

M336
**Concerning cousin Bang-ndlie and the youth,
cousin Mang-shi-ndlie.**

Singer not recorded.

From scattered sky material came the dome,
For cousin Bang-ndlie to come and live.
Woven from scattered earth material came the ranges,
For the youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, to come and dwell.

5 Cousin Bang-ndlie was beautiful,
As the youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, soon came to know,
But they might not be joined in marriage,
Since cousin Bang-ndlie, the maid, was bride-to-be for someone else,
And cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, the youth, was bridegroom-to-be for someone else.

10 This year we may know,
Know that this year there would be a market at Ndu-nzhi.
Cousin Bang-ndlie together with,
With the youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, made,
Made an appointment to meet in what place?
15 They made it for a plot in the middle of the market.

Cousin Bang-ndlie was afoot early,
So cousin Bang-ndlie reached there early.
But the youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, was afoot late,
So the youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, reached there late.

20 Visitors came, many visitors gathered,
But one person, the youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, had not arrived.
Visitors came, all the visitors gathered,
But one person, the youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, had not come.

25 Cousin Bang-ndlie looked all around,
And saw the youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, standing,
Standing outside the Ndu-nzhi market.
The youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, alone attracted her.
The youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, looked all around,
And saw cousin Bang-ndlie, who alone attracted him.

30 Cousin Bang-ndlie grieved,
Grieved that the youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, had got no favourable response.
The youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, grieved,
Grieved that cousin Bang-ndlie had got no marriage arrangement.
Their only choice was to flee. So they went,
35 Went till they reached the midst of the long Njiao-a-bang valley.

Cousin Bang-ndlie looked all around
And saw that the collar of the youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie's gown was ripped.
So cousin Bang-ndlie gathered,

40 Gathered drawn silk and drawn thread to sew,
 To sew up the collar of the youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie's gown.

 The youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie, looked all around
 And saw that the thong of cousin Bang-ndlie's sandal was broken.
 So the youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie gathered,
45 Gathered drawn hemp, drawn hemp strands to twist,
 To twist into a thong for cousin Bang-ndlie's sandal.

 Cousin Bang-ndlie was like
 A needle lost in the ashes.
 The youth, cousin Mang-shi-ndlie was like
 A star far away yonder in the sky.

50 Thus it is ended.