

陳三 五娘 • dang-san ngou-niê

The story of 《陳三 五娘》 **dang-san ngou-niê** (“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-gian 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-niê, 蕭南英 as iah-cung, and 黃清城 as dang-san. 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-niê

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 pêg-ge.

益春 • iah-cung

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

李姐 • li-zê

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-san

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-ri

Manservant of lim-dua.

員外 • uêng-ghua

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

安人 • ang-ring

The mother of ngou-niê.

小安 • siou-ang

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

小七 • siou-cig

Servant in the Ng household.

僕婦 • bog-hu

Maid servant in the Ng household.

第一章 • doin-ig-ziang • Act 1

第一場 • doin-ig-diên • Scene 1

2:00

幕外合唱 • mo-ghua hah-ciang • Chorus

zêg-lung mêng-ghuêh kua gao-kong

一輪明月掛高空

The round wheel of a Moon hangs high in the sky

bhuang-zuan huê-dêng ziê mag-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-ziên iu-ring ru diên-iong

街上遊人如潮湧

People throng the streets like a tidal wave

he-dêng dui-dui; dui-dui he-dêng 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 • doin-ri-diên • Scene 2

3:00

五娘 • ngou-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

cug guin-mung, hi bug-zing

出閨門 喜不盡

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

mag-zoin gêng-muêh ring cêng-sing

目前 景物 盡 清新

The scene before my eyes is so refreshing and new.

printed: 眼前 (ngang-zoin) for 目前

dêng ru cên, ghuêh ru gian

燈 如 星、月 如 鏡

Lanterns like stars, the moon like a mirror.

huê-ciu-ngeng-huê bug-mên sian

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-cung

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

nang zu-bi uêng-ru cug-lang ziou

俺主婢宛如出籠鳥

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

ze-iu-ze-zai zêg-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 • **ri-nang hah-ciang • in unison**

dua-goi ziên, ang-nam-lêg-neng do huan-lag

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 ciê hiê-hiê

相逢個個笑吟吟

Laughing meekly as they pass each other

李姐 • **li-zê**

〔唸 • liêm • reciting〕

ho-dêng ho-ghuêh nang-nang ain

好燈好月人人愛

Everybody loves good lanterns and a good moon

ziên-goi iu-siên sim-huê kai

上街遊賞心花開

To tour the streets makes the heart glad

o! nguêng-lai ng-gê ngou-niê!

啊！原來黃家五娘！

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

a-niê bhuêng-hog!

阿娘 萬福

A thousand greetings, Lady!

五娘 • ngou-niê

nguêng-lai si li-zê

原來是李姐

If it isn't Sister Li...

李姐 • li-zê

iah-cung! le-gê uêng-ghua, (?)-kêng riang a-niê cug-mêng?

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-cung

do-kui ang-ring suêh-cêng

多虧安人說情

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

nguêng-siou huê-dêng

元宵花燈

“The flowery lanterns of the Lantern Festival

zêg-ni zêg-ce

一年一次

are only hung up once a year”

cai-kêng riang ung cug-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-zê

o... niê-oi! le zêg-hiang ziê cug-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-niê) for 娘-oi

dao-lou sên-so

道路生疏

So the road is all new and unfamiliar

dua-goi ziên, nang-do hung-zab

大街上，人多混雜

On the great avenue, it is crowded and confusing

huêng si iu-ua cua le kê siên-dêng!

還是由我～你去賞燈！

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

printed: 陪 (buê) for cua

niê-oi! dan le tian no!

娘～！但你聽𠵼！

Young Lady-O! Let me tell you!

printed: 阿娘！講你聽呀！（a-niê! giang le tian ia!)

[叩板 • kao-bang • tapping clappers]

nang zuêng-rib cag-in ghê,

俺 轉入 察院衙

We'll head to the public order bureau

dig-loh ê dang-doi

直落 下 東堤

down the Eastern dike

gian-hiang kai-nguêng zoin

行向 開元 前

walk towards the opening of the Lantern Festival

zuêng-guê sai-goi

轉過 西街

past the Western Avenue

toin-toin cig-zang sêng

看看 七叢松

look at the seven pine trees

zai-gao cêng-zui-gêng

再到 清水宮

then go to Clearwater Palace

iu-lang hong-lai-gêng

遊覽 蓬萊宮

tour the Celestial Palace

蓬萊 hong-lai - mythical place where celestial beings live

cug-liou dua-goi

出了大街

come out at the Great Avenue

ua-zo ing-lou-se

我做引路師

I'll be your guide

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

bao-guêng [gag-sia] huê-dêng dou lêng toin

保管各社花燈都能看

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê, li-zê lou-sêg, u ta siang-puan 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-zia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-niê

ia-ho! u-lao liou!

也好！有勞了！

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

李姐 • li-zê

niê-oi! sui ua lai!

娘～！隨我來！

Miss! Follow me!

第三場 • doin-san-diên • Scene 3

6:12

陳三 • dang-san

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

diê-ziu boih-gêng ho liu-liêng

潮州 八景 好 流連

The Eight Views of Teochew are a delight to wander

i-di huang-guang biêg u tiang

異地 風光 別 有 天

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

kuang si nguêng-siou dêng-guêh mên

況 是 元 宵 燈 月 夜

no less on the the night of the Lantern Festival

iu-tiam sing-ung rib si-piêng

又 添 新 韻 入 詩 篇

it adds new verses to this song I sing

〔白 • bêh • speaking〕

nguêng-siou ho huê-dêng

元 宵 好 花 燈

the fine flowery lanterns of the Lantern Festival

dêng-ê ho nang-muêh

燈下好人物

and fine folk beneath the lanterns

第四場 • doin-si-diên • Scene 4

8:37

幕外音 • mo-ghua im • voices offstage

toin, toin [ngao-suan] a! [ngao-suan] 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-suan - 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-zê

a-niê! zê si si-mih gu-se?

阿娘！這是是乜故事？

Miss! What story is this?

printed: 什麼 (sim-moh) for 是乜

五娘 • ngou-niê

zê-si diên-sên e êng-êng

這是張生與鶯鶯

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

ta-no-nang zêg-gin zêng-cêng

他二人一見鍾情

They fell in love at first sight

gêh-ciên ciang-ho

隔牆唱和

Singing their love through a common wall

zong-riêng lao-hu-ring gê-gui nghiêm-ging

縱然老夫人家規嚴緊

Even though her old mother was strict

zong-i bai-guêh sai-siên

終於排月西廂

eventually they trysted in the Western chamber

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

李姐 • li-zê

a-niê! zê iu si si-mih gu-se?

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-niê

zê si lao cui-ping cai-lao pao cai-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-zê

o...

哦

oh.

五娘 • ngou-niê

ta-mng cêng-ciáng ngi-cim

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 (bug-mo) 無慕

sang-sang hang-iê kou-siu

雙雙 寒窯 苦守

both suffered in the cold without heat

ho-bi soh-li bhuê-huê

好比 雪裏 梅花

like plum blossoms that come out amid winter frost

zong-sêng mui-mua ing-uêng

終成 美滿 姻緣

Finally they could fulfill their love and come together in marriage

zuêng-ui nang-goin gia-uê

轉為人間佳話

becoming a popular tale among the people

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê! zê zêg-ping iu si si-mih?

阿娘！這一屏又是是也？

Miss! What about this one?

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

五娘 • ngou-niê

zê si niê suan-bêh e zog êng-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 sên-zoin bhuê-lêng gag-ui hu-ci

他們生前未能結為夫妻

In life they were unable to become husband and wife

si-ao huê-zoh sang buê-hu-diab

死後化作雙飛蝴蝶

After death, they were transformed into a pair of butterflies

zi-cêng zi-sên

至情至性

with such intense feelings and emotion

coin-gou liu-tuêng

千古流傳

truly a story for the ages!

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

李姐 • li-zê

o! si ziên-sên a!

哦！是照生呀！

Oh, so that’s how it is...

printed: 這樣 (zê-iên) for 照生

陳三 • dang-san

zê-ui siê-niê-gian bug-dang zêng-tong ze-se

這位小娘罔不但精通書史

This young miss has not only mastered the books

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 小娘罔

gêng-giêm cai-diou bho-sang

更兼才調無雙

but has literary skill without par

lang-dig! lang-dig!

難得！難得！

How rare! How rare!

李姐 • li-zê

m! zê-ui hao-sên-go,

嚙！這位 後生哥

Hm! Who is this young guy,

ui-ho ze-ngang ze-ghe ze-dig-i?

爲何 自言自語 自得意？

and why is he muttering to himself with glee?

m? do-ê ?? u gi sin 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 zêg-ba gim-ziêng sin

噯呀！是 一把 金牋 扇

Ah! It is a golden fan decorated with calligraphy!

zê si lao-sing gai hog-ki

這是 老身 個 福氣

It's this old woman's lucky day.

a-niê, le lai, le lai

阿娘，你來，你來

Miss, come here, come here.

a-niê le toin, le toin no!

阿娘 你看，你看 𠵼！

Miss, have a look, have a look!

printed: 呀 (ia) for 𠵼

五娘 • ngou-niê

sin-ziên (?) doi u si!

扇上還題有詩！

There is a poem on this fan!

益春 • iah-cung

a! u si, cian a-niê liêm

啊！有詩，請阿娘唸

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

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-niê

〔唸 • liêm • reciting〕

“hai-tiêng moh-moh zui-hung huên

『海天漠漠水雲橫

Fog lies over the waters and the mists are flat

dao-ziu piang si bhuêng-li-cing

斗酒篇詩萬里情

Drinking wine, I write this poem of distant longings

ding-si hung-zêng mia e 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-ru ziêng giêng-kêh dang hêng”

何如戰劍客中行』

How can one walk among the fighting swordsmen?

-- ung-lêng dang bêh-kêng doi

溫陵陳伯卿題

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

益春 • iah-cung

ung-lêng do ho-cu?

溫陵在何處？

Where is Ung-leng?

五娘 • ngou-niê

ziu-si zuan-ziu

就是泉州

It is in Zuan-ziu

泉州 zuan-ziu - a prosperous city and region in 福建 Hokkien province.

李姐 • li-zê

niê-oi, na-bain u nang lai liou

娘～，那𠵼有人來了

Miss! There's someone coming from over there.

printed: 阿娘 (a-niê) for 娘-oi and 邊 (bin) for 𠵼

五娘 • ngou-niê

li-zê, sin na-ke

李姐，扇 拿去

Li-ze, take the fan away

李姐 • li-zê

si! a-niê, nang uang biêg-cu tig-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 biag-cu ke) for 往別處迢迢

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

陳三 • dang-san

liêg-ui, cian-mng zêg-sian

列位，請問 一聲

Pardon me ladies, may I interrupt with a question?

李姐 • li-zê

ain-mng mih-gai?

愛 問 乜個？

Whaddya want?

printed: 要問 什麼？ (iou mung sim-moh?)

li-zê speaks in a more vernacular register compared to dang-san

陳三 • dang-san

gang-cai siê-sêng do-ce guêng-dêng

剛才 小生 在此 觀燈

A moment ago, this humble person was admiring the lanterns

sig-loh zêg-ba sin

失落 一把 扇

and lost a fan

ko-u gin-gao?

可有 見到？

Might you have seen it?

李姐 • li-zê

le sig-loh si-mih sin?

你 失落 是乜 扇？

What kind of fan did you lose?

printed: 什麼 (sim-moh) for 是乜

a-niê! nang han-bho toin-diêh 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-niê! ua-mung mog-u toin-gin ia?)

五娘 • ngou-niê

li-zê, sin si nang-gê sig-loh di

李姐，扇 是 人家 失落的

Li-ze, that fan is lost property,

sang-huan ta ba!

