

**M119**  
**The song of Nzhai-jio-shi-du.**

***Sung by Zhang Ming.***

From the beginning of the sky to its end there was none but  
Nzhai-jio-shi-du, a fine young man.  
From South to North was found none but Ngao-rang the run-away, a fine young  
woman.

The hands of Nzhai-jio-shi-du were skilful.  
Nzhai-jio-shi-du was the performer on pipes, the performer of songs,

5      This year we may know,  
Know that this year the Master is engaging in spirit-worship  
And the Master has appointed,  
Has appointed a performer on pipes, and chosen,  
Chosen none but Nzhai-jio-shi-du.

10     Nzhai-jio-shi-du has practised,  
Has practised the pipes every day,  
Has practised the pipes every night.  
Nzhai-jio-shi-du has practised the people's pipes on earth,  
Nzhai-jio-shi-du has practised the spirit pipes in the Master's land.

15     Nzhai-jio-shi-du caused,  
Caused Ngao-rang the run-away to sweep the house, to sweep the place and  
make it clean,  
To scour the house and scour the place and make it spotless.  
For Nzhai-jio-shi-du's physical body would lie on the bed,  
While Nzhai-jio-shi-du's spirit would become,  
20     Become performer on pipes away in the Master's land.

Nzhai-jio-shi-du spoke,  
"At the end of a week,  
When the sun is shining brightly,  
In the sunshine, and on reaching the time of eating the midday meal,  
25     Nzhai-jio-shi-du's musical pipes will sound,  
Sound loudly from away in the sky.

The musical pipes of Ngao-rang the run-away there in the room,  
Ngao-rang the run-away must take and place upon the water butt,  
When Nzhai-jio-shi-du's musical pipes sound just outside,  
30     Then replace the musical pipes of Ngao-rang the run-away in the room  
Where Nzhai-jio-shi-du is lying on the bed.  
Then Nzhai-jio-shi-du will arise and come away,  
To remain for six or seven years".

35     This year we may know,  
Know that the Master is engaging in spirit-worship,  
And the Master has appointed,  
Has appointed a performer on pipes and chosen none but Nzhai-jio-shi-du.

- Nzhai-jio-shi-du has practised,  
Practised the people's pipes on earth,  
40 And practised the Master's pipes in the Master's land.
- Nzhai-jio-shi-du caused,  
Caused Ngao-rang the run-away to sweep the house,  
To sweep the house, sweep up the dust and sweep it clean.  
He caused Ngao-rang the run-away to carry water,  
45 To carry clear water and fill the butt.
- Nzhai-jio-shi-du lay upon the bed.  
Nzhai-jio-shi-du engaged in the Master's spirit-worship.  
Nzhai-jio-shi-du was gone for a week.
- When the sun was shining brightly,  
50 In the sunshine, and on reaching the time of eating the mid-day meal,  
Nzhai-jio-shi-du's musical pipes sounded,  
Sounded loudly away in the sky.  
Then the musical pipes of Ngao-rang the run-away were placed upon the water  
butt.
- When Nzhai-jio-shi-du's musical pipes sounded,  
55 Sounded loudly away in the sky,  
Nzhai-jio-shi-du's young sister-in-law did what was not right.  
Nzhai-jio-shi-du's young sister-in-law came in to look,  
And opened wide Nzhai-jio-shi-du's room.
- Nzhai-jio-shi-du was covered in sweat,  
60 And his young sister-in-law felt sorry for him.  
His young sister-in-law spread out the edge of her gathered skirt and used it to  
wipe,  
To wipe Nzhai-jio-shi-du's brow,  
And Nzhai-jio-shi-du lay quite still.
- Then when Nzhai-jio-shi-du's musical pipes sounded,  
65 Sounded loudly away in the sky,  
Ngao-rang the run-away's musical pipes made no sound,  
And Ngao-rang the run-away's tears ran down.
- This year we may know,  
Know that this year Ngao-rang the run-away has given birth to sons,  
70 Has given birth to two brothers.  
For the elder there was no way of giving a name,  
So let the elder be called Ndrao-ghu,  
And let the second be called Ndrao-ghe.
- Ngao-rang the run-away has left,  
75 Left Ndrao-ghu and Ndrao-ghe at home,  
While Ngao-rang the run-away sought,  
Sought Nzhai-jio-shi-du through all the earth,  
Sought Nzhai-jio-shi-du, but sought in vain.

80 She sought Nzhai-jio-shi-du through all the world,  
 Sought Nzhai-jio-shi-du, sought but found no sign.

Ngao-rang the run-away has left,  
 Left Ndrao-ghu and Ndrao-ghe at home,  
 While Ngao-rang the run-away travelled.  
 Ngao-rang the run-away travelled the far road,  
 85 Ngao-rang the run-away travelled the long road.  
 On the far road, the long road she was sad,  
 Sad for her little sons at home.

Weeping bitterly as she travelled to the sky.  
 Ngao-rang the run-away has travelled,  
 90 Travelled through earth-people's great land, sighing and forlorn,  
 Travelled through earth-people's land, with longing, away to the pass.

In a single day she traversed ninety-nine mountains,  
 In a single day she traversed ninety-nine valleys,  
 In a single day she traversed ninety-nine ridges,  
 95 In a single day she crossed ninety-nine rivers.

