi bho ho ju-i, jiu gai eu sañ-hiañ soi siang-ngi

娘你既無主意，就該與三兄細商議

Miss, since you have no plan, then you should discuss this with Brother San.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

ho-buk jiu jiang gi-gu di-sim-ue

何不就將幾句知心話

Why don't you gather some words of encouragement,

printed: 把 (ba) for 將

知 di - literary pronunciation

gao-tai iah-chung keu dui sañ-hiañ ti

交待益春去對三兄提

and entrust them to Iah-cung to deliver to Brother San?

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

iah-chung! na dang-sañ hing do ho-chu?

益春！那陳三現在何處？

Iah-cung! Where is Dang-san now?

**益春 • iah-chung**

jiu-do ao-iñ!

就在後院！

He is in the rear courtyard!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**



ua dia chuk-mung hue-keh, ka jeng deung-lai?

我爹出門會客，豈曾轉來？

My father is out paying visits; has he returned yet?

printed: 可曾回來 (ko jeng hue-lai)

**益春 • iah-chung**

siang-bhue deung-lai!

尚未轉來！

No, not yet!

printed: 回來 (hue-lai) for 轉來

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

yu-cheu, leu jiu chiou-chiou gie ta dang-sañ jie lai siang-liang

如此，你就悄悄叫他陳三照來商量

In that case, go quietly and ask Dang-san here to talk.

printed: 前 (joiñ) for 照

**益春 • iah-chung**

jie jiu geng-ho liou, tai siou-bi joiñ keu!

照就更好了，待小婢前去！

That is even better. Your servant will go forth!

printed: 那 (na) for 照

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

iah-chung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

iah-chung! je-juang seu aiñ sie-sim do-i,

益春！這樁事愛小心在意

Iah-cung! This matter must be dealt with carefully,

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

su-huang geh-chieñ nang u-hiñ, siep huang-siañ

須防隔牆人有耳，洩風聲

for you know that the walls have ears, and should any word travel

dia-nie yiak bhung-jai, heu si-joih,

爹娘若聞知，許時節

so far as my parents, at that time,

printed: 那 (na) for 許

jek-dañ huang-bo peng-di ki

一旦風波平地起

a massive storm will overturn the earth.

## 第十六場 • doiñ-jap-lak-dieñ • Scene 16

音樂 • im-ghauh • Musical interlude

# 第十七場 • doiñ-jap-chik-dieñ • Scene

## 17

1:33:25

陳三 • dang-sañ

sie-seng jing-hu iñ-lai, gim-yik chai dik-giñ a-nie li!

小生進府以來，今日才得見阿娘哩！

Since this humble person has entered this household, it is only today that I meet you,  
Miss!

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-nie

leu si ho-ying?

你是何人？

Who are you?

陳三 • dang-sañ

a-nie ja-moh buk ying-sek sie-seng liou?

阿娘怎麼不認識小生了？

Miss, how do you not recognize this humble person?

五娘 • ngou-nie

leu ka buk-jai jieñ-e u-hung, lai-ghua u-biek

你 豈 不 知 上 下 有 分 ， 內 外 有 別

Don't you know, upstairs and downstairs have their place, the inner and outer courts are to remain separate.

cheu-chu buk-si leu eng-lai jeu di, leu kuai seng chuk-keul

此 處 不 是 你 應 來 之 地 ， 你 快 成 出 去 ！

This is not a place where you should be, you had better leave now!

## 第十八場 • doiñ-jap-boih-dieñ • Scene

### 18

1:34:33

益春 • iah-chung

sañ-hiañ, leu...

三 兄 ， 你.....

Brother San, you...

a-nie, leu...

阿 娘 ， 你.....

Miss, you...

printed: 小姐

# 第十九場 • doiñ-jap-gao-dieñ • Scene 19

1:35:12

陳三 • dang-sañ

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

cho-ying noi-gi u cheng-i, uang-hui ua beh-keng jek-pieng chi

錯認荔枝有情意，枉費我伯卿一片癡

I misunderstood the meaning of the lychee branch, and have sent myself on a fool's errand.

荔 noi - vernacular pronunciation

toiñ-lai ing-ueng lang seng-jiu, buk-yu sok-juang gui gu-li

看來姻緣難成就，不如束裝歸故里

It looks as if this was not meant to be, and I should pack up to head home.

