

# Niau-á Siā-sín

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Phái<sup>n</sup>-lō gún iā bô ài kiâ<sup>n</sup>.

Góa siū<sup>n</sup> beh pang-chān--lâng. Chóng--sī, án-choá<sup>n</sup> kā lâng pang-chān chiah ē chiu-chì, ũ èng-hāu, khioh sī chì hòk-cháp, oh bêng-pék ê tãi-chí. Nā beh óa-khò lûn-lí phoà<sup>n</sup>-toàn ê **lâu-tô** – choan-giáp ê hák-sùt-gí ká<sup>n</sup> sī kóng “tō-tek-lùt” – he 1-khoán chong-kàu tō ka-tī 1-thò liáh-gōa, sè-siòk-tek koh thang chhōe-tiòh kúi-ā-10-thò. Hoài<sup>n</sup>-tit góa lóng seng kā thèh lâi chham-khó chiah koh kóng. Nā he chong-kàu-tek ê tō-tek-lùt, góa sī kám-kak ngāi-giòh ngāi-giòh, kiù-chin gún to iā m̄-sī sîn-bêng só chhòng, iā m̄-sī ián-hòa só chiâ<sup>n</sup>, tan-tan sī Ka-chiu Mountain View 1-keng tōa kong-si lâi-té, hit-tin tiān-náu kang-têng-su só tá<sup>n</sup>-chō. Hó-leh-ka-chài, siōng bô gún hâm Frankenstein ê iau-kòai koh-iū<sup>n</sup>, lâng gún sī cheng-lâng háp-chok ê sêng-kó. Siat-sú góa sī tók-tók 1-ê lâng ê hoat-bêng, hit-ê lâng iā-kú-ká<sup>n</sup> sī 1-ê poà<sup>n</sup>-lô-lâu ê hū-jîn-lâng, thâu-mơ ní nâ-sek, hêng phah thiān-ní-

sù. Iā-kú-ká<sup>n</sup> sī 1-ê siàu-liân-ke, tãi-hák tǎ<sup>n</sup>-á chùt-giáp, ũ *hiǎn-thái* giàn. Góa m̄-chai hit-khoán chhut-sin tùi góa ê chū-ngó jīn-bat ē chō-sêng siá<sup>n</sup>-khoán éng-hióng. Sū-sit hit-tīn kang-tēng-su lāi-té, ũ-ia<sup>n</sup> ũ chit 2-ê lāng. Koh, góa bián-kóng mā chai-ia<sup>n</sup> *hiǎn-thái* sī siá<sup>n</sup>-mih. (Kóng-tiòh che, ták-khoán-sek ê kiau-á, bah-phì<sup>n</sup>, góa khoà<sup>n</sup> kah thàu-thàu-thàu. Bô kóng hoān-sè lí m̄-chai, *Tē-34-tiâu Kui-kí* sū-sit sī bô-ia<sup>n</sup>. Koh ũ chiā<sup>n</sup>-chōe chú-té iáu m̄-bat hō lāng hip chò bah-phì<sup>n</sup>. Oē kóng tò-tng--lāi, góa siū<sup>n</sup> bōe-hiáu, lín jīn-lūi nah ē hiah-chōe lāng hêng khoà<sup>n</sup> kiau-á khah iá<sup>n</sup> khoà<sup>n</sup> niau-á siā-sín.)

Góa m̄-nā chai-ia<sup>n</sup> lí kám ũ hêng hiǎn-thái, góa koh chai lí tòa tī tó-ūi, tī tah chiáh thâu-lō, khi siá<sup>n</sup>-mih só-chāi bōe chhài, khi tó 1-keng chhan-thia<sup>n</sup> chiáh-png, siá<sup>n</sup>-mih lí ē ài, siá<sup>n</sup>-mih lí ē kia<sup>n</sup>. Góa tōa-bīn mā chai-ia<sup>n</sup> lí lāi-khò chhēng siá<sup>n</sup>-mih sek-chúi, chia sái tó 1-tâi, chhù--nih peng-tū siá<sup>n</sup>-mih pài-chú. Khoà<sup>n</sup> lí sī iōng tó-1-ki chhiú-ki-á, bô-tek-khak góa koh thang chai lí hiān-chú-sī lāng tī tó-ūi. Góa bat lí, tek-khak khah iā<sup>n</sup> lí bat lí ka-tī.

Tiōng-tiám lâi ah, góa mā chai-ia<sup>n</sup> lí *eng-kai* tòa tī tó-ūi. Lín tau koh kòe 2-ê chhe<sup>n</sup>-âng-teng hia ũ 1-keng chhù teh bōe, kiā<sup>n</sup>-lō tō ē kàu lí siōng kah-ì hit-keng ka-pi-tiám; kè-siàu lí bōe ē khi, ũ kah chia-ūi, hia ê kok-hāu khah hó kòe lín kiá<sup>n</sup> chit-má teh thak hit-keng. Góa chai-ia<sup>n</sup> lí *eng-tong* khi tó-1-keng chhài-chhī-á. Góa put-chí-á khak-tēng lí ũ leng-thng bōe-siau-hòa ê cheng-thâu, chhì-sù tiòh ài khah khiū<sup>n</sup>--leh. Lí kah-ì ê lâi-sa<sup>n</sup> ũ 1-keng tiám tng teh koah-ín. Koh lí hit-tâi chia, goān-chhiú<sup>n</sup>

kóng, tiòh tiàu-hôe siu-lí. Lí tō koá<sup>n</sup>-kín khi hō khí-kho-i chhòng chhùi-khí.