送還 他 吧 !

just return it to him!

tai-huê gê ke, lêng cu zêg-ba kêh le

待回 家去 , 另取 一把 乞 你

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

printed: 給 (gib) for 乞

李姐 • li-zê

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

也罷 ! 來 ! 我來問 你

Alright, come! Let me ask you:

le sin-ziên u si huêng-si bho-ri?

你 扇上 有 詩 還是 無 字 ?

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

u-ri a, huêng-si bho si, le dan!

有 字 呀 , 還是 無 詩 ? 你 呔 !

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

printed: 講 (giang) for 呔

陳三 • dang-san

sin-zion u ua cing-big doi-si

扇上 有 我 親筆 題 詩

On the fan was a poem that I composed myself

ua-di mia-ri ziu-si dang bêh-kêng

我的 名字 就是 陳伯卿

My name is Dang Beh-keng

李姐 • li-zê

di-nang (?) -ke le-gai ho-mian-ri 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 le-di ho mian-ri?)

sig-uê gang le dan,

實話 共 你 坦

Let me be frank with you

printed: 實話 對 你 說 (sig-uê dui le suêh)

riag-hui ng-gê ngou-niê suêh-cêng

若非 黃家 五娘 說情

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

ziu iu-le hêg-mên cuê-gao tin-mêng

就由 你 黑夜 找到 天明

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

找 cuê - vernacular borrowed reading for 揣, usually pronounced dao or zao

ring cêng-co a!

認 清楚 呀！

Don't forget that!

陳三 • dang-san

si, zê zian-si siê-sêng di sin

是，這正是小生的扇

Yes, that is indeed this humble one's fan

do-sêng do-gam

多承多感！

Much obliged, many thanks!

李姐 • li-zê

[a-sêng a-gam],

阿承阿感

kuai-kuai (?) liou ke, mai ho dan oin-uê

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-ke, siou-giang oin-uê)

陳三 • dang-san

ri-ui siê-niê-gian, do-sêng do-gam

二位 小娘罔，多承多感

Ladies, much obliged and many thanks

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 小娘罔

riag-hui ri-ui ui-ua suêh-cêng

若非二位 爲我 說情

If not for you interceding on my behalf

iêng-dig to-huê ce sin

焉得討回此扇

I would not have gotten my fan back

ri-ui siê-niê-gian, cian! cian-liou....

二位小娘罔，請！請了！

Ladies, I take my leave, I take my leave

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 小娘罔

請 - a way of saying goodbye

(獨白 • dog-bêh • speaking to himself)

zê-ui ng-gê ngou-niê, zing-si ko-ain a!

這位黃家五娘，真是可愛啊！

This Fifth Lady of Ng is certainly lovable!

五娘 • ngou-niê

zuan-ziu suan-cuêng lêng-siu

泉州山川靈秀

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

cug-u zê-dêng hong-ngia nang-muêh

出有這等風雅人物

to breed such an elegant and refined person

李姐 • li-zê

a-niê! nang uang biêg-cu tig-to

阿娘！俺往別處迤迤

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

printed: 往別處走看 (uang biag-cu zao-toin)

第五場 • doin-ngou-diên • Scene 5

15:39

林大 • lim-dua

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

guan-gê, guan-gê ze-di lag-a lag 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-ri

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

lag-a lag siou-iou

樂呀樂逍遙

Love, o love to stroll about

林大 • lim-dua

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

zi-mo gim-og cang-a-cang 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-ri

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

cang-a-cang a-giou

藏呀 藏阿嬌

Golden, o golden house

林大 • lim-dua

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

cim-huê-mng-lêng(liu?) huang-liu se

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-ri

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

huang-a-huang-liu se

風呀 風流 事

Affairs, o affairs of the heart

林大 • lim-dua

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

cuêng-cah huê-zang nao nguêng-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-ri**

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

nao-a-nao nguêng-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-ri**

lim-dua-ia! gim-mê nguêng-siou

林大爺！今暝 元宵

Master Lim! Tonight at this Lantern Festival

printed: 晚 (mung) for 暝

ig-lai toin dêng, ri-lai toin nang

一來看燈，二來看人

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

ru-u mui-neng, bug-ko co-guê!

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 ze ngang u-li, zêg-dang lai, zao!

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-ri

ho! lai-zao!

好！來走！

Good! Let's go!

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

nang dua-goi ziên, guêng-dêng, toin 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-puan ciê-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-cung

li-zê! li-zê!

李姐！李姐！

Li-ze! Li-ze!

李姐 • li-zê

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

來了！啊！原來是林大爺！

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

gim-mê u hêng cug-lai guêng-dêng hên?

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-zê, na-ui siê-niê-gian si sui?

李姐，那位小娘罔是誰？

Sister Li, who is that young maiden?

printed: 小娘子 (siê-niê-ze) for 小娘罔

李姐 • li-zê

o, dua-ia oi, na-ui si sian-sai ng-gao-lang di coin-gim ngou-niê

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 diê-ziu doin-ig mui-ring nê!

俺潮州第一美人呀（呢）！

The fairest beauty of our Teochew prefecture!

林大 • lim-dua

li-zê, ngou-niê kah-zêng he nang?

李姐，五娘 豈 曾 許 人？

Sister Li, is she betrothed to anybody?

printed: 可 (ko) for 豈

益春 • iah-cung

li-zê, nang (uang) biêg-(cu) ke!

李姐，俺 往 別處 去！

Sister Li, let's go somewhere else!

李姐 • li-zê

ziu-lai!

就來！

Coming!

卓二 • doh-ri

lim-dua-ia, lim-dua-ia! ce-dêng mui-ring le 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

ze-riêng si dong-i, le 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-ri

li-zê ui-nang zab-hung tang-cai, ko-êng zin-ngeng 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.

giê-ta ke ng-gê kiu-cing, i dua-ia cai-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-guêng guag-bho bug-sêng ze 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-giêng, zian-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 huê-gê im-ziu, soi-soi siêng-(liêng)

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-ri

ho!

好！

Good!

林大 • lim-dua

〔唸 • liêm • reciting〕

ngûêng-siou dêng-ê ngo gia-ring

元宵燈下遇佳人

Meeting a beauty under the lights of the Lantern Festival

ri-boih giou-niê luêng 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-ri

〔唸 • liêm • reciting〕

zing-cêng tiang im siou-mê ziu

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 liêm • both recite together

e-zog huê-zêg dang bang cung!

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 • doin-ri-ziang • Act 2

第六場 • doin-lag-diên • Scene 6

19:26

五娘 • ngou-niê

[...]

〔唸 • liêm • reciting〕

lang-gui huê-mang pêg-ing huên

蘭閨 迴夢 碧煙翻橫

Dreams churn in the orchid chamber as blue smoke spreads.

coin-li ghuêh-mêng coin-li cêng

千里 明月 千里 情

A distant full moon and distant longings.

ce-di li-dang lêng zui-kêh

此地 荔丹 能 醉客

The red lychee of this place can captivate any guest.

ho-su huang-hong hai-tiêng hêng

何須 風雨 海天 行

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

益春 • iah-cung

e! niê-oi! le ngim ce si, siê-bi se-hu bag tian-guê

～！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-zia! le liêm ce-si, siê-bi se-hu tian-guê)

五娘 • ngou-niê

ce-si ua huang-cai ngim-ziu

此詩我方才吟就

I just composed this poem,

le cong ho-cu tian guê?

你從何處聽過？

where could you have heard it before?

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê le m-sing, tai ua lai liêm:

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-zia bug-sing)

“hai-tiêng moh-moh zui-hung-huên

『海天漠漠水雲橫

“Fog lies over the waters and the mists are flat

dao-ziu piêng-si bhuêng-li cêng”

斗酒 篇詩 萬里 情』

Drinking wine, I write this poem of distant longings”

a-niê, kah dui?

阿娘，豈對？

Is that right, Miss?

printed: 小姐，可對？(siou-zia, ko-dui?)

五娘 • ngou-niê

hu-suêh, zê e ua nim-di bug-dang

胡說，這與我吟的不同

Nonsense, that is nothing like what I wrote.

printed: 唸 (liêm) for 吟

益春 • iah-cung

niê-oi, di-go m-dang?

娘～，底塊唔同？

Miss, how is it different?

printed: 有何不同？(u ho bug-dang?)

五娘 • ngou-niê

le liêm-di si biêg-nang sin-di zion-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-cung

hên, ua zai, ua zai,

我知，我知

I know, I know

a-niê si do (?) sin-zion 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-zia si do nang-gê sin-ziên di si ia!)

五娘 • ngou-niê

(?)-bi-neng, ia bug-pa gêh-ciên u hin?

X-婢女，亦不怕隔牆有耳？

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

益春 • iah-cung

“do-sêng do-gam, cian, cian-liou”

『多承多感，請，請了』

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

李姐 • li-zê

〔唸 • liêm • reciting〕

bu-gui iong-hua gai-iu-mia

富貴榮華皆由命

Riches and glory are matters of fate;

gim-ngeng zu-bo gig-liang uêng

金銀珠寶結良緣

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

a-niê, giong-hi a ho-hi!

阿娘，恭喜呀 賀喜

Miss, congratulations, congratulations!

益春 • iah-cung

li-zê, hi cong ho-lai?

李姐，喜從何來？

Li-ze, what's the congratulations for?

李姐 • li-zê

a-niê oi!

阿娘呀（～）！

Miss!

zao zion-zoin si zêg-li

走上前施一禮

I come up to deliver a message,

ua e a-niê lai dao-hi

我與阿娘來道喜

and to offer my congratulations to Miss

zi ing-ui,

只因爲

That's because

lim ui-rig dua-ia, nguêng-siou dêng-ê gin ghêg-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

zêg-sim guah-mo gig liêng-li

一心 渴望 結 連理

and his whole heart was set on making a connection.

gim-rig suêh-muê uêng-ghua i êng-rung

今日 說媒 員外 已 應允

Today your Father has already consented to a matchmaking.

lai ziou gi-rig hia pian-ngi

來朝 吉日 下 聘儀

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

五娘 • ngou-niê

le suêh-di ziu-si na lim-dua?

你 說的 就是 那 林大？

Are you speaking of that Lim-dua?

李姐 • li-zê

zian si, uêng-ghua ang-ring dou bhuêng-hung huan-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-cung

a-niê! a-niê uan-dian!

阿娘！阿娘 安定！

Miss! Miss be calm!

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

李姐 • li-zê

zê si lim-gê di gim-toi, tai ua e le cah do tao-ziên

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-niê

le lang-dao bug-zai lim-dua si ho-dêng-iên 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?

ruêng ain zoin-lai suêh-muê, 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-zê

e! niê-oi!

～！娘～！

O Miss!

printed: 阿娘呀 (a-niê ia!)

〔叩板 • kao-bang • tapping clappers〕

ti-ki lim-dua-ia, sing-ui bhu-ge ho mia-sian

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 (ge-ring, “graduate”) degree in the examination system. These were looked down upon as less worthy than the civil degrees.

diê-ziu hao-bu cêng doin-ig

潮州豪富稱第一

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

liang-big a-niê le ia zai

諒必阿娘你也知

Forgive me Miss but even you must know this!

gim-rig e ta lai gig-cing

今日與他來結親

Today I come here to convey his proposal.

zian-si mng-deng-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.

neng-mao lang-cai

女貌郎才

A beautiful maiden and a talented groom.

guê-mng ze-ao, hu-iong ci-gui

過門之後，夫榮妻貴

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

a-niê le ing-ho bug-ain?

阿娘你因何不愛？

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

益春 • iah-cung

hi!

呸（哼）！

Hmph!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

mê zêg-sian lao-hu-li!

罵一聲老狐狸！

You wretched old fox!

cug-ngang bho zuang ria nang ki

出言無狀惹人氣

Angering people with your senseless words.

le ui tam siou-li

你為貪小利

You were greedy for a small profit,

bug-guêng nang-gê sên huan si

不管人家生還死

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

huêng-gan do a-niê mêng-zoin luêng-buan kao-zih

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-zia) for 阿娘

le luêng-buan kao-zih

你亂搬口舌

You wag your lying tongue!

