

M145
Zhyu-shi-lang's song.

Sung by Zhang Ming.

This year we may know,
May know that this year Zhyu-shi-lang is clearing the forest.
Zhyu-shi-lang's cutting strokes rang out for the benefit of posterity,
His cutting strokes rang out for the benefit of descendants.

5 When Zhyu-shi-lang's cutting was dry,
 His cutting, the trimmings and undergrowth grew yellow.
 The weather was sunny and fine,
 Fine and good for Zhyu-shi-lang to burn off the cutting.

10 Zhyu-shi-lang went and divided the land.
 He devoted the lowest terrace to sowing hemp,
 He devoted the middle terrace to planting cucumbers,
 He devoted the top-most terrace to sowing millet.

15 The hemp was good, the hemp for stranding,
 The cucumbers were good on the cucumber vines,
 The millet grain was good in the ears of millet.

As the cucumber tendrils spread, the fruit formed,
And grew to the size of a small human arm.
Ngu-gu-ngu-ga went stealthily to see them every day,
And every day Ngu-gu-ngu-ga stroked and fondled them.

20 Zhyu-shi-lang forbade her to pick the cucumbers,
 But Ngu-gu-ngu-ga did not obey.
 One day she picked a cucumber,
 Picked a cucumber and wrapped it away.

25 The striped tiger did no good.
 Zhyu-shi-lang said, "There is danger, the striped tiger may come stealthily
 look".
 Now when Ngu-gu-ngu-ga heard that,
 Ngu-gu-ngu-ga trembled with fear,
 And one day the striped tiger did take her,
 Took Ngu-gu-ngu-ga right away.

30 Zhi-shi-lang arose and sent,
 Sent a message calling,
 Calling the last-comers to come and look,
 Calling the first-comers to come and regard.

35 The last-comers carried,
 Carried a bat-skin, arriving early.
 Zhyu-shi-lang told them to put it in his basket for stranded hemp,
 But it did not fill Zhyu-shi-lang's basket for stranded hemp.

The first-comers killed,
Killed a leopard for its skin, and they came, arriving early.
40 Zhyu-shi-lang told them to put it in his basket for skeined hemp,
But it did not fill Zhyu-shi-lang's basket for skeined hemp.

Now Lyu-jio killed,
Killed a tiger for its skin, and he came, arriving late.
45 Zhyu-shi-lang told him to put it in his basket for skeined hemp,
But Zhyu-shi-lang's basket for skeined hemp could not contain it.

The first-comers and last-comers had cause to be ashamed,
But Zhyu-shi-lang gave,
Gave his second daughter to Lyu-jio to take as wife.

Thus it is ended.