Ngao-rang the run-away travelled earth people's far road,  
 She travelled earth-people's long road for seven whole years.  
 Grieving she reached the pass to the sky-people's land.  
 The sunshine made Ngao-rang the run-away restless at heart.  
 100 Ngao-rang the run-away longed for the earth,  
 Weeping bitterly as she travelled to the sky

Nzhai-jio-shi-du heard the sound,  
 And Nzhai-jioi-shi-du released the "sheu-ndu", letting it hang down,  
 Hang down until it rested,  
 105 Rested at Ngao-rang the run-away's toes.  
 So Ngao-rang the run-away was able to travel,  
 Travel and reach the sky-people's pass.

When the sun was shining brightly,  
 In the sunshine moths and butterflies swarm in groups,  
 110 In the sunshine moths and butterflies swarm in lines.  
 Ngao-rang the run-away saw one coloured butterfly,  
 And Ngao-rang the run-away caught the butterfly, carrying it in her hand.

Ngao-rang the run-away went onward till she reached,  
 Reached the doors of the Master's garden,  
 115 Where the Master's two swine-herds met with her.

"Ngao-rang the run-away, you have come a far road of long stages,  
 Did you not meet with our young sister-in-law?  
 Ngao-rang the run-away, you have come a wide road with far stages,  
 Did you not see our young sister-in-law?"

120 Ngao-rang the run-away spoke,  
 "You say, 'Your young sister-in-law', I do not know her.

- You say, 'Your young sister-in-law', I have not seen her".  
 Then the Master's swine-herds spoke,  
 "What concerns have brought you here?"  
 125 "Concern for the Father of the children has brought me here."
- Ngao-rang the run-away spoke,  
 "You say, 'Your young sister-in-law', I do not know her,  
 But I came by earth's far road  
 And arrived by sky's near road,  
 130 And when I reached the pass of earth-people's land,  
 I saw one coloured butterfly.  
 I caught that coloured butterfly, carrying it in my hand".
- Then Ngao-rang the run-away, opening her hand and spreading it wide,  
 released,  
 Released the coloured butterfly and let it go free.  
 135 The Master's swine-herds smiled and laughed with pleasure.  
 "This is indeed our young sister-in-law!"
- "You came by earth-people's far road.  
 Earth-people's far road, travelled with sighing, takes seven years,  
 While sky people take but seven months".
- 140 Ngao-rang the run-away spoke,  
 "I said, 'the Father of the children', and you did not know,  
 If I say, 'Nzhai-jio-shi-du', would you know?"  
 "You say, 'Nzhai-jio-shi-du', then we do know.  
 Nzai-jio-shi-du is the Master's chief guest".
- 145 Ngao-rang the run-away went onward till she reached,  
 Reached the Master's doors of silver  
 And saw the Master's doors of gold.  
 Ngao-rang the run-away looked round about and saw,  
 Saw the Master's High Place.
- 150 Nzhai-jio-shi-du was there at the very top playing his musical pipes.  
 Nzhai-jio-shi-du played his musical pipes, and moving gracefully reached,  
 Reached a point right in front of Ngao-rang the run-away.  
 Ngao-rang the run-away stretching out her hand took hold,  
 Took hold of the hem of Nzhai-jio-shi-du's gown.
- 155 Nzhai-jio-shi-du turned round to see.  
 "What is the purpose of your coming here?"  
 "My purpose for coming here is to see my family".
- Nzhai-jio-shi-du spoke,  
 "Are you then not concerned for Ndrao-ghu and Ndrao-ghe?"  
 160 Ngao-rang the run-away spoke,  
 "It is the Father of the children who has left them orphaned!"
- Nzhai-jio-shi-du spoke,  
 "Rather it was Ngao-rang the run-away who did not obey!

Ngao-rang the run-away you failed to restrain,  
 165 You failed to restrain your young sister-in-law or send her away,  
 And so your husband was unable to come back,  
 Your husband had no way of coming again".

Then Nzhai-jio-shi-du led,  
 Led Ngao-rang the run-away by the hand,  
 170 Led Ngao-rang the run-away by the arm,  
 Until they arrived at the Master's doors of silver.

Nzhai-jio-shi-du then opened,  
 Opened the Master's entrance,  
 So that Ngao-rang the run-away might look.  
 175 Nzhai-jio-shi-du displayed the vista,  
 So that Ngao-rang the run-away might see.

Ngao-rang the run-away gazed down at the earth,  
 And saw Ndrao-ghu and Ndrao-ghe naked there on earth,  
 Their dwelling, their resting place a gutter behind the house,  
 180 Their dwelling, their resting place an alley beside the house.

Then Nzhai-jio-shi-du spoke,  
 "You return again, go back and care,  
 Care for Ndrao-ghu and Ndrao-ghe at home.

Then after a week,  
 185 When the sun is shining brightly,  
 Scour the house and scour the place and make it clean,  
 And the musical pipes of the Father of the children will sound,  
 Will sound loudly away in the sky".

But the musical pipes of Ngao-rang the run-away remained silent,  
 190 The musical pipes of Ngao-rang the run-away made no sound.  
 So Ngao-rang the run-away had to be contented to care for Ndrao-ghu and  
 Ndrao-ghe,  
 And live, an honoured maiden, upon the earth.

Thus it is ended.