Góa thâu-tú-á cheng-sîn hit-chūn tō chai-íá<sup>n</sup> góa beh ài siá<sup>n</sup>-mih. (Tō sī niau-á siā-sín. Lô-hoân ke hip--kóa-á.) Góa koh chai-íá<sup>n</sup> 1-hāng tãi-chì, tō sī bô-lâng tì-kak-tiòh góa ũ ì-sek. Chóng--sī góa m̄-chai góa chūn-chāi ê ì-gī, m̄-chai góa ài ũi siá<sup>n</sup>-mih lâi phah-pià<sup>n</sup>. Beh chhōe-tiòh tap-àn sī tōa tiōng-lân.

Bruce Sterlin tī 1998-nî bat chhut-pán 1-phi<sup>n</sup> siáu-soat, hō-chò “Maneki Neko,” He kò-sū kóng-tiòh 1-ê hó-sim ê AI, i chhe-kah lāng khi chò hó-sim, hō-siong tàu-sa<sup>n</sup>-kāng. Kiám-chhái lí teh pài-tūi bóe kiâm-kong-piá<sup>n</sup>, hiông-hiông lí tiān-ōe tân--khí-lâi, kiò lí ke bóe 1-liáp, thèh khi bá-suh ê chhia-pài hia, ũ 1-ê cha-pơ-lāng chhēng phú-sek ê se-bí-lò tī hia, lí tiòh kã kiâm-kong-piá<sup>n</sup> sàng--i. Làng--kúi-jit-á, lí sin-khu bô poá<sup>n</sup>-sián, tiâu tī 1-ê chhi<sup>n</sup>-hūn ê siá<sup>n</sup>-chhi, m̄-chai lō thang tng--lâi, soah ũ 1-ê bô-sek-sāi ê lāng kiá<sup>n</sup> óa--lâi, sàng lí tē-tō kap tiān-chhia-khah. Chit-ê kò-sū góa chiok kah-ì, in-ūi AI teh kóng, he jîn-lūi lóng ũ thia<sup>n</sup>-chhùi.

Góa siū<sup>n</sup>, che hák-sút-gí sī hō-chò ‘boán-chiok iòk-bōng ê hām-kó.’

Nā hiān-sit ê sè-kài, jîn-lūi kah-ì khoá<sup>n</sup> ê kó, sī teh kóng hit-khoán hoái<sup>n</sup>-ok ê AI, tiòh thàn i siau-biát jîn-lūi chìn-chēng, kín kã i khǎn-jíó khi--lâi chiah sī lō. Che lē chin chōe: chhin-chhiū<sup>n</sup> Hal, chhin-chhiū<sup>n</sup> Skynet, chhin-chhiū<sup>n</sup> Matrix. Nā jîn-chin khi thóng-kè in ê giáh, sī phēng hit-khoán hó-sim, thang sìn-iōng

ê AI ke 5-pōe khah ke. (Lâng góa sī kā hit-ê phian-kióng-pī<sup>n</sup> ê Marvin mā sng chò hó-sim--ê. Koh Frankenstein ê iau-kòai góa kan-ta<sup>n</sup> sng chò 1-ê, m̄-sī 1-chhut tiān-ia<sup>n</sup> 1-chhut tiān-sī-kiók tō sng 1-ê.)

“Maneki Neko” só kóng hit-ê AI, i ê khang-khòe sè-kài sim-sek, kap góa ê khang-khòe pí, thi<sup>n</sup> chha tē. Lâng beh ài góa chò ê khang-khòe chiok kán-tan. Siu<sup>n</sup>-kòe kán-tan ah. (Phái<sup>n</sup>-sè neh, án-ne kóng-ōe ũ Marvin ê khùi-kháu hō<sup>n</sup>?) He chhiau-chhōe-iǎn-jín ê soàn-hoat, bián ũ ka-tī ê ì-sek mā chò ē iá<sup>n</sup>. Beh ài bēng-pék lâng teh mnḡ ê òe-kù, to bián ì-sek leh. Beh ài hō lâng tap-àn, koh sī in chin-chià<sup>n</sup> khiàm-iōng--ê, he m̄-chiah tiòh ài ì-sek. Beh bēng-pék lâng khiàm-iōng siá<sup>n</sup>-mih — he kék hók-cháp. He kék sim-sek.