益春 • iah-chung

sañ-hiañ mang-jao!

三兄 慢走！

Brother San, wait!

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

toiñ leu sim-jiang nge seu tih

看你心腸硬似鐵

Your heart seems stiff as iron,

ing-ho aiñ jao m-gao-si?

因何愛走唔告辭？

why do you leave without saying goodbye?

printed: 因何要走不告辭 (ing-ho iou-jao buk-gao-si)

giu-geng aiñ uang ho-chu keu? ia gai meng-beh gao ua di

究竟愛往何處去？也該明白告我知

Where are you going? You should at least tell me.

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

**陳三 • dang-sań**

ua aiñ hue-deung ge-hieñ!

我愛回轉家鄉！

I'm going back to my home village.

printed: 返 (hueng) for 轉

**益春 • iah-chung**

ui-liou ho-seu?

爲了何事？

For what reason?

**陳三 • dang-sań**

buk-bik mung-liou

不必問了

You don't have to ask any further.

**益春 • iah-chung**

leu buk-ba cheng-iu sueh-meng, ua si buk-bang leu jao  
你不把情由說明，我是不放你走  
If you don't explain what you mean, I'm not letting you go.

陳三 • dang-sań

hieng-mue, chiań tiań!  
賢妹，請聽！  
Sister, please listen!

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

mong ji-diem, sim am-hi,  
蒙指點，心暗喜  
Having received a sign, my heart was silently gladdened,

keu hue-hng, su siang-si,  
去花園，訴相思  
to go to the garden, and reveal my feelings,

sik ji-mo, tieng-tai lou ko-tong  
實指望，天臺路可通  
a true signal, that Heaven had opened a way.

iu sui jai, sieng-huam ieng-geh pueng hung-ni  
又誰知，仙凡遠隔判雲泥  
But who knew, that saints and mortals are to remain separate, like clouds and mud,

判若雲泥 - idiom, “different as clouds in heaven and mud on earth”

chim-chim jek i, eu mue siang-si  
深深一揖，與妹相辭  
I bid you deeply, Sister, farewell.

益春 • iah-chung

sañ-hiañ!

三兄！

Brother San!

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

a-nie ta, dueng-yiang bho cheu i

阿娘她，斷然無此意

My mistress, she did not mean that.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

leu mok aiñ cho-guai ta, leu mok aiñ yu-cheu do ghi

你莫愛錯怪她，你莫愛如此多疑

Don't wrongly accuse her, don't misunderstand.

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

陳三 • dang-sañ:

ho-iñ giñ-dik?

何以見得？

How is that so?

益春 • iah-chung

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

leu ko-jai, huang-chai u nang do hng-li

你可知，方才有人在園裏

You must know that there were other people in the garden.



a-nie ta, ja-leng-gou mao-mao-sik-sik ba ue ti?

阿娘她，怎能夠冒冒失失把話提？

How could my mistress speak freely then?

┆ printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

**陳三 • dang-saň**

huang-chai hng-li u nang a?

方才園裏有人啊？

There was someone in the garden?

**益春 • iah-chung**

buk-sing? leu keu toiñ-lai!

不信？你去看來！

You don't believe me? Look for yourself!

**陳三 • dang-saň**

ngueng-lai yu-cheu!

原來如此！

So it is!

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

ji guai ua jek-si seň-cheng, hiem ba ho-sim dang ak-i

只怪我一時性情，險把好心當惡意

I can only blame myself for having taken good intentions for evil.

**益春 • iah-chung**

toiñ leu jing si chong-meng jek-si, mong-dong jek-si

看你 真是 聰明 一世， 懵懂 一時

It looks like you were indeed a wise man for life, but a fool for a second.

tak-jeu-nang ja oi je-ieñ sing-señ a?

讀書人 怎 會 這樣 神性 啊？

How could a scholar be so rash?

printed: 急性 (gip-señ) for 神性

### 陳三 • dang-sañ

hueng-mo hieng-mue do-do ngueng-liang!

還望 賢妹 多多 原諒！

I pray that Sister will forgive me!