五娘 • ngou-niê

(唱 • ciang • singing)

gim-rig lai ti-cing

今日 來 提親

This match proposed today

kug-hai ua zêg-sên zêg-si

屈害 我 一生 一世

will ruin my life, and all that I know.

uêng dia-dia, king-sing le huê-ngang ka-ghe kiêm si-cung

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,

cuêng bug nguêng-liêm cing-sên neng-ri

全 不 願念 親生 女兒

but not believing the words of his own dear daughter.

李姐 • li-zê

e! niê-oi! gim-rig zê-mng cing-se

～！娘～！今日 這門 親事

O Miss! This proposal today

printed: 阿娘 (a-niê) for 娘-oi

si ning liang-gê cêng-nguêng

是 恁 兩家 情願

is a matter between your two households.

printed: 你 (le) for 恁

e ua li-zê bho-gang

與 我 李姐 無干

It is not my doing!

益春 • iah-cung

bhuê-nang zian

媒人 精

The business of a matchmaker

mua-kao huê-ngang ka-ghe

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.

huêng suêh e-le bho gang?

還 說 與 你 無干？

How can you say it is none of your doing?

李姐 • li-zê

si-mih huê-ngang-ka-ghe? hng!

是也 花言巧語？哼！

What flowery language? Hmph!

printed: 什麼 (sim-moh) for 是也

sog-uê suêh: “bê-bho u mêng, ri-neng ain tian”

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

printed: 俗語 (sog-ghe) for 俗話, 要 (iou) for 愛

a-niê riag bug sung-cong ce-cing

阿娘 若 不 順從 此親

If Miss doesn't follow her parents' instruction

ziu-si he-ngêg bug-hao

就是 許逆不孝

then she is simply not filial.

五娘 • ngou-niê

iah-cung! ba ta guan cug-ke!

益春！把 她 趕 出去！

Iah-cung! Chase her out!

益春 • iah-cung

tian-gin bho? mên-gê cug, cug-ke!

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！ (tian-gin ma? kuai-sê cug, cug ke!)

李姐 • li-zê

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 • uêng-ghua

iah-cung, bug-dig bho-li, kuai-sê hia-ke

益春，不得 無禮，快些 下去

Iah-cung, watch your behavior. Go downstairs.

bhuê-i, siou-bi bho-li, do u dig-zuê

媒姨，小婢 無理，多有 得罪

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

toin do lao-hu ming-ziên mai e 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-zê

zê-gai m-gan

這個 唔敢

No I wouldn't dare.

printed: 不 (bug) for 唔

安人 • ang-ring

bhuê-i, cian gao tian-ziên êng ziu-bng

媒姨，請 到 廳上 用 酒飯

Matchmaker, please come to the hall for a meal.

李姐 • li-zê

miêng-êng kêh-ki, rig-uan, 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 (bug-êng) for 免用, 不早 (bug-za) for 日x

員外 • uêng-ghua

ru-ce bug-gan kiang-lao, cêng-ung(?) ming-zoin ho-uê do suêh

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-zê

zê-gai ze-riêng

這個 自然

Naturally.

五娘 • ngou-niê

dia-niê bhuêng-hog

爹娘 萬福

Your daughter wishes Father and Mother a thousand blessings.

安人 • ang-ring

ua-ri miêng-li

我兒 免禮

Don't stand on ceremony, my child.

員外 • uêng-ghua

le si mia-mng coin-gim, ziu-gai siou-dig 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.

ge-riêng guan-dog bhuê-i

居然 趕逐 媒姨

To think that you would chase the matchmaker away!

zing-zing sêng-ho ti-tong?

真真 成 何 體統？

What is the meaning of this?

安人 • ang-ring

ri a, gim-rig ti-cing, si le dai-hi ze rig

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 cou-bhai-bug-diêng?

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-niê

bho-cing, ko-hng li-zê bho-li

母親，可恨 李姐 無理

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

hu-ngang-luêng-ghe, ria neng-ri sên-ki!

胡言亂語，惹 女兒 生氣！

She spouted much nonsense, and made your daughter angry!

安人 • ang-ring

li-zê ui-ho ria ua-ri sên-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-niê

bho-cing, neng-ri bug-hi-huan ta lai ti-cing

母親，女兒 不喜歡 她 來 提親

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

員外 • uêng-ghua

hon? zê si ho-gu?

啊？這是 何故？

Huh? What's the reason?

五娘 • ngou-niê

dia-niê iong-bing!

爹娘 容稟！

Father, Mother, please hear my plea!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

liêm dia-niê bho lam-ri

念 爹娘 無 男兒

Father and Mother have no sons,

pêg-ge bho hian-di

碧琚 無 兄弟

your daughter Pek-gv has no brothers.

sang-cing 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-ce siang ri bug-ring 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 cêg-ê hong gam-zi

願隨膝下奉甘旨

but continue to wait upon you on bended knee.

員外 • uêng-ghua

nga-gian, ze-gou lam dua deng-hung

憊罔，自古男大當婚

Silly child, from ancient times men have brought brides home

printed: 痴女 (ci-neng) for 憊罔

neng ziang deng-gê

女長當嫁

and women have been sent off to marry.

na-u neng-ri zong-sing si-hong bê-bho ze-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?

cian-hi gim-rig pang-ziên zê-mng ho ing-cing

且喜 今日 攀上 這門 好 姻親

Be happy that we have made an advantageous match today

suêng-dig zê-iên ho neng-sai

選得 這樣 好 女婿

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

bê-bho ming-ziên ia diêm quang-cai ia!

父母 面上 也 沾 光彩 呀！

the glory will be reflected on your parents!

五娘 • ngou-niê

dia-dia riag- si tong-ain neng-ri

爹爹 若是 痛愛 女兒

If Father truly loves his daughter dearly,

ziu coin-bhuang mai rung zê-mng cing-se

就 千萬 勿 允 這門 親事

please do not consent to this proposal

員外 • uêng-ghua

han?!

啊！？

What?!

安人 • ang-ring

ri a, zo bê-bho zia, dou si ui-le da-seng 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-niê

bho-cing!

母親！

Mother!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

bai-siang dia-niê tian ri suêh-ki

拜上爹娘聽兒說起

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

neng-ri ni-king, siên neng-ri ni-king

女兒年輕，想女兒年輕

Their daughter is still young,

printed: 念 (liêm) for 想

dêng-hung ze se, huêng si zîem-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 • uêng-ghua

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

giê neng-ri mo zib-i

叫女兒莫執意

Daughter, do not be stubborn.

tai-ui bê suêh e le di

待爲父說與你知

Let Father tell you about this:

lim-dua sing-ui bhu-ge

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,

gêng zêng gê-cai ge-hog u kuêng-si

更 曾 家財 巨福 有 權勢

his family fortune is rich and substantial.

na iong co-guê ru-ce liang-gi?

那 容 錯過 如此 良機？

How could we forgo this great opportunity?

安人 • ang-ring

neng-ri, le huêng-si...

女兒，你 還是

Daughter, you should...

五娘 • ngou-niê

bho-cing, lim-gê ze-di, ui-nang cou-pi

母親，林家 子弟，爲人 粗鄙

Mother, the scions of the Lim family are scoundrels!

員外 • uêng-ghua

han?! hu-suêh, ua pêng-si za-iên ga-dao i le?

～？！胡說，我平時怎樣教導於你？

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

printed: 平日 (pêng-rig) for 平時

ain le sam-cung-si-dêg geng-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 “san”

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

gim-rig si ua zah-zu ziang le he-puê lim-gê

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.

le nguêng ia-ba, bug-nguêng ia-ba

你願也罷，不願也罷

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

zê-mng cing-se i-gêg dian-hia liou!

這門親事已經定下了！

It has already been decided!

五娘 • ngou-niê

kou....!

苦！

Woe!

員外 • uêng-ghua

ai-ial zing-zing ka-u-ce-li?

哎呀！真真 豈有此理？

Gah! Never in my life...

安人 • ang-ring

uêng-ghua, nang hia-lao ke ba

員外，俺 下樓 去 吧

Sire, let us go downstairs.

員外 • uêng-ghua

hng! dou-si le pêng-rig gê-ga bug-ngiêm

哼！都是 你 平日 家教 不嚴

Hmph! You have been too lax in teaching her.

cai iang-ig zê-iên di ho neng-ri

才 養X 這樣 的 好 女兒

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

bug-iou li ta! hia lao! zao ba!

不要 理她！下樓！走吧！

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

五娘 • ngou-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

cên-tiêng pig-liêg, sai-nang sim bui!

青天 霹靂，使人 心悲

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

dia-dia le ui-ho co zu-i?

爹爹 你 爲何 錯 注意？

Father, why have you made this mistake?

bug-nguêng neng-ri zêg-sên 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-ze

那 林大，那 林大 他 是 輕狂子

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

ua lêng-si ia bug e ta pig-puê

我 寧死 也 不 與 他 匹配

I'd rather die than to be his woman.

bhuêng-buan sim-se, bhuêng-buan sim-se hu liu-zui

萬般 心事，萬般 心事 付 流水

My heart is in turmoil, turning like flowing water.

zêg-sên nguêng-mo, zêg-sên nguêng-mo zing sêng huê...

一生 願望，一生 願望 盡 成 灰

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

益春 • iah-cung

ngou-niê!

五娘！

Ngou-nie!

五娘 • ngou-niê

iah-cung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

第三章 • doin-san-ziang • Act 3

第七場 • doin-cig-diên • Scene 7

32:36

陳三 • dang-san

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

giê siou-ang dai-lou uang sian-si

叫 小安 帶路 往 城西

Siou-ang, bring us to the Western city.

小安 • siou-ang

zung-mêng!

尊命！

Yes sir!

陳三 • dang-san

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

nguêng-siou dêng-zoin, li-ian 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 huêng-hua, bho-sim gi-ci

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.

biêg-liou go-so, gib-gib zai-lai diê-ziu 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 nguêng tiêng cong nang-i

但願天從人意

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

dêng-gin gu gia-li

重見舊佳麗

and that I can see that beautiful woman again.

〔白・bêh・speaking〕

dêng-lai diê-ziu, in u do-rig

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-in cim-bing

大街小巷，俱已尋遍

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

bug-gin i-nang, zing lêng nang sim-ziou 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 bug-big ziou ia)

小安 • siou-ang

bing san-ia, zoin-ming bug-iêng, ziu-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-san

o! tiêng-sêng li-ziêh big do suan-mêng-zui-siu ze 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 zoin uang!

小安，帶路前往！

Siou-ang, bring us there!

小安 • siou-ang

si!

是！

Yes sir!

第八場 • doin-boih-diên • Scene 8

34:05

益春 • iah-cung

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

keng a-niê, mo bui-se

勤阿娘，莫悲思

My lady, do not pine,

printed: 小姐 (siou zia) for 阿娘

huêng su diêng-dong coin-gim ti

還須珍重千金體

you must preserve your precious health.

le toin na, lag-ghuêh sai-ou ho gêng-di

你看那，六月西湖景緻

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

siên-sim gian-lag, 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-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

ua na-u sim-cêng siên gêng-di?

我那有心情賞更遞？

Where is there reason for me to smile?

uêng dia-niê, uêng dia-niê co zu-i

怨爹娘，怨爹娘錯主意

I resent Father and Mother, resent their wrong decision.

ga ua lui-tiêm sai-ou-zui, cou ciang se 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-cung

a-niê, se in ru-ce, su-deng mang-mang siêg-huab

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-zia) for 阿娘

huêng-cian kuêng-huai ui si

還請寬懷爲是

and keep your inner calm.

a-niê, le toin na (bin) li-gi sên-dig do-moh ko-ain!

