

M343
Songs remembering the old folk. 3.

Sung by Tao Zi-gai.

Notes.

This song is recorded in Document E (no. 16, page 40).

Lines 3 and 4. These lines in the first stanza and lines 8 and 9 in the second stanza, as they are written in the Miao text, are run together without any punctuation, and the word C^{no}, “living” does not occur. In all the other songs in this group the movement of thought is expressed in three steps.

Step 1. “Would that the old folk” or “grandfather” or “the parents” etc.

Step 2. “had not died” or “were still living” or “could be born again” etc.

Step 3 “then they would resemble a great tree” or “a great rock” or “a tree in blossom yielding honey” etc

In the Miao text of the present song the essential second step has been lost. Fortunately it can be easily be restored simply by adding the single word C^{no}, at the end of lines 4 and 9.