### 益春 • iah-chung

sañ-hiañ buk-bik do-li, huañ sieñ miou-cheh ui-si

三兄 不必 多禮， 還 想 妙策 爲是！

Brother San, don't stand on ceremony. Spend your energy on thinking of a plan!

printed: 如今不必多禮，還是早想妙策爲是

### 陳三 • dang-sañ

ji-aiñ a-nie lai hung-hu, ua beh-keng hu-tng dao-hue buk tui-si

只 愛 阿娘 來 吩咐， 我 伯卿 赴湯 蹈火 不 推辭

If your mistress were to command it, I would go through hell and high water.

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛, 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

### 益春 • iah-chung

ia-ba! tai ua leng-sieñ biek-huap, yiang leu eu a-nie deung-ming siang-ngi  
也罷！待我另想別法，讓你與阿娘當面商議  
So be it! Let me think of another way for you and my mistress to confer,

jai jak diañ-doh  
再作定奪  
and to make a decision.

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

chueng-jiang hieng-mue liou  
全仗賢妹了  
It is in your hands, Sister.

**益春 • iah-chung**

iu-lai liou, na keu ba!  
又來了，拿去吧！  
Here you start again. Go!

## 第二十場 • doiñ-yi-jap-dieñ • Scene 20

音樂過門 • im-ghauh gue-mung • musical interlude

## 第六章 • Doin-lak-ziang • Act 6

### 第二十一場 • doiñ-yi-jap-ik-dieñ • Scene 21

1:41:10

陳三 • dang-saň

chiañ a-nie soi-ming!

請阿娘洗面

Miss, please come wash your face!

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-nie

leu! leu buk-bieng do-cheu, kuai hia-keu!

你！你不便在此，快下去！

You! You can't be here! Quick, go downstairs!

mang! pung-jui si sui gie-leu dueng-lai?

慢！盆水是誰叫你端來？

Wait, who told you to bring this basin?

陳三 • dang-saň

si iah-chung gie ua dueng-lai di  
是 益春 叫我 端來 的  
Iah-cung told me to bring it here.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

ta do na-li?  
她 在那裏?  
Where is she?

**陳三 • dang-sań**

jiu do lao-e  
就 在 樓下  
She's just downstairs.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

pung-jui gi-yieng dueng-lai, leu jiu bang-hia  
盆水 既然 端來 , 你 就 放下  
Since you've brought this basin here, just set it down.

ui-ho buk bang-do gao-chu, kiak bang-do di-e?  
爲何 不 放在 高處 , 卻 放在 地下?  
Why do you put it on the floor, and not somewhere higher?

**陳三 • dang-sań**

gao jek buk-ko pang, mo a-nie hu jiu  
高 則 不可 攀 , 望 阿娘 俯就  
One in a high place is unreachable. I pray that Miss will deign to accept.

高不可攀 - idiom, “high and mighty” (of a person), meaning someone who is haughty and unapproachable.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

do-sia a-nie sui-aiñ

多謝 阿娘 垂愛

Many thanks, Miss, for your care.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

sie-seng gam-mao huang-hiem, yip-hu ui-iong

小生 甘冒 風險，入府 爲傭

This humble person took a risk, to enter this house disguised as a servant.

cheu-cheng cheu-i, a-nie sieñ bik-jing jai

此情 此意，阿娘 想必盡知

Miss may not be aware of his thoughts and feelings.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

ji-si a-nie u ho ju-i, hueng mo meng-beh siang-gao

只是 阿娘 有何 主意，還 望 明白 相告

But if Miss has an intention, I pray that you state it clearly,

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

ia ho ja jak jung-bi

也 好 早 作 準備

that we may make preparations.

五娘 • ngou-nie

sañ-hiañ chiañ jo

三兄 請坐

Brother San, please sit.

陳三 • dang-sañ

sie-seng jeu yip-hu iñ-lai, hueng bhue eu a-nie jek-tong kueng-kek

小生自入府以來，還未與阿娘一通款曲

Since this humble person entered this house, he has not yet had an opportunity to speak his true feelings with Miss.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-nie

sañ-hiañ, leu ge ju do juañ-jiu siañ-lai hueng-si siañ-ghua?