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-zia) for 阿娘

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

dang li ang ain dih, tai ua sing-ciu diah zêg-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 e a-niê goi cou-se

送與阿娘解愁思

and present it to Miss to ease her worries.

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

〔白 • bêh • speaking〕

a-niê, le toin zê-bao li-gi no!

阿娘，你看這苞荔枝𠵼！

Miss, look at this lychee branch!

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-niê

a! bêng dih li-gi

啊！並蒂荔枝

Ah! This lychee branch...

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê! le dan mai ziê-sên no

阿娘！你旦勿照生𠵼

Miss! Don't be like this.

printed: 小姐！你不要傷心 (siou-zia! le bug-iou siê-sim)

le zêg siên-sim, ua sim-lai ziu zing 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 ziu hng lang-guê)

五娘 • ngou-niê

iah-cung, ba zu-liêm bang-hia

益春，把珠簾放下！

Iah-cung, put down the bead curtains!

益春 • iah-cung

si!

是 !

Yes miss!

陳三 • dang-san

siou-ang, ua ain iu-lang zêg-huêng

小安 , 我 愛 遊覽 一番

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

| printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

le ko do-ce sêng-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-cung

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

toin i-nang ho-sên ming-siêng

睇 伊 人 好 生 面 善

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

| printed: 觀 guêng for 睇

se zêng siang-hong do ho-di

似曾相逢在何地

like someone familiar, but from where?

ing-ho zêg-si gi-bug-ki?

因何一時記不起？

Why can't I remember?

五娘 • ngou-niê

guêng ta si-sui, ba zu-liêm bang-hia

管他是誰，把珠簾放下

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

益春 • iah-cung

si

是

Yes miss.

陳三 • dang-san

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

gao-lao u neng, bêng-lang siang-i

高樓有女，憑欄相倚

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

zu-liêm huang-dong, ghêg-ian 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-cung

a-niê, lao-ê ze nang, ho-siên ziu-si dêng-ê ze-sêng?

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-zia) for 阿娘

a-niê, [...] le ze-soi ring-cêng no!

阿娘，[.....] 你仔細認清𠵼！

Miss, look carefully!

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

陳三 • dang-san

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

lao-ziên niê-gian, zian-si dêng-ê gia-li

樓上娘𠵼，正是燈下佳麗

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

printed: 娘子 (niê-ze) for 娘𠵼

ziou-se mo-siên bug-dig gin

朝思暮想不得見

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

iu sui-liou kiag do zê sia-si

又誰料卻在這城西

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

hng-bug-dig, sing-tiêm cai-hong sang buê

恨不得，身添彩鳳雙飛

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

buê-ziên lao-tao su siang-se

飛上 樓頭 訴 相思

Fly up that tower and tell her how I feel.

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê, le coin-pang bhuêng-pang

阿娘，你 千盼 萬盼

Miss, you have hoped a thousand times,

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

gim-rig dig-gin, u ho zu-i?

今日 得見，有何 主意？

and now he is here, what shall we do?

五娘 • ngou-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

zi-dao si ce-sêng in-in

只道 是 此生 已矣

This path is the road my life takes.

iu sui liou, gim-ziou lao-tao dêng siang-gin

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 bug-si, tiêng-gong u i liêng ua ci

莫 不是，天公 有意 憐 我 癡

unless it is that Heaven has taken pity on me.

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê!

阿娘！

Miss!

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-niê

(唱 • ciang • singing)

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

我待把滿懷心事向他訴

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

za nai si neng-ri-gê ru-ho ba uê ti, ru-ho ba uê 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-cung

a-ia! ta siên-si iou zao-liou

啊呀，他像是要走了

Alas, he looks to be leaving.

五娘 • ngou-niê

zêg-dang co-guê liang-gi, zi kiong ao huê 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.

coin-ngang bhuêng-ghe, dang bêng zê 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-san

lao-ziên dao-hia ho-muêh?

樓上 投下 何物？

What is this that has fallen from above?

kiag-si bêng-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 mêng-bêh liou!

啊，我明白了！

Ah, I understand!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

niê-gian lao-tao zang biou-gi

娘囡 樓頭 贈 表記

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

printed: 娘子 (niê-ze) for 娘囡

zing ga bêh-kêng hi ain-kuang

真教 伯卿 喜欲狂

that makes me Beh-keng wild with joy.

bêng-dih li-gi cêng-i dong

並蒂 荔枝 情意 重

This lychee branch is weighted with meaning,

mêng-sim kêg-gug iong lang-bhuang

銘心 刻骨 永 難忘

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

五娘 • ngou-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

cêng mêh-mêh bho-hang siu-i

情 脈脈 無限 羞意

My pulse is quick with limitless trepidation,

sim huin-huin ru do mang-li

心 懸懸 如 在 夢裏

My heart hangs as if in a dream.

益春 • iah-cung

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

u-uêng na-pan gêh coin-li?

有緣 那怕 隔 千里？

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

do-cêng tiêng ia cong nang-i

多情 天 亦 從 人意

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

五娘 • ngou-niê

iah-cung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

[唱 • ciang • singing]

le su soi-sim mog lu-mang

你須細心莫魯莽

You must be careful, do not be reckless.

nang-ngang ko-ui ain geng-gi

人言可畏愛謹記

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

| printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

tang-riag iang-sian tuêng ling-li

倘若揚聲傳鄰里

If rumor spreads about

lao-zoin dao li zao muêh-ngi

樓前投荔遭物議

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

he si-zoih

許時節

at such a time,

| printed: 那 (na) for 許

dia-dia dong-nao niê lang-hu

爹爹動腦娘難護

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

le-ua si bho zeng-sing-di

你我死無葬身地

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

益春 • iah-cung

si! a-niê bang-sim!

是！阿娘 放心！

Yes, you can trust me, Miss.

| printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

陳三 • dang-san

niê-gian zing-lao ke liou, siou-ang!

娘囡進樓去了，小安！

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

| printed: 娘子 (niê-ze) for 娘囡

小安 • siou-ang

san-ia ho-se?

三爺 何事？

Yes sir?

陳三 • dang-san

le u-bho hiên-cing do-ce diê-ziu ge-zu?

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 san-ia, u zêg-ui li-gong, zu do siêng-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-gian ui-sêng

磨鏡 爲生

polishing mirrors for a living

陳三 • dang-san

le ko ing ua zoin-ke 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 • doin-si-ziang • Act 4

第九場 • doin-gao-diên • Scene 9

44:25

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê, [cian lai] siu-zuang

阿娘，請來梳粧

Miss, please come to your toilet.

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-niê

ziu-lai!

就來！

Soon!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

gu-hng bhuê-giêm

舊恨未減

Old resentment has not subsided

sing-cou iu tiêm

新愁又添

but new worries have come on top.

rig-rig lao-tao kong lêng-mo

日日樓頭空佇望

Every day I sit wearily gazing from this tower.

si-hua si-hog [no] mang-riêng

是禍是福兩茫然

Disaster or fortune? I am at a loss.

〔白 • bēh • speaking〕

zê gian ui-ho ru-ce hung-am?

這鏡為何如此昏暗？

Why is this mirror so dim?

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê gu bug siu-zuang

阿娘久不梳粧

Miss has not performed her toilet for such a while,

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

bo-gian lang-miêng ding-hong!

寶鏡難免塵封！

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

五娘 • ngou-niê

bo-gian a! bo-gian, bug zai le ho-rig huang-lêng dêng-gin quang-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 • doin-zab-diên • Scene 10

47:34

陳三 • dang-san

bhua-gian a! bhua-gian a!

磨鏡呀！磨鏡呀！

Mirrors to polish! Mirrors to polish!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

lao-tao dig-gin 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 cim-cêng

投我荔枝寄深情

drop me a lychee branch to convey her deep feelings;

noi - vernacular pronunciation

zi ui ta, têh-in cim se hai

只爲她，宅院深似海

only for her, amid this sea of houses and courtyards,

ain huê bug-lêng

欲 會 不能

unable to meet despite longing to.

欲 - vernacular substitute character for 愛

ua zi-dig siêng-goi-tao, oh bhua-gian

我 只得 仙街頭，學 磨鏡

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

kiou-zuang gi-mo dêng-huê giou-êng

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 • doin-zab-ig-diên • Scene 11

48:45

陳三 • dang-san

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

san-bou bian-zoh no-bou hêng

三步 併作 兩步 行

Bounding three steps in just two,

hêng - literary pronunciation

bug-gag lai-gao ng-gê mng-têng

不覺 來到 黃家 門庭

soon I come to the Ng household's threshold.

〔白 • bêh • speaking〕

li-gong suêh-dao: ta muê-lai bhua-gian

李公 說道：他 每 來 磨鏡

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

dou do ao-in, ui-miêng tong-tuêng

都 在 後院，爲免 通傳

he would always go to the rear courtyard,

in tih-buan ui ho, soin no-sian, ao boih-sian

以 鐵盤 爲 號，先 兩聲，後 八聲

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

ri-boih gia-ring ziu cug-tian, 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-cung

lai-liou!

來了！

Coming!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

hug tian-gin ghua-ming tih-buan sian-hiang

忽 聽見 外面 鐵盤 聲響

Hearing unexpectedly the iron clapper outside,

i-bou ziên-zoin toin duêng-siang

移步 上前 看 端詳

walking up to see who it is,

zi-gin zêg-ui siou-ni bhua-gian-ciên

只見 一位 少年 磨鏡匠

only to find a young mirror-grinder

se na dêng-ê ze-sêng zêg-buan iang?

似 那 燈下 書生 一般 樣？

who looks just like that scholar under the lanterns.

陳三 • dang-san

siê-niê-gian, siê-nang u-li

小娘囡，小人 有禮

Young miss, this humble one offers his salutations.

printed: 小娘子 (siê-niê-ze) for 小娘囡

益春 • iah-cung

miêng ze-soi!

免 仔細！

There's no need for fuss!

陳三 • dang-san

siê-niê-gian, tian-suêh le hu-ziên u gian ain 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 (ze) for 囡, 要 (iou) for 愛

ua dêg-di zoin-lai

我 特地 前來

so I have come here specially.

益春 • iah-cung

siou-sêg do lêng-tong a!

消息 倒 靈通 呀！

News does travel fast!

ung zu-si u gai gian ain bhua

阮 就是 有個 鏡 愛 磨

We do have a mirror that needs polishing,

printed: 鏡 倒 是 有 (gian dao si u)

zi-si ain lao-kêh zêg-ui lao se-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 (gib) for 乞

陳三 • dang-san

si na-zêg-ui lao-se-hu?

是 那一位 老師傅？

Which old master craftsman is it?

益春 • iah-cung

ziu-si zu-do siêng-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-san

a! na li-gong ziu-si ua gai se-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-cung

ua! he-li toin-m-cug

哇，許哩睇唔出

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

printed: 看不出呀 (toin bug-cug ia)

li-gong di-si siu zêg-gai zê-sên-iên 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 zêg-gai zên-iên di tu-di)

陳三 • dang-san

siê-niê-gian, cia mai cu-ciê

小娘囡，請勿取笑

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

printed: 子 (ze) for 囡

gi si u gian ain bhua li, ziu cian cu-cug-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-cung

he-li diêh huan ua ke mung a-niê!

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 ke mung-mung ua-gê siou-zia)

陳三 • dang-san

u-lao liou! u-lao liou!

有勞了！有勞了！

Much obliged!

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê, gian-lai ia!

阿娘，行來呀！

Miss, come here!

五娘 • ngou-niê

ci-bi-neng, ui-ho zê-iên huang-huang diêng-diêng?

癡婢女，爲何這樣瘋瘋癲癲？

Silly maid, what's all this commotion about?

