

**M475**  
**The orphan's song.**

***A woman from Hmao-zu-mu***

.This year we may know,  
Know that the orphan was gathering firewood,  
And Yeu-rang pitied,  
Pitied the orphan greatly.

5 This year we may know,  
Know that Yeu-rang's youngest daughter was passing by,  
Passing on the far side of Ndu-nzhi and Ndu-sao,  
And met the orphan sitting by the road.

10 The orphan had been gathering firewood,  
.When Yeu-rang's youngest daughter met  
Met the orphan sitting by the road.

Yeu-rang's youngest daughter went back with the orphan to sleep,  
To sleep at the orphan's house.  
Though the orphan's house, thatched with wormwood and full of holes, was  
quite inadequate to sleep in,  
15 Yet Yeu-rang's youngest daughter went with the orphan to sleep,  
To sleep at the orphan's house.

Yeu-rang's youngest daughter put her copper bracelet into the pot.'  
And the pot filled with white pork.  
She put her copper bracelet into the steamer,  
20 And the steamer filled with white rice.  
This she prepared for the orphan, for both of them to eat.

"Orphan, oh orphan,  
Orphan, oh orphan,  
Oh orphan have you got,  
25 Have you not got even a bundle of pine needles or millet straw for us to spread?"

Orphan, oh orphan,  
Orphan, oh orphan!"  
And Yeu-rang's youngest daughter wept.  
Then her relatives built,  
30 Built for Yeu-rang's youngest daughter a house with timber frame and tiled  
roof.

When the next day came,  
The orphan quickly ran away,  
And Yeu-rang's youngest daughter went quickly to reassure him.

35 "Orphan, oh orphan,  
You do not believe my word!"  
So she persuaded him to return and look,

Return and look inside his house.  
 This year we may know,  
 Know that Yeu-rang's youngest daughter caused,  
 40 Caused the orphan to go and gather firewood,  
 For this year the king will be travelling along the road.

Yeu-rang's youngest daughter had been making wine,  
 And she sent the orphan to go and wait,  
 Wait for the king in the pass.

45 So the orphan presented,  
 Presented clear wine  
 For the king to drink,  
 And the king became completely drunk,  
 Though the orphan's wine was not used up.

50 Then the king wanted to accompany,  
 To accompany the orphan and return to sleep,  
 To sleep at the orphan's house.  
 Whereat the orphan came back and asked,  
 Asked Yeu-rang's youngest daughter.

55 Yeu-rang's youngest daughter made the orphan go and escort,  
 Escort the king to come and sleep,  
 Sleep at Yeu-rang's youngest daughter's house.

This year we may know,  
 Know that the king would change wives with the orphan.,  
 60 So the orphan went and asked Yeu-rang's youngest daughter.

"Yeu-rang's youngest daughter is raising the orphan to become a king".  
 So the soldiers, the king's soldiers, carried,  
 Carried the orphan, now king, away along the road,  
 But the orphan pretended he had forgotten the agreement for exchange of wives.

65 So the orphan returned and reached,  
 Reached Yeu-rang's youngest daughter,  
 "Yeu-rang's youngest daughter has raised the orphan to become a king".

Now the king's eldest son became,  
 Became the head of a family of powerful Yi landlords,  
 70 But the king's soldiers took,  
 Took the orphan away,  
 Took the orphan and reached the king's country.

This year we may know,  
 Know that Yeu-rang's youngest daughter has this year given birth,  
 75 Given birth to two wonder workers,  
 But she abandoned them in the gutter of Yeu-rang's house.

When the next day came,  
 They became stable lads to Yeu-rang.

80 Then Yeu-rang caused,  
 Caused the wonder workers together with,  
 With Yeu-rang to do some writing.

The wonder workers drew clear water and held it in their mouths,  
 Held it in their mouths then spewed it on the paper pile.  
 This they handed to Yeu-rang to inspect,  
 85 And it was exactly like Yeu-rang's own writing.

Yeu-rang therefore caused,  
 Caused the wonder workers to take,  
 To take Yeu-rang's youngest daughter and follow,  
 Follow after the orphan.

90 To go by the earthly road was far,  
 To go by the sky road was near.  
 To go by the earthly road would take seven years,  
 To go by the sky road would take but seven months.

95 But going on the sky road one would fear,  
 Fear the sky darkness on the further side,  
 And the sisters, Thunder's two daughters,  
 Rolling their drums behind.

The wonder workers took,  
 Took the fan, the mottled fan,  
 100 They fanned toward the front,  
 And all grew bright like sunrise.

They fanned towards the rear,  
 And the sisters, Thunder's two daughters,  
 Their swords and spears stood erect,  
 105 Killing outright the sisters, Thunder's two daughters.

The wonder workers took,  
 Took Yeu-rang's youngest daughter, to go and seek their father.  
 They went and they reached,  
 Reached Ndu-nzhi and the Bw-bw country.

110 Yeu-rang's youngest daughter caused,  
 Caused the wonder workers to go and call their father.  
 So the wonder workers set off,  
 Set off exploding firecrackers.  
 All the kings stone monuments fell down,  
 115 But the orphan's stone monuments did not move.

Yeu-rang's youngest daughter took,  
 Took the wonder workers and they went and reached,  
 Reached Ndu-nzhi and Bw-bw city approach.

Yeu-rang's youngest daughter caused,  
 120 Caused the wonder workers to go and call their father.

The wonder workers set off exploding firecrackers.  
The Ruling Race's stone monuments stood erect,  
But the orphan's stone monuments fell down.

125 The orphan was heavy hearted,  
So the orphan sent,  
Sent his soldiers and retainers to look.  
They saw the three, like Chinese lepers,  
Preparing midday meal outside the city gate.

130 The orphan was heavy hearted,  
But Yeu-rang's youngest daughter dipped up.  
Dipped up a bowl of porridge and pressed it upon,  
Pressed it upon the orphan, it being time for midday meal.

135 The orphan could not refuse it,  
But in taking it, he spilt it over the skirt of his gown,  
And discovered the agreement by which, when a young man,  
The orphan had exchanged wives with the king.

The orphan pitied,  
Pitied Yeu-rang's youngest daughter and the two wonder workers greatly.

140 The orphan sent,  
Sent his soldiers to escort,  
To escort Yeu-rang's youngest daughter and the wonder workers,  
To escort them to the king's house.

145 The king caused the wonder workers to govern earth,  
While the orphan governed the sky,  
And their government brought peace in the sky and tranquillity to earth.

So in the day when the sky was disturbed earth supported it.  
And when earth was disturbed the sky clung to it.  
And peace came to the sky and tranquillity on earth.

Thus it is ended.