三兄，你家住在泉州城內還是城外？

Brother San, do you live in the city of Zuan-ziu, or outside the city walls?

陳三 • dang-sañ

do juañ-jiu siañ-ghua peng-suañ-nia ao

在泉州城外朋山嶺後

Outside, behind the Peng mountain ridge

五娘 • ngou-nie

ji-ching u gui nang?

至親有幾人？

How many are there in your family?

printed: 家中 (ge-dang) for 至親

陳三 • dang-sañ

u chik nang

有 七人

There are seven.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

si na chik-ui?

是那 七位？

Which seven are these?

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

ge-be!

家父！

My father!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

leng-jung!

令尊！

Your honorable sire!

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

ge-bho!

家母！

My mother!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

leng-deung

令堂！

Your honorable mater!



陳三 • dang-saň

ge-hiaň!

家兄！

My older brother!

五娘 • ngou-nie

leng-hiaň!

令兄！

Your honorable brother!

陳三 • dang-saň

ge-so!

家嫂！

My brother's wife!

五娘 • ngou-nie

leng-so!

令嫂！

Your honorable sister-in-law!

陳三 • dang-saň

a-gou!

阿姑！

A-Gou!

五娘 • ngou-nie

a-gou si mih nang?

阿姑 是 乜人？

Who is A-Gou?

| printed: 何人 (ho-nang) for 乜人

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

jiu-si sia-mue

就是 舍妹

That is my younger sister

| 舍 - prefix to refer to one's junior relations to a third party

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

hueng-u di-nang?

還有 底人？

Who else is there?

| printed: 還有呢 (hueng-u ne)

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

hueng-u ua!

還有 我！

Well, myself!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

moh jiañ lak-nang, na-u chik nang?

麼 正 六人，哪有 七人？

Why is that only six people, but you said seven?

printed: 只有 (ji-u) for 麼正

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

lieng-dang nie-giañ leu, jiu-si chik-nang

連同 娘囡 你，就是 七人

Counting you, young miss, that makes seven.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 娘囡

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

jo-ni lieng ua ia seung do lai?

做呢 連 我 也 算 在內？

Why do you count me too?

printed: 怎麼 (ja-moh) for 做呢

**陳三 • dang-sañ**

chong dao noi-gi na-yik, ua jiu ba leu dou seung do-lai liou

從 投 荔枝 那日，我 就 把 你 算 在內 了

Since the day you dropped that lychee branch, I've counted you too.

**益春 • iah-chung**

a-nie, a-nie! ueng-ghua ang-ying lai-liou!

阿娘，阿娘！員外 安人 來了！

Miss! Miss! Master and Mistress are here!

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

dia-nie bhueng-hok!

爹娘 萬福！

Father, Mother, long life!

### 安人 • ang-ying

ua-yi miang li!

我囡 免 禮

Don't stand on ceremony, my child.

printed: 兒 (yi) for 囡

### 員外 • ueng-ghua

yi a, leu di beñ ko-ho liou moh?

兒呀，你的病可好了麼？

Child, is your illness better?

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

dia-dia, neung-yi di beñ pañ si bhoi ho liou!

爹爹，女兒的病怕是齏好了！

Father, your daughter fears that her health will not improve.

### 員外 • ueng-ghua

leu yu-gim buk-si ho-dueng-dueng di

你如今不是好端端的

You were just fine before.

ui be dui-leu gang, lim-ge iu-lai chui-chu liou

爲父對你講，林家又來催娶了

Let Father tell you, the Lim family are again pressing about the betrothal.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

lim-ge iu-lai chui-chu?

林家 又來 催娶？

The Lims are again pushing for the wedding?

**安人 • ang-ying**

si a! lim-ge gim-yik gie li-je joiñ-lai

是啊！林家 今日 叫 李姐 前來

Yes! The Lim household sent Li-ze here today,

jek-diañ aiñ to gai yik-ji

一定 愛 討 該 日子

they must have an auspicious date.

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

bho-ching! leu toiñ neung-yi beñ seng je-ieñ!

母親！你看 女兒 病 成 這樣！

Mother, see how your daughter is wasting from illness,

leu ia m ko-lieng?

你也 唔 可憐？

how could you not pity her?

printed: 不 (buk) for 唔

**安人 • ang-ying**

ui-bho na-u buk-dong neung-yi jeu-li, ji si...