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê u-so-m-zai! ghua-ming lai zêg-gai bhua-gian se-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-zia) for 阿娘, 不知 (bug-zai) for 唔知

i dan si li-gong tu-di, sên-dig siou-ni cêng-siu ia!

伊坦 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 (ze-cêng) for 伊坦

五娘 • ngou-niê

guêng nang-gê siou-ni cêng-siu zo-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-cung

a-niê! le do m-zai no, i sên-lai zing siang zêg-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 (le bug zai-dao) for 你在唔知乜, 他 (ta) for 伊

kuai (?) cug-lai ke toin ia!

快X出來去看呀！

Come out quickly to see!

五娘 • ngou-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

zoin-rig i-nang guê lao-sai

前日 伊人 過 樓西

The other day he passed the Western Tower,

ki-u-hng-ngang, zing si zung-siu êng-cai

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-ziou, gao gim-ziou ui-sim-moh biêng-zoh liou bhua-gian-ciên

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?

ce-se ga-nang hui i-cai

此事 教人 費意 猜

This really makes one puzzled.

益春 • iah-cung

tai ua lai ke mung-i

待 我 來 去 問伊

Wait, let me go ask him.

printed: 他 (ta) for 伊

五娘 • ngou-niê

iah-cung! bug-ko

益春！不可

Iah-cung, no!

益春 • iah-cung

mung zêg-ê, u-ho bug-ko?

問 一 下 ， 有 何 不 可 ？

What's wrong with asking?

五娘 • ngou-niê

nang u siang-se, bug-ko zao-ce

人 有 相 似 ， 不 可 造 次

People do look alike, don't be rash.

益春 • iah-cung

(ru-ce) ain zo-ni zu-i?

（ 如 此 ） 愛 做 呢 主 意 ？

What do you propose?

printed: 怎生主意 (zai-sên zu-i) for 做呢主意

五娘 • ngou-niê

ta gi-si li-gong tu-di, ciu-ghoi liang-big bug-ca

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.

gian ziu kiêh bung i bhua

鏡 就 挈 分 伊 磨

Give him the mirror to polish.

printed: 鏡就拿給他磨 (gian ziu na gib ta bhua)

益春 • iah-cung

hiou-dig!

曉得！

Understood!

ng-hng!

嗯哼！

Yup!

五娘 • ngou-niê

iah-cung! ghua-ming rig-tao iêm-ruah

益春！外面日頭炎熱

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

le ko dua na bhua-gian se-hu zib-lai in-lai zo 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 (zing-lai) for 入來

益春 • iah-cung

hiou-dig!

曉得！

Understood!

se-hu, le do zo mih-se a?

師傅，你在做乜事啊？

Master craftsman, what are you doing?

printed: 你在做什麼？ (le do zo sim-moh?)

陳三 • dang-san

ua ain zung-bi bhua-gian gai gê-si

我 愛 準備 磨鏡 個 傢俬

I am preparing my tools to polish the mirror.

益春 • iah-cung

m-zai nang gai gian ain bung le 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 (huan-bug-zai gian ko iou le bhua)

ziu do zo zung-bi

就 在 做 準備

if you are only just making preparations.

陳三 • dang-san

zê... cuêng-ziang siê-niê-gian sêng-cuêng

這.....全仗 小娘 囡 成全

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

| printed: 子 (ze) for 囡

益春 • iah-cung

e... ho oi dan-uê a, siang-riang(?), gai gian le 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 (zing oi suêh-uê) for 好會咀話

陳三 • dang-san

ho zêg-ming bo-gian

好一面寶鏡

What a fine mirror this is.

益春 • iah-cung

se-hu! ua gê a-niê cian le rib in-lai zo 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-zia) for 阿娘, 進 (zing) for 入

陳三 • dang-san

zung-mêng!

尊命！

And I obey the command!

益春 • iah-cung

ce-cu im-liang, ziu do zê-li hiah-dan ba

此處陰涼，就在這裏歇擔吧！

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

se-hu, li-gong muê lai bhua-gian ziu ciang-gua, le 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-san

oi si oi, zi pa bho zai-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-cung

le riag ciang-lai ho, na-pa bho zai-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-san

hia li tai ua lai ciang

遐哩待我來唱

In that case let me sing:

printed: 如此 (ru-ce) for 遐哩

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

cig-ciêh ziang-hu mo bhuêng-cai

七尺丈夫莫漫猜

Who would guess, a fully grown man

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

cên-bhuê u-iêh gu-ring lai!

青梅有約故人來！

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

hng-keng ui sia cim cêng-i

殷勤爲謝深情意

Giving polite thanks for the sincere feelings,

ngûeng hia ung-giou ghêg-gian-tai

願下溫嶠玉鏡臺

TK

益春 • iah-cung

se-hu, cian ziah dê!

師傅，請食茶！

Master craftsman, come drink some tea!

| printed: 飲 (im) for 食

陳三 • dang-san

u dê! hia-li gêng-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 ziu) for 遐哩

siê-niê-gian, zi-buê dê, si nang giê-le kiêh 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？ (siê-niê-ze, zê-buê dê si sui giê-le duêng lai di?)

益春 • iah-cung

le zi-gai nang a, guê-dou ziu guê-dou

你只個人呀，過渡就過渡

You are really too much.

| printed: 這 (zê) for 只

ho-ui diêh mung-gao zung-doin 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-big) for 何爲着

陳三 • dang-san

ka bug-mung? im-zui se-nguang!

豈不問？飲水思源

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

ho-kuang u ce ho-dê, gêng-deng 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-cung

si ua a-niê giê ua kiêh-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-zia mêng ua duêng-lai di)

陳三 • dang-san

he li toih ua hiang ning a-niê 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 (cia-le toih ua hiang siou-zia dao-sia)

toih - pronunciation for 代

益春 • iah-cung

do-sêng 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-san

do-sêng do-gam! cian!

多承多感！請！

Much obliged, many thanks! Please!

益春 • iah-cung

se-hu, buê dê ngang liou, dan ziah 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 (se-hu, dê liang liou, kuai hag ba)

“dan ziah no” - interesting grammatical construction.

陳三 • dang-san

gu-lao siê-niê-gian liou

劬勞小娘𠵼了

Much obliged, young miss.

not in printed

益春 • iah-cung

se-hu, gang-hu diêh zo i ho sê 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 (le gong-hu iou zo-dig ho-sê)

陳三 • dang-san

na ze-riêng no! bo-gian a, bo-gian!

那自然𠂇！寶鏡呀，寶鏡！

But of course! O precious mirror!

| printed: 那是自然 (na si ze-riêng) for 那自然𠂇

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

ua iêng le iam-hog bho-bi

我羨你艷福無比

I envy how you are splendid beyond compare,

e gia-ring hêng-ian bug-li

與佳人形影不離

not far from the perfection of a beautiful lady.

hng bug-dig, ziang sing-huê bo-gian

恨不得，將身化寶鏡

Alas, your fate is to be a mirror,

do gui-dang ziou-sêg ziang siang-i

在閨中朝夕長相依

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

〔白 • bêh • speaking〕

huai-liou, huai-liou!

壞了！壞了！

It is broken! Broken!

益春 • iah-cung

se-hu, huang-cai sim-moh sian-hiang?

師傅，方才甚麼聲響？

Master craftsman, what was that sound?

bo-gian nê? e! kêh le da-pua liou!

寶鏡呢？～，乞你打破了！

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

printed: 給 (gib) for 乞

huai-liou, huai-liou!

壞了，壞了！

It is broken, broken!

a-niê (?) - lai a!

阿娘 X 來呀！

Miss, come here!

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-niê

bo-gian pah-pua liou?

寶鏡拍破了？

The mirror is broken?

printed: 打 (da) for 拍

gi si pah-pua, ciag-mog sian-ziang, siêg-huag iêm-cang 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-cung

si!

是！

Yes!

員外 • uêng-ghua

sui-nang do-ce cao-nao?

誰人在此吵鬧？

What is all this shouting here?

printed: 何人 (ho-nang) for 誰人

ui-ho bang-zing ghua-nang lai-gao ce-di?

為何放進外人來到此地？

Who let a stranger into this place?

益春 • iah-cung

si bhua-gian di

是磨鏡的

It is the mirror polisher.

員外 • uêng-ghua

bhua-gian di ia bug-gai zing-lai, kuai giê-ta cug-ke!

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-cung

si, le cug-ke ba

是，你出去吧

Yes. You had better leave.

陳三 • dang-san

bing uêng-ghua, le gê bo-gian bi ua zêg-si sig-ciu pah-pua-ke 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 • uêng-ghua

han? pah-pua na zêg-zo?

～？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 • ciang • singing〕

gin pua-gian, nao-cong sim-dang ki

見破鏡，惱從心中起

Seeing this broken mirror is raising my hackles.

siou tiog-sên, bho dao-li, bho dao-li!

小畜生，無道理，無道理

You little brute, you unreasoning brute!

ce gian nai-si tuêng-gê-bo

此鏡乃是傳家寶

This mirror was an heirloom treasure.

toin le ru-ho buê-dig-ki?

看你如何賠得起？

Do you fancy that you can compensate me?

〔白・bêh・speaking〕

lai! ce-se u ua zo-zu

來！此事有我做主。

I'll make the decisions.

zo-ning rib-ke!

做恁入去！

The rest of you, go inside!

printed: 你等進去 (le-dêng zing-ke)

tiog-sêng, le gim u ho-uê suêh?

畜生，你今有何話說？

Do you have anything to say for yourself, brute?

陳三・dang-san

bhoi-zai uêng-ghua ain buê do-siou

畚知員外愛賠多少？

Sir, how much compensation do you seek?

printed: 不知員外要我賠償多少 (bug-zai uêng-ghua iou ua buê-siên do-siou)

員外・uêng-ghua

ba le zêg-gai nang bhoi lai buê

把你一個人賣來賠

Even if you sell yourself,

ia di bug-guê ia

也抵不過呀！

it would not be enough!

陳三 • dang-san

cia-zu! uêng-ghua zêg-ngang, ba ua ti-cên

且住！員外一言，把我提醒

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

printed: 將 (ziang) for 把

ua ho-bug ziêng ce gi-uang, ru-ce ru-ce

我何不趁此機緣，如此如此

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

uêng-ghua, liêm ua zo gang-nang

員外，念我做工人

Sir, take me on as a worker

printed: 想我做工之人 (siên ua zo-gang ze nang)

na u zin-ngeng buê-dig ce gian

那有錢銀賠得此鏡

and let me pay off my debt with my labor.

printed: 賠償寶鏡 (buê-siên bo-gian)

員外 • uêng-ghua

hng! gi bho-zin puê gian

哼！既無錢賠鏡

Hmph! Since you have no money to compensate me,

zi-u ziang le sang guan giu-poin!

只有將你送官究辦

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

siou-cig guê lai!

小七過來！

Siou-cik, come here!

小七 • siou-cig

uêng-ghua ho se?

員外何事？

What is it, Sir?

員外 • uêng-ghua

ba ta kung-liou!

把他捆了！

Cuff him!

小七 • siou-cig

si

是

Yes.

益春 • iah-cung

uêng-ghua cia-mang!

員外 且慢！

Please wait, Sir!

員外 • uêng-ghua

ho-se?

何事？

What is it?

益春 • iah-cung

bi hong a-niê ze mêng, 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-zia) for 阿娘

gim-rig bo-gian pah-pua

今日 寶鏡 打破

That this mirror was broken,

nai si se-hu bug-sim sig-ciu, bêng 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 uêng-ghua sêg-nao, cong-kuêng cu-li

望 員外 息惱，從寬 處理

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

員外 • uêng-ghua

hu-suêh! siou-cig, kung!

胡說！小七 搵！

Nonsense! Siou-cik, cuff him!

小七 • siou-cig

si

是

Yup.

陳三 • dang-san

cian-mang!