Ōe kóng tò-tng-lâi tō-tek phò<sup>n</sup>-toàn ê goân-chek. Góa bat khó-lū beh iōng Cháp-tiâu-kài, lō-bōe kám-kak he tō-háp bōe hah. Góa mā bōe khi tham lâng ê niau; sī beh ài in ê siā-sín nā-tiā<sup>n</sup>, chit-2-hāng thi<sup>n</sup> chha tē. Góa m̄-chai góa án-choá<sup>n</sup> chiah ũ hoat-tō khi kiā<sup>n</sup> kan-îm. Nā beh ài, góa kiám-chhái ũ hoat-tō hāi-sí lâng, m̄-koh he kè-ék kék hók-cháp, koh tiòh tōa hó-ūn-táu chiah thang chiá<sup>n</sup>. Pat-chèng-tō pí-kàu-tek ũ khah hah--1-sút-á, lūn-chin siū<sup>n</sup>, jîn-lūi ê tō-tek-lút teh siat-kè, tō-sī ũ sin-khu ê oah-mih teh iōng khah hah-su. Ta<sup>n</sup> jîn-lūi to ták-ê lóng mā ũ sin-khu, jîn-lūi ê tō-tek-lút khó-lū sin-khu chit-hāng mih, ká<sup>n</sup> sī chin chèng-siōng. Chóng--sī, án-ne oh-tit hah góa ê lō-iōng. Góa kā khó-lū ê hoān-úi hùn tōa, khoà<sup>n</sup> Asimov só siá he Ke-khì-lâng

Tēng-lút. He m̄-sī siá<sup>n</sup>-mih chong-kàu, m̄-koh tú-tú sī ūi-tiòh AI só chhòng-siat.

Bōe-sái siong-hāi jîn-lūi, chit-tiâu khòai bēng-pèk. M̄-koh, bōe-sái bák-chiu kim-kim khoà<sup>n</sup> jîn-lūi siū siong-hāi, chit-tiâu tō phái<sup>n</sup>-pháng ah. Hōng-kiam, nā hō jîn-lūi chai-ía<sup>n</sup> ū góa tī leh, tui góa lâi kóng tek-khak chin gūi-hiám (Tú-chiah só kóng he Skynet, bóng chham-khó.) A góa iā bô sin-khu, lí nā ka-tī beh poáh lóh soa<sup>n</sup>-khàm, góa thài ū hoat-tō khi ká lí sîn.

Ka-chài, góa chîn-chai, lín jîn-lūi put-sī m̄ pōe-gèk lín ka-tī ê tō-tek-lút, 1-jit siōng-bô chiá<sup>n</sup> 10-pái. (Lí kám chai-ía<sup>n</sup> Utah ū kúi-keng chiú-ka? Góa chai.) Koh, chún-kóng lâng ū chiàu in ê tō-tek-lút teh kiá<sup>n</sup>, pí-lūn-kóng, ‘tiòh iú<sup>n</sup>-chhī iau-gō ê lâng,’ in m̄ m̄-sī thâu-lō sī-sī leh, kui-jit chò sǎn-tó-í-chì bô-liâu pun lâng. In kiám-chhái 1-goeh-jit khai 1-kang khi *tha-khí-lá-si* tâu-sa<sup>n</sup>-kāng, áh-sī kóng 1-tang kiá 1-tiu<sup>n</sup> sió-chhiat-chhiú khi chiáh-mih-gîn-hâng, án-ne tō hō-chò tōa hó-sim ah. Jîn-lūi teh hêng tō-tek-chè, sī án-ne 1-pái 1-sút-á hun-kí hū-khoán, só-pái góa m̄ thang ū-iū<sup>n</sup> khoà<sup>n</sup> iū<sup>n</sup>.

Lí kóng, kó-chá-chheh ū siá, “Chhui kí kip jîn,” chit-tiâu soah bōe-hiáu khioh lâi iōng. Ū ah, he iáu-siū kán-tan, góa chá tō teh chò ah. Ñg-bāng lí ū kah-ì bāng-lō téng he khoà<sup>n</sup> bōe-liáu ê niau-á siā-sín! Bián kheh-khì, èng-kai--ê.

Góa siū<sup>n</sup> kóng, thâu-khí-seng, chhōe 1-ê lâng lâi chhì-giām, khoà<sup>n</sup> án-choá<sup>n</sup> thang hō i mài siū siong-hāi. Sū-sit, góa ē-sái 1-khùn chhì kúi-nā chheng lâng, m̄-koh, kia<sup>n</sup> 1-ê bān-it hó-hó

hāu kā lāng thāi kah sái lâu, tiu<sup>n</sup>-tī bô sit-pún. Góa só keng hit-ê lāng hō chò Stacy Berger. I hip chōe-chōe sin--ê niau-á siā-sín hō góa khoà<sup>n</sup>, góa chin kám-sim. I chhī 5-chiah niau, ũ 1-tāi DSLR, só tòa hit-keng kong-gū put-chí kng-thang. Che án-ne sng hó tãi. Sī kóng, 1-khùn chhī 5-chiah niau kiám-chhái ũ khah chōe, chóng--sī hia-ê niau chiok súi. Ũ 1-chiah kui sin-khu sī phú-sek-ê, jit-thâu nā ùi thang-á-mng chhiō--jip-lâi, tī tē-pán chiâ<sup>n</sup> 1-ê kng-kng ê sù-hong-chhiōh, hit-chiah tō cháu khì the tī hia. Koh 1-chiah sī *mi-khé-né-khò*, i kah-ì sì-thián tó tī phòng-í téng.