爲母 哪有 不疼 女兒 之理，只是.....

What mother's heart would not feel for her daughter? But...

### 員外 • ueng-ghua

lim-ge sueh-dao, u beñ ia aiñ ngeng-chu

林家 說道，有病 亦 愛 迎娶

The Lim house said that they would still proceed with the marriage even if you are ill.

printed: 迎親 (ngieng-ching) for 迎娶

gue-mng jeu-ao, jai giañ ieng-ui jieng-di

過門 之後，再 行 延醫 診治

After you enter their house, they will arrange for a physician to always be in attendance.

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

jng-sueh? lim-ge geng-yieng buk-iong beñ-yu

x說？林家 竟然 不容 病癒

What does that mean? The Lim household does not care about illness,

bieng aiñ bek-chu moh?

便 愛 迫娶 麼？

and want to force a marriage?

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

### 員外 • ueng-ghua

yiak jai tua-ieng, ta-ge bieng aiñ dong-ki guañ-si

若 再 拖延，他家 便 愛 動起 官司

If this keeps being delayed, they will bring this to the magistrate.

安人 • ang-ying

je jing sai dia-nie ui-lang liou

這真使爹娘爲難了

That would put your parents in a difficult position.

五娘 • ngou-nie

dia-nie a!

爹娘呀！

Father, Mother!

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

tiañ-ngang lai, hng iu ai

聽言來，恨又哀

Hearing what you say, makes me upset and mournful.

je-buañ ki-nang-li ho jai

這般欺人理何在

What is the logic behind this bullying?

nang beñ hueng-aiñ lai ngieng-chu

人病還愛來迎娶

To force a marriage in the face of illness,

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

sik (?) bek ua sang juañ-tai

實 X 迫我喪泉臺

would be forcing me to the grave.

mo dia-nie, lai joh-ju

望爹娘，來作主

Please Father, Mother, make the right decision,

mieng neung-yi, jao hua-jai

免女兒，遭禍災

and spare your daughter from a calamitous fate!

**益春 • iah-chung**

ueng-ghua, ang-ying,

員外，安人

Master, Mistress,

leu toiñ a-nie beñ yu-cheu bho-yu,

你看阿娘病如此無癒

you see how Miss's illness has resisted a cure.

printed: 小姐病體未癒 (siou-jia beñ-ti bhue-yu)

hung-ki hueng-si chong-mang ui-si

婚期還是從緩爲是

It is better not to rush into the marriage.

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

hng!

嗯！

Hmph!

**安人 • ang-ying**



neung-yi, m-si dia-nie sim-hng

女兒，唔是爹娘心狠

Daughter, it is not that your parents are heartless,

printed: 不 (buk) for 唔

ji-ing lim-ge guaŋ-gao si-dai,

只因林家官高勢大

but the Lim household is powerful and has a high official position.

yiak-si dik-jue ta-ge, leu dia kiong u buk-bieng o!

若是得罪他家，你爹恐有不便啊

If we offend them, life could very difficult for your father.

printed: 如果 (yu-gue) for 若是

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

yu-cheu dia-nie jiu-si aiñ ba neung-yi di-i si-di, di-i si-di liou

如此爹娘就是把女兒置於死地，置於死地了

If that is the case, then Father, Mother, you are sending your daughter to the grave.

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

hañ?! be-bho ui-leu jong-sing dieh-sieñ

～！父母為你終身着想

What? Your parents have been doing everything with your future in mind.

ja-moh hueng-guai ki be-bho lai-liou?

怎麼反怪起父母來了？

How can you come and accuse us like this?

**安人 • ang-ying**

si-a! neung-yi, leu jiu sung-chong dia-dia di ue ba

是啊！女兒，你就順從爹爹的話吧

That's right! Daughter, you had better listen to your father.

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

[唱 • Chiang • singing]

na lim-dua buk-gou nang señ-si, sam-huang-si-cheu bek hung-ki

那林大不顧人 生死，三番四次 迫婚期

That Lim-dua doesn't care if people live or die, but presses without cease for a marriage.

ji kiong ta-ge ngieng-chu yik, jiañ si neung-yi bik-mia-si

只恐他家迎娶日，正是女兒畢命時

Only that on the day that their house prepares to receive a bride, what they get is instead the corpse of your daughter.

printed: 只怕 (ji-pañ) for 只恐

### 安人 • ang-ying

ueng-ghua, leu toiñ yu-ho si ho?

