

M303

Old Miao songs about marriage. 2.

Song by the bridegroom's friends.

Collected by Wang Ming-ji.

The hawthorn had long been in blossom.
The right time for the old folk to go and eat meat,
Yet there was nothing for the marriage feast.
At a marriage feast you should have sliced white pork!
5 But there was nothing for the wedding feast.
At a wedding feast you should have the best joint of mutton sliced!

But when the next day came, the man, the father sent,
Sent two attendants wearing,
10 Wearing black capes and bearing wine horns
To pour clear wine, waiting at the entrance,
To pour clear wine, waiting at the door,
Welcoming the marriage guests, the wedding guests on arrival.

The man, the father sent,
15 Sent two skilful waiters,
Two skilful waiters to replenish the food baskets.
“In replenishing the food baskets, do not be hindered,
In replenishing the bowls, do not rest!
20 When tomorrow comes,
And the marriage guests, the wedding guests have eaten their fill,
You too may eat your fill!”