且慢！

Please delay!

uêng-ghua, liêm ua zêg-ping ru-soi

員外，念我一貧如洗

Sir, I have not a cent to my name.

一貧如洗 - idiom

zong ba ua sang guan ia i se bho-bou

縱把我送官也於事無補

Sending me to the magistrate will not help anybody.

ua gim cêng-nguêng rib hu ui-iong

我今情願入府爲傭

I'm willing to enter your household as a servant

zo-gang siên-gian ziu si

做工償鏡就是

and work off my debt to you.

員外 • uêng-ghua

toin le go-hêng

看你 XX

Look at you,

printed: 看你 這個人 (toin le zê-gai nang)

bhung-bug-bhung, bhu-bug-bhu

文不文，武不武

neither a scholar nor a warrior.

u sim êng-cu?

有甚用處？

What use are you to me?

陳三 • dang-san

ua oi zo-gang, ia u bag su-ri

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 zo cou-gang, ia ring-dig gui-gai ri)

sao-pian, ag-huê, li-siou, sia-sing dou lêng sêng-rim

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-huê, li-diên)

員外 • uêng-ghua

lai, le giê ho mia-ri?
來，你叫何名字？
What is your name?

陳三 • dang-san

siê-nang sên dang, mia... san
小人姓陳，名..... 三
My humble surname is Dang, and my name is... San (three).

員外 • uêng-ghua

dang-san, lung zê bo-gian, gê-dag bêh niê
陳三，論此寶鏡，價值百兩
Dang-san, this mirror here was bought for a hundred taels.

ru-gim zi seng-zo san-zab niê
如今只算做三十兩
Let's amortize that to say thirty taels.

le do ua-hu zo-gang, muê-ni gang-ze zab-niê
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.

san-ni gang-mua, huang-zung huê-gê
三年工滿，方准回家
So, in three years, you'd work it off and can go home.

陳三 • dang-san

siê-nang cêng-nguêng

小人 情願

Your humble servant is willing.

員外 • uêng-ghua

ua-gê nai-si mia-mung, ziên-ê u hung, lai-ghua u biêg

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.

le do hu-lai su-iou sung-gui dao-ge

你 在 府內 須要 循規 蹈矩

In here you had better adhere to the household rules,

bug-ko huam ua gê-huab

不可 犯 我 家法

and not flout the law of my family.

陳三 • dang-san

zai-dao!

知道！

Understood!

員外 • uêng-ghua

siou-cig, dua ta hia-ke!

小七，帶他下去！

Siou-cik, bring him downstairs!

小七 • siou-cig

si, sui ua lai

是，隨我來

Yup, follow me.

員外 • uêng-ghua

ha ha ha ha ha!

哈哈哈哈哈！

Hahahahaha!

第五章 • doin-ngou-ziang • Act 5

第十二場 • doin-zab-ri-diên • Scene 12

1:03:45

五娘 • ngou-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

bo-duêng hiang-siou, ngeng-tai zêg-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.

buan-gui cang-ghuêh ziê so lêng

半規 殘月 照 疏櫺

A waning half-moon casts light through the latticework.

ain ming ming-bug-dig, ain zo zo-bug-lêng

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 se, coin-dêng bhuêng-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 cên

空皺損兩眉青

My brow turned pale from furrowing,

siên za-rig siang-se, siang-se 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 za, original pronunciation sig

hi gim-ziou tong-cu zêg-mng têng

喜今朝同處一門庭

Today we are indeed under one roof.

ta kug-sing ui ua, ru-ce do-cêng gou-lai ziê

他屈身爲我，如此多情古來少

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

ua zêg-i liêng ta, bug-zai ho-rig gag uêng-mêng

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.

pan zi pan, zêg-ziou siêb-lao cung siou-sêg

怕只怕，一朝洩漏春消息

Fearing that our secret shall spill out,

loi-huab gê-gui bug iong-cêng

禮法家規不容情

flouting of the family law is not easily forgiven.

zong-siou diêng-zuêng kou bho-cêh

終宵 輾轉 苦 無策

All night I toss about in agony without aim,

lui sui cang-lah siang dih-gao tiêng-mêng

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-cung

a-niê, tiêng ziang liang-liou, ui-ho huêng bhuê uan-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-zia) for 阿娘

a-niê, kuai sui ba

阿娘，快睡吧

Miss, do sleep.

第十三場 • doin-zab-san-diên • Scene 13

1:09:38

陳三 • dang-san

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

ui bo li-gi cim cêng-i, sing-cau kou-hiah bug cui-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.

nguêng-ki ziou-sêg lêng siang-gin

原期朝夕能相見

On which day shall we meet again?

sui zai zi-ciêh nang coin-li

誰知咫尺人千里

Who can truly reckon with a thousand-mile journey?

┃ 咫尺千里 - idiom

têng gai ng-hiêh sao goi zing

庭階黃葉掃易盡

These yellow leaves can be easily swept clean,

zê-diên siang-se bho zing-ki

這場相思無盡期

unlike these thoughts in my head.

〔白・bêh・speaking〕

iah-cung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

hiêng-muê, ua zing-hu in-u su-rig, huêng bhuê e le 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-cung

hai! uêng-ghua gê-gui nghiêm-ging, mo san-hian 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-san

a-niê ging-lai ka ho?

阿娘今來豈好？

How has your mistress been?

printed: 小姐可好 (siou-zia ko-ho)

益春 • iah-cung

ze le rib-hu in-lai, a-niê siên-si zong-siou bhuê-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-zia) for 阿娘

陳三 • dang-san

kiag-si ui-ho?

卻是爲何？

Why is that so?

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê ta sim-se dêng-dêng o

阿娘 她 心事 重重 啊

My mistress is weighed down with matters of the heart.

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

陳三 • dang-san

u ho sim-se, mo hiêng-muê mêng-gao

有 何 心事 , 望 賢妹 明告

What matters of the heart? Please explain, Sister.

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê ta...

阿娘 她.....

Miss, well she...

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

陳三 • dang-san

ta za-iên?

她 怎樣 ?

She what?

益春 • iah-cung

ia ba!

也罷 !

So be it!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

a-niê ta, a-niê ta riag-neng lang-ui bê-bho mêng

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

he puê lim-gê, za in zi-liou pian-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-san

za-suêh! ta in-siu liou lim-gê ze-pian?

怎說！她已受了林家之聘？

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

益春 • iah-cung

zian si!

正是！

That is so!

陳三 • dang-san

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

sig zi-mo, siang-iêh bêh-ni dung iong haon

實指望，相約百年敦永好

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

u sui zai, mia-huê-u-zu i lai ci

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 zi-liou lim-gê pian

她既接了林家聘

Since she is already betrothed to the Lims,

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

因何樓頭又掬荔枝？

why did she throw the lychee branch from the tower?

printed: 擲 (dan) for 掬, semantic replacement

益春 • iah-cung

san-hian! le u-so bug-zai!

三兄！你有所不知！

Brother! You don't know the full story!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

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

那林大，爲人多粗鄙

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

si-kiang-lêng-riag ba nang ki

恃強凌弱把人欺

He uses his strength to bully the weak.

恃強凌弱 - idiom

zê-dêng nang, a-niê ka kêng-lai pig-puê

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-zia) for 阿娘

豈 is indeed in the printed

ing-ce siang, lao-tao ga li-gia siang-se

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-san

gi-riêng ru-ce, ziu huêng-huê-bing a-niê

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-zia) for 阿娘

za dian zu-i, ming siang liang-cêh,

早定主意，面商良策

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

huang-miêng u-liou dai-se

方免誤了大事

to avoid this great tragedy.

益春 • iah-cung

le cian mog-gib, siang-gin ze-se, tai ua siêg-huab ziu-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-san

u-lao hiêng-muê liou!
有勞賢妹了！
Much obliged, Sister!

員外 • uêng-ghua

ên? hng! zam-zu!
嗯？哼！站住！
Huh? Hmph! Stand still!

ning no-nang gui-gui zui-zui, do-ce ho-se?
恁二人鬼鬼祟祟，在此何事？
You two stalking about, up to good?

printed: 你們 (le-mung) for 恁

hng! ka bug-zai lai-ghua u-hung, lam-neng u-biêg
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 dêng do-ce gao-tao zih-re, sêng 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

kuai ziên-lao ke!

快上樓去！

You go upstairs!

益春 • iah-cung

si!

是！

Yes sir!

員外 • uêng-ghua

ce nai lai-in, ka iong le sui-biêng zao-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.

in-ao bug-hong u-huêng, bug-he zing-lai!

以後不奉呼喚，不許進來！

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

riag zai ui-huam, da-duêng le di gao-tui, hia ke!

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 • doin-zab-si-diên • Scene 14

1:16:49

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

liang-sin mung, hung lai-ghua

兩扇門，分內外

Between the inner and outer worlds stands but a doorway.

zêg-dao ciên, gêh 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-gin zong lang-ki

相見總難期

a meeting proves difficult to arrange,

guang-im rim-riêm

光陰荏苒

while time slips away.

zêg-ni iong-goi cung iu zi!

一年容易春又至

A year has passed, Spring is here again.

zêg-gai si siu-tag (?)-miêng bên iêm-iêm

一個是綉榻纏綿病懨懨

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

zêg-gai si gou-dêng siang-dui lêng-lêng ci-ci

一個是孤燈相對冷冷淒淒

The other faces a lone lamp in the cold.

ge-tao mo mêng-guêh, sim-se bêng 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?

zi-loh-dig ciang-u do-tang! ciang-u do-tang

只落得長吁短嘆

These fall away in long and short sighs.

liang di kou siang-se, liang di kou siang-se

兩地苦相思，兩地苦相思

Two places filled with anguished pining.

第十五場 • doin-zab-ngou-diên • Scene

15

1:20:12

五娘 • ngou-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

uêng-sian zîem-lao, cung-sêg ziang lang

鴛聲漸老，春色將闌

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

bên-e cui-siu kiag king-hang

病余翠袖怯輕寒

In illness these green sleeves fear the slightest cold.

lui-ngang mung-huê huê bug-ghe, sui goi huang-sim zêg-cung seng

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-cung

a-niê le toin na-zang sui-liu, dang-i sai-sia, si ho uêng-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-zia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-niê

zi ui liu-gi bho-lag, ing-ce 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-cung

ai! liu-gi bho-lag, ing-ce 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.

ring ru-riag bho zu-i, ia ziu ziang(?) sui-nang bai-rim

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-niê! le toin na sang-buê hu-diêb

阿娘！你看那雙飛蝴蝶

Miss! Look at that pair of butterflies,

ze-iu ze-zai, (?)-diêh 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-muêh ho a)

五娘 • ngou-niê

iah-cung, le za-lêng ziang nang e hu-diêb 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 guan-diou!

把它趕掉！

Chase them out!

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê, toin zê hu-diêb sêng-sang sêng-dui

阿娘，看這蝴蝶成雙成對

Miss, see how these butterflies have paired up.

za ziang ta guan-diou nê?

怎將它趕掉呢？

How can I chase them out?

printed: 怎忍把它趕掉呢 (za-rim ba-ta guan-diou nê)

五娘 • ngou-niê

giê le guan, le ziu guan, huêng do ngang-dang-suêh-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-cung

ho, a-niê giê ua guan, ua ziu-lai guan!

好，阿娘叫我趕，我就來趕！

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

hu-diêb ia! le ke biêg-cu, mai lai zi-go biang a-niê sên-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 (hiun-lai ria ua-gê siou-zia sên-ki)

ke! ke! ke-a!