員外，你看如何是好？

Master, what do you think we should do?

### 員外 • ueng-ghua

hng! leu ho jai-dao? leu iñ siu-liou lim-ge jeu piañ

哼！你何知道，你已受了林家之聘

Hmph! You know that you have already accepted the Lims' proposal.

señ-ui lim-ge jeu nang si-ui lim-ge jeu gui

生爲林家之人死爲林家之鬼

You will live as a member of their household, and as a ghost you will haunt their house.

leu si-liou ua ia ba-leu ge gao lim-ge keul

你死了我也把你嫁到林家去！

Even if you are dead I shall marry you off to them!

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

bho-ching! buk-yu yang neung-yi hing-jai si-liou, dao ia gang-jeng

母親！不如讓女兒現在死了，倒也乾淨

Mother! Just let your daughter die now, and spare us all this!

### 安人 • ang-ying

ho neung-yi, ho neung-yi, choiñ-bhueng buk-iou je-ieñ

好女兒，好女兒，千萬不要這樣

Daughter, daughter be good, don't be like this.

### 員外 • ueng-ghua

hng! ngek-neung, hung-ing dai-seu, be-bho jak-ju

哼！逆女，婚姻大事，父母作主

Hmph! Rebellious woman, the matter of betrothal is decided by the parents.

leu chui-sañ-iang-si, buk tiañ ga-hung, si ho dao-li?

你催三延四，不聽教訓，是何道理？

You push for this and delay in that, refusing to heed instructions, what is the meaning of it all?

mok-hui leu... mok-hui leu biak u ng-cheng?

莫非你.....莫非你別有隱情？

Unless you... unless you have a secret lover?

juañ-bi, ua tiañ siou-chik sueh leu je-gi-yik gao-chu lueng-chuang

賤婢，我聽小七說你這幾日高處亂闖

You cheap maid, I heard from Siou-cik that you have been running about these past few days,

huang-li huang-jiang, giu-geng si ui-liou sim-moh?

慌裏慌張，究竟是爲了什麼？

flustered and bothered, and for what reason?

printed: 何事 (ho-seu) for 什麼

kuai-kuai giang-lai! giang! giang! kuai-kuai giang-lai!

快快講來！講！講！快快講來！

Out with it! Quickly, out with it!

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

dia-dia! dia-dia giñ-ghi, neung-yi ji-ho iñ-si meng-ji

爹爹！爹爹見疑，女兒只好以死明志

Father! If even my own father has such suspicions, then your daughter can only prove herself through death.

### 安人 • ang-ying

ai-ia! neung-yi buk-ko! neung-yi buk-koi ia!

哎呀！女兒不可，女兒不可！

Aiyah! Daughter, you mustn't, you mustn't!

### 員外 • ueng-ghua

juañ-bi, leu buk-tiañ be meng, jiu-si buk-hao

賤婢，你不聽父命，就是不孝

Cheap maid, you don't obey your father, that means you are unfilial.

buk-hao jeu neung, si u eu-gu

不孝之女，死有餘辜

Unfilial daughters cannot be redeemed even by death.

**安人 • ang-ying**

neung-yi, neung-yi!

女兒，女兒！

Daughter! Daughter!

**僕婦 • bok-hu**

ki-bing ueng-ghua, lim-dua-ia ching-jeu joiñ-lai

啓稟 員外，林大爺親自前來

Sir, Master Lim-dua has come personally,

iou-giñ ueng-ghua ang-ying

要見 員外 安人

and wishes to meet with Sir and Madam.

**員外 • ueng-ghua**

ho, jiu lai, lai, hia-lao ba!

好，就來，來，下樓吧！

Fine, we'll come. Come, let us go down!

**安人 • ang-ying**

iah-chung, ho-ho hok-si a-nie!

益春，好好服侍阿娘

Iah-cung, take good care of your miss.

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

**陳三 • dang-saň**

hieng-mue!