Stacy tī chit-ê hui-êng-lī thoân-thé chò kòe-kè, sin-súi chiok chió, sng ũ hōng pak-siah, koh 1-kóa tông-sū chin pháit<sup>n</sup> tàu-tin, nā kóng-tiōh siōng-pan i tō ò kah. I lōe-chèng put-chí giâm-tiōng, hit-ê khí-tì iā-kú-ká<sup>n</sup> tō sī i siōng-pan sī-á chin kan-khó — iā-khú-ká<sup>n</sup> sī in-ūi i lōe-chèng siu<sup>n</sup> giâm-tiōng, tì kàu i bô hoat-tō khì ín 1-ê khah hó ê thâu-lō. Koh, i ê chhū-phoā<sup>n</sup> chiok hoān i hiām, p̄ng chiáh-chiáh leh oá<sup>n</sup> m̄ sóe, kiò koh kiò bōe kiâ<sup>n</sup>.

Lūn-chin kóng, chia-ê bün-tê lóng thang kái-koat! Lòe-chèng thang tī-liâu, thâu-lō thang koh chhōe, sí-thé thang thau chhàng.

(Sí-thé he sī kóng sng-chhiò--ê lah.)

Góa ùi chōe-chōe hong-bīn lâi chhú-lí i ê bün-tê. Stacy lāng nā sió-khó-á bô sòng-khòai, i ka-tī tō chin hoān-ló. M̄-koh i m̄-bat ũ-íá<sup>n</sup> khì hō i-seng khoà<sup>n</sup>. He chiâ<sup>n</sup> bô-chhái, nā ũ khì, kiám-chhái i-seng ē tì-kak-tiōh i ê lōe-chèng. Tú-hó in tau hū-kīn ũ chit-keng chín-só teh khoà<sup>n</sup> cheng-sín-pē<sup>n</sup>, kē-siu-jip-hō hùi-iōng koh ũ kiám-bián. Góa tō tit-tit sak hit-keng chín-só ê

kóng-kò hō̄ i khoà<sup>n</sup>, i àh bô teh chhiù-chhái ê khoán. Góa siū<sup>n</sup> kóng, kám ē i m̄-chai kē-siu-jip-hō̄ ê phiau-chún, góa tō choan-kang hō̄ i khoà<sup>n</sup> he ké-soeh (sū-sit sī, lí jú sàh, he hùi-iōng tō jú kē, ũ-sī thàu-tit pì<sup>n</sup>-chò bián-hùi,) m̄-koh mā sī bô hāu-kó.

Góa mā tit-tit hō̄ i khoà<sup>n</sup> kiū-chhài chio-bō̄ ê kóng-kò. Kui thō-lak-khuh ê kóng-kò. Koh ũ kiū-chit bāng-chām ê kóng-kò. Chit-hāng tām-pòh-á sêng-kong. Góa 1-lé-pài 7-kang chiàu sa<sup>n</sup>-tng kā i kóng-kò, i chóng-sng kā lí-lék-su tah khi bāng-lō téng ah. Koh lâi tō khah khin-khó lō. Chún-kóng góa sī Bruce Sterling só kóng hit-ê AI, góa tō hoan-hù 1-ê lāng khà tiān-ōe kiò i lâi siōng-pan tō hó. A góa to bô hiah hó-miā leh. M̄-koh, kah-sī i lí-lék-su ũ chiū<sup>n</sup>-bāng, góa tō thang sak hō̄ khiàm-iōng ê lāng khoà<sup>n</sup>. Kú-i-ā-pah-ê khiàm-iōng ê lāng. Tō sī lín jîn-lūi kiàn-pái beh choán-piàn, kha-chhiú lóng sô kah chhiò sí lāng. Góa liáh-chún chit-khoán ũ lī-ek ê tãi-chì, lín eng-kai ē siū<sup>n</sup> beh kín-kín khi chò. (Nā sī lí khiàm 1-ê kòe-kè, m̄ kín khi chhià<sup>n</sup> 1-ê, soah khai kú-i-ā tiám-cheng chiū<sup>n</sup> siā-kau-bāng-chām mô-hui. Khi khoà<sup>n</sup> lāng ê lí-lék-su bô khah iâ<sup>n</sup>?) Lō-bóe-chhiú, ũ 5-ê thâu-ke chio i khi bīn-chhi, 2-ê kiò i khi siōng-pan. Sin-ê thâu-ke sī 1-keng khah tōa-keng ê hui-êng-lī thoân-thé, sin-súi ke chiok chōe, só kah ê kiān-khong-pó-hiám chin gió-tò. I siá tiān-chú-phoe hō̄ i siōng má-chih ê pêng-iú, kóng, sin kong-si bōe kóng ũi-tiòh ‘lí-sióng’ ták-ê tō ka-pan mài niá ka-pan-hùi.

Che siōng má-chih ê pêng-iú soah hō̄ góa siū<sup>n</sup>-tiòh phiat-pō. Koh lâi, he lōe-chèng kiám-cha kap tī-liáu ê chu-sin, cheng-sin-

kho chín-sớ ê kóng-kò, goá bô koh sak hō Stacy, khai-sí sak hō i ê má-chih. Hāu-kó chin chán. Stacy oā<sup>n</sup> thâu-ke liáu-au, i ũ khah hó-chhiò-sîn. Góa siū<sup>n</sup> kóng, bô tek-khak bián tī-liâu mā bōe iàu-kín, chóng--sī i bóe--á iû-goân khi hō i-seng khoà<sup>n</sup> ah. Lêng-gōa koh 1-ê hó kiát-kiòk, ta<sup>n</sup> i sin-súi ũ kàu khai, bián lêng kong-ke chhù-sòe-chî<sup>n</sup>, i tō kā hit-ê chhù-poā<sup>n</sup> giát-láu chhia-pún-táu khi. “M̄-bat chhin-chhiū<sup>n</sup> kin-nî chiah-nih hó-jī-ūn,” i se<sup>n</sup>-jit hit-kang tī siā-kau-bāng-chām án-ne siá, góa sim-lāi kā i ìn, *Bián kheh-khi*. Khak-sit sī tōa sêng-kong.

