

M382
A song of spirit worship.
Devoting an ox and a pig to the ancestors.

Collected by Wang Ming-ji.

The sun was shining brightly,
And in the sunshine the birds, flocking together, were keening,
Keening at the head of the river,
Repeating the man, the father's name over and over.

5 So the man, the father, went to consult the shaman healer,
 To consult the shaman-healer, the enchanter, who revealed,
 Revealed that the man the father must offer an ox.

10 The sun was shining brightly,
 And in the sunshine the birds, flocking together, were keening.
 Repeating the man, the father's name over and over.

So the man, the father went to consult the enchanter,
To consult the shaman-healer, the enchanter, who revealed,
Revealed that the man, the father, must offer a pig.
Then the man, the father, returned and reached home.

15 The man, the father, went and called,
 Called the people's zu-mu to come and to devote,
 Devote to grandfather, the grandfather's ox.

20 The man, the father, went and called,
 Called the people's zu-mu to come and to devote,
 Devote to grandmother, the grandmother's pig.

So the grandmother might lead,
Lead the pig with her hand,
And the grandfather might lead,
Lead the ox with his arm.

25 The people's zu-mu made divination with sliced divining sticks,
 And the divining sticks fell all together.
 So the people's zu-mu was able to escort,
 Escort grandmother and grandfather to their home.

30 Where was the grandmother and the grandfather's homeland?
 It was there in the pile of red earth.
 Where was the grandfather and grandmother's homeland?
 It was there in the pile of black earth.