賢妹

Sister!

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

saň-hiaň!

三兄！

Brother San!

**陳三 • dang-saň**

huang-chai jeu seu, leng-nang ko-geng ko-gam

方才之事，令人可敬可感

What happened just now, stirs one to respect and emotion.

yu-u so-meng, beh-keng bhueng-si buk-si

如有所命，伯卿萬死不辭

If there were such a command, Beh-keng would not leave even in the face of death.

**五娘 • ngou-nie**

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

yu-gim gip-hue i yieng-bhai, bho-hang sieñ-sim lui muañ-i

如今 急火 已 燃眉，無限 傷心 淚滿衣

Now the fire has already begun to singe the eyebrows, and in limitless anguish my tears have soaked all my clothes.

lim-ge tang-yiak jai siang-bek, biah-jiang jek-si chiu di-iñ

林家 倘若 再 相迫，拚 將 一死 酬 知己

Should the Lims want to force it, then we shall pay them in death.

### 陳三 • dang-sañ

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

señ jek dang-señ si dang-si, mue si ua ia ngueng siang-sui

生 則 同 生 死 同 死，妹 死 我 亦 願 相 隨

If you jump, I jump.

seu-gao yieng-bhai su jeu-guek, joh-chu bhue-bik bho señ-gi

事 到 燃 眉 須 自 決，絕 處 未 必 無 生 機

At this urgent juncture, we don't necessarily lack a reprieve.

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

gam-sia sañ-hiañ chim-cheng-ngi, buk-uang pek-geu jek-pieng chi

感謝 三 兄 深 情 義，不 枉 碧 琚 一 片 癡

Heartfelt thanks, Brother San, for your deep affection. Pek-gv's foolishness was not in vain.

hang-siu ngueng ba jong-sing toh, señ-señ si-si buk hung-li

含 羞 願 把 終 身 托，生 生 世 世 不 分 離

bashfully I am willing to be by your side, a whole life spent unseparated.

陳三 • **dang-sań**

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

jek-pieng jing-seng lai meng-si

一片真誠來盟誓

With true intentions let us make an oath.

五娘 • **ngou-nie**

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

cheu-sim guang-guang tieng ko-di

此心耿耿天可知

This heart is devoted, as Heaven knows.

二人 • **ri-nang • together**

〔合唱 • hah-chiang • in unison〕

do-tiń ngueng-jak bi-ek-jiou

在天願作比翼鳥

Like a pair of lovebirds in the sky,

do-di ngueng-ui lieng-li-gi

在地願為連理枝

Like intertwined branches on the ground,

hai-gou-jieh-lang cheng bho-jing

海枯石爛情無盡

Love without end, lasting until the ocean runs dry and rocks go soft.

海枯石爛 - idiom, “forever”



di-lao-tiñ-huang ji buk-i

地老天荒 志不移

Our intention never wavering, as the earth grows old and the sky goes desolate.

地老天荒 - idiom, also 天荒地老, “until the end of time”.

### 益春 • iah-chung

a-nie, a-nie! seu-cheng buk-ho liou!

阿娘，阿娘！事情不好了！

Miss! Miss! Bad news!

printed: 小姐 (siou-jia) for 阿娘

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

ho-seu huang-jiang?

何事 慌張？

What makes you so flustered?

### 益春 • iah-chung

huang-chai lim-dua joiñ-lai chui-ching

方才 林大 前來 催親

Lim-dua came by just now to seek a marriage date.

ueng-ghua iñ heu ta bung-ghueh jap-boih-yik joiñ-lai ngieng-chu liou

員外已許他本月十八日 前來迎娶了

Your father told him to come on the eighteenth of this month to perform the ceremony.

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

jap-boih jiu aiñ ngieng-chu?

十八就愛迎娶？

To be married off on the eighteenth?

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

### 益春 • iah-chung

heñ! hung-ki seung-lai ji-u si-tiñ, dañ yu-ho si ho?

嗯！婚期算來只有四天，旦如何是好？

Yes! That is only four days away. What can we do now?

printed: 小姐你看如何是好 (siou-jia leu toiñ yu-ho si ho)

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

dia dia! leu tai hng-sim liou

爹爹！你太狠心了

Father! You are too cruel.