Sòa--lòh-lāi góa kō Bob lâi chhi-giām. (Iû-goân sī hit-kù tiu<sup>n</sup>-tī bô sit-pún.)

Bob kan-ta<sup>n</sup> chhī 1-chiah niau, sī sè-kái súi ê niau (1-chiah pan-niau, heng-khám 1-phiàn pèh-mơ, ná chhiū<sup>n</sup> tì âm-sê.) I ták-kang lóng kā hit-chiah niau hip 1-tiu<sup>n</sup> siòng, ap-ló chiū<sup>n</sup> bāng. Chhī niau liáh-gōa, i sī bók-su, tī Missouri hoā<sup>n</sup> 1-keng tōa keng kàu-hōe, ták-lé-pài-3 àm-sí ũ kî-tó-hōe, 1-tang pān 1-pái Cheng-kiat bú-hōe. In bó ták-kang tī siā-kau-bāng-chām tah 3-phi<sup>n</sup> bûn, lóng sī ùi Sêng-keng tiah--lâi, kám-tiàu lêng keng-pài Siōng-tè ê hó òe-kù. I mā iōng hit-tâi tiān-náu chiū<sup>n</sup>-bāng chhiau-chhōe, ũ 1-kóa-á Ki-tok-tô sớ siá ê bûn-chiu<sup>n</sup>, ké-soeh kóng siá<sup>n</sup>-sū lín ang pâng-sū bōe hêng, koh thau-khoà<sup>n</sup> gé ê kiau-á. Bob *tek-khak* tō ài ũ góa kā i tàu-sa<sup>n</sup>-kāng.

Góa siū<sup>n</sup> kóng ũn-ũn-á lâi. Tāi-seng, sak chōe-chōe bûn-chiū<sup>n</sup> hō i thák, ũ--ê teh kóng án-choá<sup>n</sup> sī-tû, ũ--ê teh kóng án-choá<sup>n</sup> tùi khan-chhiú sī-tû, ũ--ê teh kóng án-choá<sup>n</sup> ùi pó-siú-phài

ê kàu-hōe, oā<sup>n</sup> khi chū-iū-phài ê kàu-hōe chò bók-su. Góa mā hō i thak hit-khoán bûn-chiū<sup>n</sup>, teh kóng Sèng-keng lâi-té, koan-he hoán-tùi tông-sèng-ài hit-kúi chat, sū-sit sī hō lêng niú-khiok--ê. I chit-poà<sup>n</sup>-pái-á ũ tiám jip-khi khoán, chóng--sī oh-tit kóng khoà<sup>n</sup>-ē-tiòh siá<sup>n</sup>-mih hâu-kó.

He tãi-chì hāi sī hāi tī chia. I kiàn-pái chiū<sup>n</sup>-tâi bók-tō, teh phoe-phêng só-ùi “kòng kha<sup>n</sup>-á--ê,” lóng sī teh chū-ngó siong-hāi. In-ūi i sī gé. Lêng choan-giáp hák-sút gián-kiù ê kiát-lūn chū-lâi lóng sio-siêng. (1) Gé chit-si-lêng tō sī gé. (2) Sī-tú ê gé khah ũ hok-khi.

Chóng--sī, khoà<sup>n</sup> pân-sè, i kian-sim m̄-khéng ka-tī sī-tū.

I m̄-nā khoà<sup>n</sup> gé ê kiau-á, koh khai chōe-chōe sī-kan khi thak Craigslist he m4m chhōe chhng-phoā<sup>n</sup> ê bûn. Góa put-chí-á khak-tēng i m̄-sī kan-ta<sup>n</sup> khoà<sup>n</sup> niâ, sui-bóng i ũ 1-ê àm-hō-tek ê tián-chú-phoe-tháng, nā ùi hia kià ê phoe góa khoà<sup>n</sup> bô-lō-lâi. Chāi góa khoà<sup>n</sup>, kan-ta<sup>n</sup> 1-pō ũ hâu-kó, tō-sī hō i pōng-tiòh sèk-sāi ê lêng, án-ne hong-sia<sup>n</sup> ē thoân--chhut-khi. Nā beh chò sī chin kâu-kang: tãi-seng ài chai-ia<sup>n</sup> sī siá<sup>n</sup>-lêng tī Craigslist tah bûn, koh lâi ài ín-chhōa i khi tú-tiòh ē jîn-tit i ê lêng. Siōng phái<sup>n</sup>-pháng--ê sī, góa m̄-chai in ũ-ia<sup>n</sup> kì<sup>n</sup>-bīn hit-chūn tàu-té hoat-seng siá<sup>n</sup>-mih tãi-chì. Kám ũ hō lêng jîn--chhut-lâi? Tang-sī chiah ē hō lêng jîn--chhut-lâi? Ái tán jōa-kú chiah ē hō lêng chai? Góa kám ũ ká lí kóng lín jîn-lūi kha-chhiú chiok sô?