去！去！去呀！

Shoo! Shoo! Begone!

toin-gao (??) hu-diêb cuang-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 (cuêng-riêng) for 全個

riag-(?) (?) ua iah-cung sên-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-niê

iah-cung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê iou si cui 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-zia nguêng-si kao-sim-bug-ig)

cui dan riou, sim iu dan 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 suêh guan, sim kiag-ain lao)

五娘 • ngou-niê

iah-cung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê huêng-si zê-buan na-bug-dian zu-i, le ziu 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-niê

kui si-mih?

虧是乜？

What loss is this?

printed: 什麼 (sim-moh) for 是乜

益春 • iah-cung

kui na san...

虧那三.....

To lose that San....

五娘 • ngou-niê

le iu-si lai do suan-dan

你又是來在散旦

Again with your loose talk.

printed: 你又亂說 (le iu luêng-suêh)

益春 • iah-cung

uê mo suan-dan, deng-co gai li-gi ziu bug-gai luêng-ga

話孬散旦，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 (bug-ko) for 孬, 投 (dao) for 掄

五娘 • ngou-niê

iah-cung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê!

阿娘！

Miss!

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia)

五娘 • ngou-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

ai-ia iah-cung, le 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-san ui ua siu zing-kou, ua ia ui-ta hui-zing 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.

zong lang-dig ho zu-i

終難得好主意

And still we have no way out.

益春 • iah-cung

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

se le zê-buan ci-ghi, zi-pan zê siang-se 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.

zong-gêg si hai-liou dang-san, ia dam-ghou a-niê le ze-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-zia) for 阿娘

kuang gim-ziou, bên ho-deng

況今朝，病好轉

If today your health should return,

na lim-dua, zai zui-cing

那林大，再摧親

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

na-si u ho ngang-ghe zai tui-si?

那時有何言語再推辭？

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

keng a-niê huêng su gib za-dian zu-i

勤阿娘，還須及早定主意

Please, Miss, come quickly to a decision,

mog-siên na liu-gi bho-lag

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-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

kou-mia pêg-ge, ka bho zê-buan sim-i

苦命碧琚，豈無這般心意

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

zi ing-ui, dia-niê huang-huam rig-rig 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 ru-tin

況又那林大勢大如天

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

ua zong zêg si-bug-zog-siêh

我縱一死不足惜

I am not afraid to die,

死不足惜 - idiom

pan zi-pan, lui gib dang-san siu zuê-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-cung

niê le gi bho ho zu-i, ziu gai e san-hian 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-zia) for 阿娘

ho-bug ziu ziang gi-gu di-sim-uê

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-cung ke dui san-hian ti

交待益春去對三兄提

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

五娘 • ngou-niê

iah-cung! na dang-san hing do ho-cu?

益春！那陳三現在何處？

Iah-cung! Where is Dang-san now?

益春 • iah-cung

ziu-do ao-in!

就在後院！

He is in the rear courtyard!

五娘 • ngou-niê

ua dia cug-mung huê-kêh, ka zêng deng-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 zêng huê-lai)

益春 • iah-cung

siang-bhuê deng-lai!

尚未轉來！

No, not yet!

printed: 回來 (huê-lai) for 轉來

五娘 • ngou-niê

ru-ce, le ziu ciou-ciou giê ta dang-san zîe 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 (zoin) for 照

益春 • iah-cung

zîe ziu gêng-ho liou, tai siou-bi zoin ke!

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-niê

iah-cung!

益春！

Iah-cung!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

iah-cung! zê-zuang se ain siê-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 gêh-ciên nang u-hin, siêb huang-sian

須防隔牆人有耳，洩風聲

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

dia-niê riag bhung-zai, he si-zoih,

爹娘若聞知，許時節

so far as my parents, at that time,

printed: 那 (na) for 許

zêg-dan huang-bo pêng-di ki

一旦風波平地起

a massive storm will overturn the earth.

第十六場 • doin-zab-lag-diên • Scene 16

音樂 • im-ghauh • Musical interlude

第十七場 • doin-zab-cig-diên • Scene 17

1:33:25

陳三 • dang-san

siê-sêng zing-hu in-lai, gim-rig cai dig-gin a-niê 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-zia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-niê

le si ho-ring?

你是何人？

Who are you?

陳三 • dang-san

a-niê za-moh bug ring-sêg siê-sêng liou?

阿娘怎麼不認識小生了？

Miss, how do you not recognize this humble person?

五娘 • ngou-niê

le ka bug-zai ziên-ê u-hung, lai-ghua u-biêg

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.

ce-cu bug-si le êng-lai ze di, le kuai sêng cug-ke!

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 • doin-zab-boih-diên • Scene 18

1:34:33

益春 • iah-cung

san-hian, le...

三兄，你.....

Brother San, you...

a-niê, le...

阿娘，你.....

Miss, you...

printed: 小姐

第十九場 • doin-zab-gao-diên • Scene 19

1:35:12

陳三 • dang-san

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

co-ring noi-gi u cêng-i, uang-hui ua bêh-kêng zêg-piêng ci

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

toin-lai ing-uêng lang sêng-ziu, bug-ru sog-zuang 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-cung

san-hian mang-zao!

三兄 慢走！

Brother San, wait!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

toin le sim-ziang ngê se tih

看你心腸硬似鐵

Your heart seems stiff as iron,

ing-ho ain zao 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-zao bug-gao-si)

giu-gêng ain uang ho-cu ke? ia gai mêng-bêh 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-san

ua ain huê-deng gê-hiên!
我愛回轉家鄉！
I'm going back to my home village.

printed: 返 (huêng) for 轉

益春 • iah-cung

ui-liou ho-se?
爲了何事？
For what reason?

陳三 • dang-san

bug-big mung-liou
不必問了
You don't have to ask any further.

益春 • iah-cung

le bug-ba cêng-iu suêh-mêng, ua si bug-bang le zao
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-san

hiêng-muê, cian tian!

賢妹，請聽！

Sister, please listen!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

mong zi-diêm, sim am-hi,

蒙指點，心暗喜

Having received a sign, my heart was silently gladdened,

ke huê-hng, su siang-si,

去花園，訴相思

to go to the garden, and reveal my feelings,

sig zi-mo, tiêng-tai lou ko-tong

實指望，天臺路可通

a true signal, that Heaven had opened a way.

iu sui zai, siêng-huam iêng-gêh puêng 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”

cim-cim zêg i, e muê siang-si

深深一揖，與妹相辭

I bid you deeply, Sister, farewell.

益春 • iah-cung

san-hian!

三兄！

Brother San!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

a-niê ta, duêng-riang bho ce i

阿娘她，斷然無此意

My mistress, she did not mean that.

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

le mog ain co-guai ta, le mog ain ru-ce 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-san:

ho-in gin-dig?

何以見得？

How is that so?

益春 • iah-cung

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

le ko-zai, huang-cai 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-niê ta, za-lêng-gou mao-mao-sig-sig ba uê 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-zia) for 阿娘

陳三 • dang-san

huang-cai hng-li u nang a?

方才園裏有人啊？

There was someone in the garden?

益春 • iah-cung

bug-sing? le ke toin-lai!

不信？你去看來！

You don't believe me? Look for yourself!

陳三 • dang-san

nguêng-lai ru-ce!

原來如此！

So it is!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

zi guai ua zêg-si sên-cêng, hiêm ba ho-sim dang ag-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-cung

toin le zing si cong-mêng zêg-si, mong-dong zêg-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.

tag-ze-nang za oi zê-iên sing-sên a?

讀書人怎會這樣神性啊？

How could a scholar be so rash?

printed: 急性 (gib-sên) for 神性

陳三 • dang-san

huêng-mo hiêng-muê do-do nguêng-liang!

還望 賢妹 多多 原諒！

I pray that Sister will forgive me!

益春 • iah-cung

san-hian bug-big do-li, huan siên miou-cêh 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-san

zi-ain a-niê lai hung-hu, ua bêh-kêng hu-tng dao-huê bug 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-zia) for 阿娘

益春 • iah-cung

ia-ba! tai ua lêng-siên biêg-huab, riang le e a-niê deng-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,

zai zag dian-doh

再 作 定奪

and to make a decision.

陳三 • dang-san

cuêng-ziang hiêng-muê liou

全杖 賢妹 了

It is in your hands, Sister.

益春 • iah-cung

iu-lai liou, na ke ba!

又來了，拿去吧！

Here you start again. Go!

第二十場 • doin-ri-zab-diên • 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 • doin-ri-zab-ig-diên • Scene

21

1:41:10

陳三 • dang-san

cian a-niê soi-ming!

請阿娘洗面

Miss, please come wash your face!

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-niê

le! le bug-biêng do-ce, kuai hia-ke!

你！你不便在此，快下去！

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

mang! pung-zui si sui giê-le duêng-lai?

慢！盆水是誰叫你端來？

Wait, who told you to bring this basin?

陳三 • dang-san

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

五娘 • ngou-niê

ta do na-li?
她 在那裏?
Where is she?

陳三 • dang-san

ziu do lao-ê
就 在 樓下
She's just downstairs.

五娘 • ngou-niê

pung-zui gi-riêng duêng-lai, le ziu 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 bug bang-do gao-cu, kiag bang-do di-ê?
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-san

gao zêg bug-ko pang, mo a-niê hu ziu
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-zia) for 阿娘

do-sia a-niê sui-ain

多謝 阿娘 垂愛

Many thanks, Miss, for your care.

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

siê-sêng gam-mao huang-hiêm, rib-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.

ce-cêng ce-i, a-niê siên big-zing zai

此情 此意，阿娘 想必盡知

Miss may not be aware of his thoughts and feelings.

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

zi-si a-niê u ho zu-i, huêng mo mêng-bêh 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-zia) for 阿娘

ia ho za zag zung-bi

也好 早 作 準備

that we may make preparations.

五娘 • ngou-niê

san-hian cian zo

三兄 請坐

Brother San, please sit.

陳三 • dang-san

siê-sêng ze rib-hu in-lai, huêng bhuê e a-niê zêg-tong kuêng-kêg

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-zia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-niê

san-hian, le gê zu do zuan-ziu sian-lai huêng-si sian-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-san

do zuan-ziu sian-ghua pêng-suan-nia ao

在泉州城外朋山嶺後

Outside, behind the Peng mountain ridge

五娘 • ngou-niê

zi-cing u gui nang?

至親有幾人？

How many are there in your family?

printed: 家中 (gê-dang) for 至親

陳三 • dang-san

u cig nang

有 七人

There are seven.

五娘 • ngou-niê

si na cig-ui?

是那 七位？

Which seven are these?

陳三 • dang-san

gê-bê!

家父！

My father!

五娘 • ngou-niê

lêng-zung!

令尊！

Your honorable sire!

陳三 • dang-san

gê-bho!

家母！

My mother!

五娘 • ngou-niê

lêng-deng

令堂！

Your honorable mater!

陳三 • dang-san

gê-hian!

家兄！

My older brother!

五娘 • ngou-niê

lêng-hian!

令兄！

Your honorable brother!

陳三 • dang-san

gê-so!

家嫂！

My brother's wife!

五娘 • ngou-niê

lêng-so!

令嫂！

Your honorable sister-in-law!

陳三 • dang-san

a-gou!

阿姑！

A-Gou!

五娘 • ngou-niê

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-san

ziu-si sia-muê

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-niê

huêng-u di-nang?

還有 底人？

Who else is there?

| printed: 還有呢 (huêng-u nê)

陳三 • dang-san

huêng-u ua!

還有 我！

Well, myself!

五娘 • ngou-niê

moh zian lag-nang, na-u cig nang?

麼 正 六人，哪有 七人？

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

printed: 只有 (zi-u) for 麼正

陳三 • dang-san

liêng-dang niê-gian le, ziu-si cig-nang

連同 娘囡 你，就是 七人

Counting you, young miss, that makes seven.

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 娘囡

五娘 • ngou-niê

zo-ni liêng ua ia seng do lai?