### 陳三 • dang-sañ

nie-giañ, seu iñ ging-gip, ji-u ieng-jao gao-bue

娘囡，事已緊急，只有遠走高飛

Young miss, matters are now become urgent, the only path is to flee.

hueng-si sui ua dang-hueng juañ-jiu

還是隨我同返泉州

Come back with me to Zuan-ziu.

### 益春 • iah-chung

a-nie, cheu-si buk-jao, lang-dao do-cheu sok-chiu-tai-bi?

阿娘，此時不走，難道在此束手待斃？

Miss, if we do not leave now, you will be delivering up yourself bound to the execution ground.

束手待斃 - idiom, “resign oneself to death”

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

ia-ba! gi-si dia-dia yu-cheu joh-cheng, huiñ-guai neung-yi bho ngi

也罷！既是爹爹如此絕情，休怪女兒無義

So be it! Since Father is so heartless, he cannot blame his daughter for being unprincipled.

ua i-sing gi heu-gung, señ-si siang-sui

我既以身許君，生死相隨

I have dedicated myself to this gentleman, to follow him in life and in death.

### 陳三 • dang-sañ

(??) gim-me sañ-geñ si-hao...

XX 今夜三更時候.....

Tonight, at the third watch...

nang sañ-nang...

俺三人.....

We three...

### 三人同 • san-nang-dang • three in unison

jek-dang ki-sing!

一同起身！

Shall set forth together!

## 第七章 • Doin-cik-ziang • Act 7

### 第二十二場 • doiñ-yi-jap-yi-dieñ • Scene 22

1:54:33

五娘 • ngou-nie

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

jiou-lao gou iñ sañ-geñ jueng

樵樓鼓已三更轉

The watchtower drum has struck the third watch.

gie iah-chung, sok jiañ heng-juang ho dong-sing

叫益春，速整行裝好動身

Iah-cung, gather our bags, let us move out.

益春 • iah-chung

heng-juang ja-iñ siu-sip ho liou

行裝早已收拾好了

The bags have long since been packed.

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

hiem se bhuang-liou je-ui dua beng-ying

險些忘了這位大冰人

Ah, we almost forgot our great matchmakers.

Matchmaker - referring to the lychee branch and handkerchief

### 陳三 • dang-sań

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

do-sia li-gi ho siu-pe, chuang-jiang leu seng-jiu ho hung-ing

多謝荔枝和綉帕，全仗你成就好婚姻

Many thanks to this lychee branch and embroidered handkerchief, it is because of you that we could accomplish this marriage.

### 五娘 • ngou-nie

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

lim-biek i-i hue-siu mo, chong-gim iong-biek lao-sang-ching

臨別依依回首望，從今永別老雙親

In departure I keep reluctantly looking back; from today I say farewell to my parents forever.

### 益春 • iah-chung

〔唱 • Chiang • singing〕

a-nie leu mo giañ-sim, tih-jiang-gung lang-dang u-sim-ying

阿娘你莫驚心，鐵將軍難擋有心人

Miss, do not be afraid. Even the Iron General cannot stop people of destiny.

鐵將軍 - padlock on a door (idiomatic expression).

## 第二十三場 • doiñ-yi-jap-sañ-dieñ • Scene 23

1:57:04

幕外合唱 • mo-ghua-hah-ciang • singing offstage

chong-chuk huam-lang sing jeu-jai

沖出樊籠身自在

Dashing out of the gilded cage, we are free.

buk-pañ gueng-suañ deng jo-ghai

不怕關山重阻礙

Unafraid of the mountains in our way.

u-cheng gim iñ seng gueng-sok

有情今已成眷屬

Love has made us a family.

nang sañ-nang beng-goiñ hiñ chiu chie ngang kai

俺三人併肩攜手笑顏開

We three hand-in-hand, smiles breaking out.

ngiang-mo tieng-kong jiou-hung suañ

仰望天空鳥雲散

Looking up at the sky, the dark clouds are clearing.

ngou-sek jiou-hia bang guang-chai

五色朝霞放光彩

A multi-colored dawn unleashing its brilliance.

jek-lung ang-yik jieñ-tieng lai

一輪紅日上天來

A bright red sun coming up into the sky.