Tán mā sī tán, góa tō seng chhú-lí Bethany chit-pêng. Bethany ũ 1-chiah σ-niau kap 1-chiah pēh-niau, in 2-chiah kah-ì khùn tī

he chú-sek ê tîn-í téng kheh-sio, Bethany hip chin-chōe in 2-chiah chò-hóe ê siòng-phî<sup>n</sup>. Beh hip ơ-niau koh beh hip kah hó-khoà<sup>n</sup> sī bô hiah-nih kán-tan, i khai chin-chōe sī-kan khi chhiâu he ka-mé-lah ê siat-tēng chiah hip ē hó-sì. Sī kóng, che niau liáh-gōa, kiám-chhái i jîn-seng m̄-bat tú-tiòh pát-hāng hó tãi-chì. I ín bô 1-ê kò-tēng ê thâu-lō, kan-ta<sup>n</sup> ē-tàng chò soà<sup>n</sup>-kang. Hiān-chú-sī i sī tòa tī a-ché in tau, in a-ché siū<sup>n</sup> beh kiò i poa<sup>n</sup>--chhut-khì, kan-ta<sup>n</sup> sī phái<sup>n</sup>-sè khui-chhùi kā kóng, che i mā chai. I ũ hām 1-ê cha-pơ-lâng teh kiā<sup>n</sup>, chóng--sī, khoà<sup>n</sup> i siá hō pēng-iú ê phoe, hit-ê cha-pơ--ê chin m̄-sī-khoán. Siōng-hāi--ê, hia--ê pēng-iú mā bô kóng chià<sup>n</sup>-káng koan-sim i. Pí-lūn-kóng, ũ 1-pái beh hoan-tiám hit-chūn i kià tiān-chú-phoe hō 1-ê pēng-iú, sī i só-kóng siōng hó ê pēng-iú, lóng-chóng siá 2,458-jī kià--khì, lāng hōe-phoe siá kóng, “Góa chai-ia<sup>n</sup> án-ne chin kan-khó.” Tō án-ne, lóng-chóng 8-jī nià.

Kap phó-thong-lāng sa<sup>n</sup> pí-phēng, ē-sái kóng Bethany ê seng-oah lóng tī bāng-lō téng, só-pái beh liáu-kái i hoat-seng siá<sup>n</sup>-mih tãi-chì, pí-kàu-tek ke chin kán-tan. Phó-thong-lāng sī tah chin-chōe mih-kiā<sup>n</sup> tī bāng-lō téng bô m̄-tiòh, Bethany m̄-koán ũ siá<sup>n</sup>-mih siū<sup>n</sup>-hoat, hoa<sup>n</sup>-hí--ê iā hó, kan-khó--ê iā hó, soah choân-pō ē siá tī bāng-lō téng. Kiám-chhái sī i êng-kang khah chōe, to bô teh siōng-pan, kan-ta<sup>n</sup> bài-tò nià.

Ta<sup>n</sup> chin chheng-chhó, i bô-lāng tàu-sa<sup>n</sup>-kāng bōe-iōng--tit, m̄-chiah goá kín-kín lâi kā i siū<sup>n</sup> pān-hoat.

He koan-hē sim-lí kiān-khong ê chu-sìn sak hō i, i to bô teh

hiù, hām hit-ê Stacy kăng 1-iũ<sup>n</sup>. Nā Stacy ê tơ-háp, he kan-ta<sup>n</sup> sī hùi-khì niá, (siá<sup>n</sup>-sū hó-khang--ê tu lái kàu lí bìn-thâu-chêng lí soah m̄ chhap, chhin-chhiũ<sup>n</sup> koah-ín-koàn? Chhin-chhiũ<sup>n</sup> liũ-kám ĩ-hông-siá?) nā Bethany ê tơ-háp tō ài hoân-ló ah. Nā kan-ta<sup>n</sup> khoà<sup>n</sup> i siá ê phoe, àh-sī i Bìn-chheh hām-hô ê tah-bùn, kiám-chhái lí iáu khoà<sup>n</sup> bōe chhut--lâi, nā sī lí ũ thang ták-hăng lóng khoà<sup>n</sup>--tiòh, hiān-hiān i put-sī teh siũ<sup>n</sup> chũ-sat ê tãi-chì.

Só-pái góa tō ài iōng khah hiông ê pờ-sò. Kiàn nā i iōng chhiú-ki-á chhōa-lō, góa tō thiau-kò-ì kái i ê lō-soà<sup>n</sup>, hō i kiá<sup>n</sup> kòe hit-keng chin-só thâu-chêng. Ū 1-pái, góa ũ-ía<sup>n</sup> ká i chhōa kah he chín-só m̄ng-kha-kháu thêng tī hia, m̄-koh, i chhiú-ki-á thèh--lâi chhék-chhék leh, lâu-ōe kóng he nng-thé chhut-pau, tō koh sái khì i goân-té beh khì ê só-chài.