做呢 連 我 也 算 在內？

Why do you count me too?

printed: 怎麼 (za-moh) for 做呢

陳三 • dang-san

cong dao noi-gi na-rig, ua ziu ba le dou seng 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-cung

a-niê, a-niê! uêng-ghua ang-ring lai-liou!

阿娘，阿娘！員外 安人 來了！

Miss! Miss! Master and Mistress are here!

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-niê

dia-niê bhuêng-hog!

爹娘 萬福！

Father, Mother, long life!

安人 • ang-ring

ua-ri miang li!

我囡 免 禮

Don't stand on ceremony, my child.

printed: 兒 (ri) for 囡

員外 • uêng-ghua

ri a, le di bên ko-ho liou moh?

兒呀，你的病可好了麼？

Child, is your illness better?

五娘 • ngou-niê

dia-dia, neng-ri di bên pan 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 • uêng-ghua

le ru-gim bug-si ho-duêng-duêng di

你如今不是好端端的

You were just fine before.

ui bê dui-le gang, lim-gê iu-lai cui-cu 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-niê

lim-gê iu-lai cui-cu?

林家 又來 催娶？

The Lims are again pushing for the wedding?

安人 • ang-ring

si a! lim-gê gim-rig giê li-zê zoin-lai

是啊！林家 今日 叫 李姐 前來

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

zêg-dian ain to gai rig-zi

一定 愛 討 該 日子

they must have an auspicious date.

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

五娘 • ngou-niê

bho-cing! le toin neng-ri bên sêng zê-iên!

母親！你 看 女兒 病 成 這樣！

Mother, see how your daughter is wasting from illness,

le ia m ko-liêng?

你 也 唔 可 憐？

how could you not pity her?

printed: 不 (bug) for 唔

安人 • ang-ring

ui-bho na-u bug-dong neng-ri ze-li, zi 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 • uêng-ghua

lim-gê suêh-dao, u bên ia ain ngêng-cu

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 (ngiêng-cing) for 迎娶

guê-mng ze-ao, zai gian iêng-ui ziêng-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-niê

zng-suêh? lim-gê gêng-riêng bug-iong bên-ru

x說？林家 竟然 不容 病癒

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

biêng ain bêg-cu moh?

便 愛 迫娶 麼？

and want to force a marriage?

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

員外 • uêng-ghua

riag zai tua-iêng, ta-gê biêng ain dong-ki guan-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-ring

zê zing sai dia-niê ui-lang liou

這真使爹娘爲難了

That would put your parents in a difficult position.

五娘 • ngou-niê

dia-niê a!

爹娘呀！

Father, Mother!

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

tian-ngang lai, hng iu ai

聽言來，恨又哀

Hearing what you say, makes me upset and mournful.

zê-buan ki-nang-li ho zai

這般欺人理何在

What is the logic behind this bullying?

nang bên huêng-ain lai ngiêng-cu

人病還愛來迎娶

To force a marriage in the face of illness,

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

sig (?) bêg ua sang zuan-tai

實 X 迫我喪泉臺

would be forcing me to the grave.

mo dia-niê, lai zoh-zu

望爹娘，來作主

Please Father, Mother, make the right decision,

miêng neng-ri, zao hua-zai

免女兒，遭禍災

and spare your daughter from a calamitous fate!

益春 • iah-cung

uêng-ghua, ang-ring,

員外，安人

Master, Mistress,

le toin a-niê bên ru-ce bho-ru,

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-zia bên-ti bhuê-ru)

hung-ki huêng-si cong-mang ui-si

婚期還是從緩爲是

It is better not to rush into the marriage.

員外 • uêng-ghua

hng!

嗯！

Hmph!

安人 • ang-ring

neng-ri, m-si dia-niê sim-hng

女兒，唔是爹娘心狠

Daughter, it is not that your parents are heartless,

printed: 不 (bug) for 唔

zi-ing lim-gê guan-gao si-dai,

只因林家官高勢大

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

riag-si dig-zuê ta-gê, le dia kiong u bug-biêng 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 (ru-guê) for 若是

五娘 • ngou-niê

ru-ce dia-niê ziu-si ain ba neng-ri 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 • uêng-ghua

han?! bê-bho ui-le zong-sing diêh-siên

～！父母為你終身着想

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

za-moh huêng-guai ki bê-bho lai-liou?

怎麼反怪起父母來了？

How can you come and accuse us like this?

安人 • ang-ring

si-a! neng-ri, le ziu sung-cong dia-dia di uê 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-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

na lim-dua bug-gou nang sên-si, sam-huang-si-ce bêg 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.

zi kiong ta-gê nghiêng-cu rig, zian si neng-ri big-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 (zi-pan) for 只恐

安人 • ang-ring

uêng-ghua, le toin ru-ho si ho?

員外，你看 如何 是好？

Master, what do you think we should do?

員外 • uêng-ghua

hng! le ho zai-dao? le in siu-liou lim-gê ze pian

哼！你何知道，你已受了林家之聘

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

sên-ui lim-gê ze nang si-ui lim-gê ze 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.

le si-liou ua ia ba-le gê gao lim-gê ke!

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-niê

bho-cing! bug-ru riang neng-ri hing-zai si-liou, dao ia gang-zêng

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-ring

ho neng-ri, ho neng-ri, coin-bhuêng bug-iou zê-iên

好女兒，好女兒，千萬不要這樣

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

員外 • uêng-ghua

hng! ngêg-neng, hung-ing dai-se, bê-bho zag-zu

哼！逆女，婚姻大事，父母作主

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

le cui-san-iang-si, bug tian 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?

mog-hui le... mog-hui le biag u ng-cêng?

莫非你.....莫非你別有隱情？

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

zuan-bi, ua tian siou-cig suêh le zê-gi-rig gao-cu luêng-cuang

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-ziang, giu-gêng 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-se) 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-niê

dia-dia! dia-dia gin-ghi, neng-ri zi-ho in-si mêng-zi

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-ring

ai-ia! neng-ri bug-ko! neng-ri bug-koi ia!

哎呀！女兒不可，女兒不可！

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

員外 • uêng-ghua

zuan-bi, le bug-tian bê mêng, ziu-si bug-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.

bug-hao ze neng, si u e-gu

不孝之女，死有餘辜

Unfilial daughters cannot be redeemed even by death.

安人 • ang-ring

neng-ri, neng-ri!

女兒，女兒！

Daughter! Daughter!

僕婦 • bog-hu

ki-bing uêng-ghua, lim-dua-ia cing-ze zoin-lai

啓稟 員外，林大爺親自前來

Sir, Master Lim-dua has come personally,

iou-gin uêng-ghua ang-ring

要見 員外 安人

and wishes to meet with Sir and Madam.

員外 • uêng-ghua

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

好，就來，來，下樓吧！

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

安人 • ang-ring

iah-cung, ho-ho hog-si a-niê!

益春，好好服侍阿娘

Iah-cung, take good care of your miss.

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

陳三 • dang-san

hiêng-muê!

賢妹

Sister!

五娘 • ngou-niê

san-hian!

三兄！

Brother San!

陳三 • dang-san

huang-cai ze se, lêng-nang ko-gêng ko-gam

方才之事，令人可敬可感

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

ru-u so-mêng, bêh-kêng bhuêng-si bug-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-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

ru-gim gib-huê i riêng-bhai, bho-hang siên-sim lui muan-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-gê tang-riag zai siang-bêg, bian-ziang zêg-si ciu di-in

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-san

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

sên zêg dang-sên si dang-si, muê si ua ia nguêng siang-sui

生 則 同 生 死 同 死，妹 死 我 亦 願 相 隨

If you jump, I jump.

se-gao riêng-bhai su ze-guêg, zoh-cu bhuê-big bho sên-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-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

gam-sia san-hian cim-cêng-ngi, bug-uang pêg-ge zêg-piêng ci

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 nguêng ba zong-sing toh, sên-sên si-si bug 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-san

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

zêg-piêng zing-sêng lai mêng-si

一片真誠來盟誓

With true intentions let us make an oath.

五娘 • ngou-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

ce-sim guang-guang tiêng ko-di

此心耿耿天可知

This heart is devoted, as Heaven knows.

二人 • ri-nang • together

〔合唱 • hah-ciang • in unison〕

do-tin nguêng-zag bi-êg-ziou

在天願作比翼鳥

Like a pair of lovebirds in the sky,

do-di nguêng-ui liêng-li-gi

在地願爲連理枝

Like intertwined branches on the ground,

hai-gou-ziêh-lang cêng bho-zing

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-tin-huang zi bug-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-cung

a-niê, a-niê! se-cêng bug-ho liou!

阿娘，阿娘！事情不好了！

Miss! Miss! Bad news!

printed: 小姐 (siou-zia) for 阿娘

五娘 • ngou-niê

ho-se huang-ziang?

何事 慌張？

What makes you so flustered?

益春 • iah-cung

huang-cai lim-dua zoin-lai cui-cing

方才 林大 前來 催親

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

uêng-ghua in he ta bung-ghuêh zab-boih-rig zoin-lai ngiêng-cu 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-niê

zab-boih ziu ain ngiêng-cu?

十八就愛迎娶？

To be married off on the eighteenth?

printed: 要 (iou) for 愛

益春 • iah-cung

hên! hung-ki seng-lai zi-u si-tin, dan ru-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-zia le toin ru-ho si ho)

五娘 • ngou-niê

dia dia! le tai hng-sim liou

爹爹！你太狠心了

Father! You are too cruel.

陳三 • dang-san

niê-gian, se in ging-gib, zi-u iêng-zao gao-buê

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.

huêng-si sui ua dang-huêng zuan-ziu

還是隨我同返泉州

Come back with me to Zuan-ziu.

益春 • iah-cung

a-niê, ce-si bug-zao, lang-dao do-ce sog-ciu-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-niê

ia-ba! gi-si dia-dia ru-ce zoh-cêng, hiun-guai neng-ri 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 he-gung, sên-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-san

(??) gim-mê san-gên si-hao...

XX 今夜三更時候.....

Tonight, at the third watch...

nang san-nang...

俺三人.....

We three...

三人同 • san-nang-dang • three in unison

zêg-dang ki-sing!

一同起身！

Shall set forth together!

第七章 • Doin-cik-ziang • Act 7

第二十二場 • doin-ri-zab-ri-diên • Scene

22

1:54:33

五娘 • ngou-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

ziou-lao gou in san-gên zuêng

樵樓鼓已三更轉

The watchtower drum has struck the third watch.

giê iah-cung, sog zian hêng-zuang 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-cung

hêng-zuang za-in siu-sib ho liou

行裝早已收拾好了

The bags have long since been packed.

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

hiêm sê bhuang-liou zê-ui dua bêng-ring

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-san

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

do-sia li-gi ho siu-pê, cuêng-ziang le sêng-ziu 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-niê

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

lim-biêg i-i huê-siu mo, cong-gim iong-biêg lao-sang-cing

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-cung

〔唱 • ciang • singing〕

a-niê le mo gian-sim, tih-ziang-gung lang-dang u-sim-ring

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 • doin-ri-zab-san-diên • Scene 23

1:57:04

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

cong-cug huam-lang sing ze-zai

沖出 樊籠 身自在

Dashing out of the gilded cage, we are free.

bug-pan guêng-suan dêng zo-ghai

不怕 關山 重阻礙

Unafraid of the mountains in our way.

u-cêng gim in sêng guêng-sog

有情 今已成眷屬

Love has made us a family.

nang san-nang bêng-goin hin ciu ciê ngang kai

俺三人 併肩攜手 笑顏開

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

ngiang-mo tiêng-kong ziu-hung suan

仰望 天空 鳥雲散

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

ngou-sêg ziu-hia bang guang-cai

五色 朝霞 放光彩

A multi-colored dawn unleashing its brilliance.

zêg-lung ang-rig ziên-tiên lai

一輪紅日上天來

A bright red sun coming up into the sky.