

M309
Old Miao songs about marriage. 8.

Transcribed by Yang Yung-xin.

- With her smooth hands the girl had joined the hemp strands,
And now the weather came out fine and good,
Just right for the girl to carry her skeins to the river.
Very soon the girl's skeins, the girl's yarn was hanging,
5 Hanging to dry in the garden plot.
- Now the man, the father had heard,
Heard about that daughter, the adult young woman,
And the man, the father, mated his ewes for breeding,
And mated a pair of spotted pigs.
10 So the man, the father, made arrangements,
Mating all the flocks and herds.
- But the woman, her mother, and the man, her father were of one mind,
There would be no discussion of their daughter, the adult young woman.
For regarding their daughter, the adult young woman,
15 The woman, her mother, and the man, her father, were adamant.
- They grieved that their daughter, the adult young woman
Might rise and leave the shelter of the door.
They grieved that their daughter, the adult young woman
Might rise and quit the shelter of the house.
- 20 So the man, the father, arranged,
Arranged with a relative, one who could cook.
And the relative came and the relative called,
Called the woman, her mother, and the man, her father, to share hospitality in
the house.
- The relative came and the relative made,
25 Made the woman, her mother, and the man, her father, share hospitality in the
home.