

**M331**  
**The song of the run-away girl.**

*Collected by Wang Ming-ji.*

.This year we may know,  
.Know that Yeu-rang is to give his daughter in marriage,  
.To give Yeu-rang's run-away daughter in marriage,  
.Away to the country of the Li-sw clan.

5     But Yeu-rang could not find a pipe-player,  
       Though Yeu-rang sought,  
       Sought for a pipe-player urgently.

       Yeu-rang's run-away daughter saw,  
       Saw a strange suitor on the river bank,  
10     And Yeu-rang's run-away daughter prepared,  
       Prepared food for a journey urgently,  
       To carry and follow the strange suitor.

       The strange suitor, the person wearing,  
       Wearing a cape with a black tie-cord twisted at the ends,  
15     Carried his musical pipes, holding them in his arms.  
       The strange suitor, the person wearing,  
       Wearing a cape with a black tie-cord twisted at the ends,  
       Carried his musical pipes, bearing them in his hands.

       Yeu-rang's run-away daughter called,  
20     Called Yeu-rang urgently,  
       But Yeu-rang just remained in his fine wooden house,  
       And Yeu-rang's run-away daughter could not wait.

       The stranger Shi-dao was bringing,  
       Bringing the marriage party, making its way,  
25     Making its way in single file along the river bank,  
       Shining like fish in the river.  
       He was bringing the marriage party making its way,  
       Making its way in single file there yonder.

       Yeu-rang's run-away daughter with,  
30     With the strange suitor went,  
       Went fleeing on their way and passed,  
       Passed through ninety-nine valleys.

       They passed through forests, through the edible bamboo,  
       They passed through forests, through bamboo hanging low.  
35     They passed by forests, by the tall bamboo  
       They passed by forests, by the bamboo bending down.

       They went by the great mountain range of Niu-lu,  
       And stayed a while on the great mountain range at Drao-zeu,

For the strange suitor was like a bird of passage.  
 40 Yeu-rang's run-away daughter grew hungry,  
 Grew hungry and yet more hungry,  
 Until Yeu-rang's run-away daughter could not remain.  
 But Yeu-rang's run-away daughter did not have,  
 Did not have any way of sending back word.

45 So to get a message she had to send it,  
 Send it by the magpie bird.  
 The magpie bird it perched,  
 Perched on a branch of Yeu-rang's walnut tree,  
 And called Yeu-rang's name over and over.

50 When someone becomes a bride she may come home,  
 But when Yeu-rang's run-away daughter became,  
 Became a bride she could not come.  
 So Yeu-rang sent,  
 Sent Yeu-rang's eldest son.

55 His eldest son followed,  
 Followed the Magpie bird,  
 The magpie bird flew up in the sky,  
 While Yeu-rang's eldest son travelled on the ground,  
 And passed through ninety-nine valleys.

60 He passed through forests, through the edible bamboo,  
 He passed through forests, through the bamboo hanging low,  
 He passed by forests, by the tall bamboo,  
 He passed by forests, by the bamboo bending down.

The strange suitor had brought,  
 65 Had brought Yeu-rang's run-away daughter and arrived,  
 Arrived at the great mountain range of Niu-lu,  
 And stayed on the great mountain range at Drao-cie.

So the magpie bird brought,  
 Brought Yeu-rang's eldest son and arrived,  
 70 Arrived at the strange suitor and Yeu-rang's run-away daughter's place.

Then Yeu-rang's run-away daughter declared,  
 Declared that the strange suitor behaved,  
 Behaved like a bird of passage,  
 And Yeu-rang's run-away daughter could not remain.  
 75 Therefore Yeu-rang's run-away daughter would accompany,  
 Accompany Yeu-rang's eldest son and come back.

Thus Yeu-rang's run-away daughter and the strange suitor  
 Returned then, came back and passed,  
 Passed by forests, by the tall bamboo,  
 80 Passed by forests, by the bamboo bending down,  
 Passed through forests, through the edible bamboo,  
 Passed through forests, through the bamboo hanging low.

So having crossed ninety-nine mountains,  
Yeu-rang's eldest son brought  
85 Brought Yeu-rang's run-away daughter,  
Along with the strange suitor, and they came and reached,  
Reached Yeu-rang's home.

Yeu-rang took the strange suitor's pipes,  
And set them down against the partition wall.

90 Then Yeu-rang provided arable land  
For the strange suitor to farm,  
And Yeu-rang provided a site,  
Where the strange suitor might build,  
Build a house with timber frame and tiled roof to settle as a family and live.

Thus it is ended.