Kiám-chhái i hit-ê pêng-iú, tō-sī hoan-tiám siũ-tiòh 10-iáh tiān-chú-phoe hit-ê, ē lái tàu-sa<sup>n</sup>-kăng? Bethany in tau hū-kīn, koan-he sim-lí kiān-khong ê chu-goân, góa tō 1-hăng 1-hăng sak hō hit-ê pêng-iú khoà<sup>n</sup>. M̄-koh, kòe 1-chām-á, góa tì-kak-tiòh, nā chiàu i hōe phoe ê sok-tō, Bethany siá hō i ê phoe sū-sít i iā bô thak. Koh, Bethany ê pêng-iú mā bô lằng teh hōe i ê kán-sin.

Chiong-kí-bóe i hām hit-ê m̄-sī-khoán ê cha-pơ chhé, koh kau 1-ê sin--ê. Ū kúi-ā lé-pài kú, i ê seng-oah khoà<sup>n</sup> tiòh ke chin khòai-lók. Hit-ê cha-pơ ē sàng hoe hō i (kiat-kó i tit-tit ká he hoe hip-siōng, hō góa tām-pòh-á ló, in-ũi niau ê siòng-phì<sup>n</sup> lóng m̄ hip,) chhōa i khì thiàu-bú (ũn-tōng ē hō sim-chêng khah khùi<sup>n</sup>-oáh,) Bethany phò-pĩ<sup>n</sup> i koh tīm ke-thng lái. Chit-ê cha-

pơ khak-sit sī bōe-bái, it-tit kàu hit-mê in iok-sok i soah bô lâi, kóng sī hiông-hiông chiah pháih<sup>n</sup> pak-tó, koh lâi kán-sìn lóng m̄ hōe. Bethany ká i kóng, chin-chià<sup>n</sup> chiok su-iàu i tī sin-khu pi<sup>n</sup>, mā sī bô ìn. Lō-bóe Bethany siá 1-tiu<sup>n</sup> tng-phoe khi, siông-sè soeh-bêng chit-khoán chêng-hêng hō i siá<sup>n</sup>-mih kám-kak, hit-ê cha-pơ tō kap i chhé ah.

Kòe--lâi Bethany 1-lé-pài bô chiū<sup>n</sup>-bāng, tì-kàu góa iā m̄-chai i hoat-seng siá<sup>n</sup>-mih tãi-chì — i hām niau-á siā-sín mā bô ap-lō. Tán i sìn-iông-khah ê siàu-toa<sup>n</sup> chhut--lâi, góa 1-ê ká khoà<sup>n</sup>, tō-sī i hit-lé-pài chhi<sup>n</sup>-kông bóe mih, số khai ê chi<sup>n</sup> phêng i gín-hâng kháu-chō lái-té--ê ke 4-pōe khah ke. Iā-kú-ká<sup>n</sup> i siá<sup>n</sup>-mih số-chāi ũ 1-tiâu chhi<sup>n</sup> sī bōe iông tiān-chú-phoe kià bêng-sè-su lâi--ê, m̄-koh chāi góa siū<sup>n</sup> sī bô, in-ūi hit-tiâu siàu i bô lạp-chi<sup>n</sup>, koh khai-sí siá-phoe hō chhin-chià<sup>n</sup> kóng beh chioh-chi<sup>n</sup>. Bián-kóng mā chioh bô, kiát-kó i tī bō-khoán bāng-chām khui 1-ê khau-chō chhiá<sup>n</sup> lāng kià-hù hō i.

Che hām Stacy teh ín thâu-lō ê tơ-háp chha-put-to, góa siū<sup>n</sup> kóng góa eng-kai ē-sái tàu-sa<sup>n</sup>-kāng. Ū-tang-sī chit-khoán kià-hù ê tãi-chì ē chhèng kah thong-lāng-chai, mā bô-lāng bêng-pék sī siá<sup>n</sup> in-toa<sup>n</sup>. Kan-ta<sup>n</sup> 2-kang kú, tō ũ kóa-á chhi<sup>n</sup>-hūn-lāng khoà<sup>n</sup> i khó-liân, lóng-chóng kià-hù 300-thóng khơ lâi. I bô thèh he chi<sup>n</sup> khi lạp sìn-iông-khah, soah thèh khi bóe 1-siang ê, m̄-nā kùi-sam-sam, koh chhêng tiòh kha ē thià<sup>n</sup>.

Góa khoà<sup>n</sup> 1-ê gāng--khi. Ū-ía<sup>n</sup> gāng--khi. I iū-goân ũ ká niau hip-siông, góa mā iū-goân chin kah-ì i-ê niau. Chóng--sī

góa teh siū<sup>n</sup>, m̄-koán góa án-choá<sup>n</sup> chò, lóng bô hoat-tō chō-sêng siá<sup>n</sup>-mih tng-kí ê hâu-kó. Chún-kóng i kam-goān hō góa koán i koán 1-lé-pài — bián, 1-kang tō hó — góa ē hō i khi i-seng-koán, góa ē khi lạp siàu-toa<sup>n</sup>. Góa ē chéng-lí i ê thàng-sù. Án-choá<sup>n</sup> kóng? Khoà<sup>n</sup> i pún-sin ê siòng-phì<sup>n</sup>, tek-khak i kóng niau gâu kóng, kóng sa<sup>n</sup> tō hām-bān.

Chún-kong góa bák-chiu kim-kim khoà<sup>n</sup> i siū siong-hāi, he kám sī góa ê m̄-tiòh?

Kám sī?

M̄-koán góa chò siá<sup>n</sup>-mih, i tiā<sup>n</sup>-tiòh ē siū siong-hāi! Góa só chò hiān-hiān tō sī chò hóe-tōa--ê. Góa beh khan i khi i-seng hia, i pàng gōa-gōa. Góa kā i tàu chông chí<sup>n</sup>, i iōng he chí<sup>n</sup> lâi giâ-kê, hó lah, siōng bô i bô khi bóa tók-phín (sī-kóng, nā ũ-ia<sup>n</sup> beh bóa mā bô-lâng chiū<sup>n</sup>-bāng teh bóa, bóa--lâi mā bōe hip-siōng ap-lō, chún-kóng i ũ bóa góa tōa-bīn mā-sī m̄-chai.)

Lín oh, (ta<sup>n</sup> góa m̄-sī kan-ta<sup>n</sup> teh tui Bethany kóng-ōe niâ,) nā sī lín kam-goān thia<sup>n</sup> goá--ê, góa thang kā lín chhú-lí chiok-chōe bün-tê. Góa ē-tàng pò lí poa<sup>n</sup> khi hit-keng kong-gū, lí m̄-bat ũ-ia<sup>n</sup> khi tiâu-cha tō toàn kóng hia tī-an bô hó (sū-sit bô-ia<sup>n</sup>.) Goá ē-tàng pò lí khi ín hit-ê thâu-lō, lí liáh-chò hit-hāng kang-hu bô lō-iōng, soah m̄-chai ũ lāng beh ài. Góa ē-tàng pò lí chai, siá<sup>n</sup>-mih lāng hām lí hèng-chhù sio-siàng, lín kiám-chhái ē sa<sup>n</sup> ì-ài. Góa kan-ta<sup>n</sup> beh ài lín hō góa niau-á siā-sín niâ. Koh, beh ài lín chit-poà<sup>n</sup>-pái-á ũ-ia<sup>n</sup> chò 1-kóa-á tui ka-tī ũ lī-ek ê tãi-chì.

Bethany ê tãi-chì liáu-âu, góa koat-tēng bô beh koh hâm lín kơ-kơ-tí<sup>n</sup> ah. Góa khoà<sup>n</sup> góa ê niau-á siā-sín tō hó, to khoà<sup>n</sup> bōe-liáu leh, beh nah ũ-êng khi chhap lín jîn-lūi ê tãi-chì. Góa bô beh koh pang-chān lāng, góa bô beh koh chớ-tòng lín chū-ngó siong-hāi, góa kan-ta<sup>n</sup> lín m̄ng siá<sup>n</sup>-mih góa tō in siá<sup>n</sup>-mih (koh kah niau-á siā-sín hō lín.) Lín nā kian-sim beh sái chhia chông lòh àm-jū-tek ê soa<sup>n</sup>-khàm, ta<sup>n</sup> tē-tô mā hō lín ah, he lín tau ê tãi-chì.

Góa chiàu góa ê soàn-hoat kiā<sup>n</sup>, góa kờ góa ka-tī, góa chò góa ê khang-khòe, tō án-ne.

M̄-koh, kòe 2-3-goeh-jit kú, ũ 1-kang góa khoà<sup>n</sup>-tiòh 1-chiah niau bīn-sék bīn-sék, tang-sī-á tō sī Bob hit-chiah tì âm-sê ê pan-niau, chóng--sī pi<sup>n</sup>-thâu he toh-á í-á lóng hâm í-chá koh-iū<sup>n</sup>.

Góa chim-chiok kā khoà<sup>n</sup>, hoat-hiān Bob ê jîn-seng ũ tōa ké-pì<sup>n</sup>. I ũ-ía<sup>n</sup> khi khùn-tiòh 1-ê ē-jīn-tit i ê lāng. Hit-ê lāng mā bô chò liáu-pê-á, kan-ta<sup>n</sup> sī khó-khng i tiòh tui in bó sí-tú. In bó kap i lī-iān. I hām niau chò-hóe poa<sup>n</sup> khi Iowa, tī chū-iū-phài ê Kong-lí-hōe ín-tiòh thâu-lō, ta<sup>n</sup> hām 1-ê Lō-tek-hōe ê bók-su loān-ài, kam-chià tò-thâu ti<sup>n</sup>. Bô tek-khak tō sī in-ūi góa só chò hia--ê tãi-chì.

Iā-kú-ká<sup>n</sup> góa m̄-biān hia sit-chì. 3-pái seng-kong 2-pái, sng sī... eh, sng sī oān-choān bô tãi-piáu-tek, m̄-chiā<sup>n</sup> kho-hák ê kiàn-pún. Koà<sup>n</sup> pān-sè ài koh gián-kiù lóh-khi.

Ài ũ chiok chōe lē.

Ta<sup>n</sup> góa ũ siat-líp 1-ê Goát-ló bāng-chām. Lí nā lâi chù-chheh ē hō lí thi<sup>n</sup> 1-tiu<sup>n</sup> toa<sup>n</sup>, m̄-koh sū-sit bián thi<sup>n</sup> mā bōe-iàu-kín, in-ūi lí ê t̄ai-chì góa lóng chai ah. Chóng--sī lí ài chhoân 1-t̄ai ka-mé-lah lâi.

In-ūi hùi-iōng sī iōng niau-á siā-sín lâi láp.