

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

“Gao Shan Qing” is a folk melody that comes from the Tsou people, an indigenous Austronesian group that has lived in present-day Taiwan for centuries.

In 1949, Chinese poet Deng Yu-Ping added Mandarin lyrics to the traditional tune. Deng’s lyrics describe the beautiful terrain and the vibrant people of the Alishan mountain range. Today, the Alishan region is a popular tourist attraction known for its high mountain tea and wasabi.

Like all folk songs, “Gao Shan Qing” is a living representation of the culture from which it came. Among the most recognizable songs in Taiwan, it has been performed by many singers in a variety of styles. Taiwanese dance groups also use this song to represent their local culture.

MANDARIN PRONUNCIATION & TRANSLATION

Visit alfred.com to view a pronunciation video spoken by the arranger.

Nayi nuwa, nayi yana ya hei.

Nah-yee noo-wah, nah-yee yah-nah yah hehee.

Gao shan qing, jian shui lan.

Gahoo shahn cheeng, jeeyehn shoy laht.

(The mountain is green, the stream is blue.)

Alishan de guniang mei ru shui ya.

Ah-lee-shahn duh goo-nyahng meh-ee roo shoy yah.

(The maidens of the mountain are pretty like the water.)

Alishan de shaonian zhuang ru shan.

Ah-lee-shahn duh shahoo-nyehn chooahng roo shahn.

(The young men of the mountain are strong like the mountain.)

Guniang he na shaonian yong bu fen ya,

Goo-nyahng huh nah shahoo-nyehn yohng boo fehn yah,

(The maiden and the young men will never be separated,)

bi shui chang wei zhe qing shan zhuan.

bee shoy chahng wehee chuh cheeng shahn chooahn.

(like the clear river always encircling the green mountain.)

Nawa niya hei!

Nah-wah nee-yah hehee!

“Nayi nuwa, nayi yana yahei” and “nawa niya hei” are phrases with no specific translation.

Pronounce the word “hei” like the English expression “hey!”

The word “shui” rhymes with the English word “joy.”

GAO SHAN QING

(High Mountain Green)

for S.A.T.B. voices and piano*

Mandarin Words by
DENG YU-PING

Traditional Tsou Melody
Arranged, with English Words, by JERRY LIM

Freely, with rubato (♩ = ca. 69–72)

SOLO

mp

Na - yi nu - wa, na - yi ya -

PIANO

mp slow roll

4

na ya hei. Gao shan _____

7

f (end solo)

qing.

f *decresc.*

* PianoTrax accompaniment available (A-00016669).
Visit alfred.com for digital scores and audio.

10 SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

mf

Gao shan

mf

12

qing,

jian shui

14

lan.

mf

A - li - shan de gu - niang

16

mei ru shui ya. A - li - shan de shao - nian

18

19

zhuang ru shan. Ah

20

ah. Ah

22

Gu - niang he na shao - nian

ah.

24

yong bu fen ya, bi shui chang wei zhe

26

qing shan zhuan.

cresc.

29

28 *f*
 High the moun - tain

f

30
 green, and the stream is
f
 High the moun - tain green,

32
 blue. And all the
 and the stream is blue.

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34

maid - ens of the moun - tain, pret - ty like ___ wa - ter.

36

Men of the moun - tain, strong as the moun - tain high.

39

Na - wa ni - ya, na - wa ni - ya hei, na - wa hei. Ni - ya

41

41

hei, na - wa ni - ya, na - wa ni - ya — hei. Hei!

43

43

Na - wa ni - ya, na - wa ni - ya hei, na - wa hei. Ni - ya

Hei - ya, na - wa hei - ya. Ni - ya

45

45

hei, na - wa ni - ya, na - wa ni - ya — hei. Hei!

hei - ya, na - wa hei - ya hei. Hei!

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47 SOPRANO *rit.*

pp

ALTO *rit.*

Ah
mp

TENOR *rit.*

pp

BASS *rit.*

pp

Ah

Slower (♩ = ca. 80)

decresc.

rit.

mp

50

ah

qing.

Jian shui lan.

ah

ah

53

ah ah.

A - li - shan de gu - niang mei ru shui ya. A - li - shan de shao - nian

ah ah.

ah ah.

With energy (♩ = ca. 120)

56

rit. *f*

rit. *f*

zhuang ru shan.

rit. *f*

rit. *f*

With energy (♩ = ca. 120)

rit. *f*

59

f
High the moun - tain green,
f
High the moun - tain green,
f
High the moun - tain,
f
High the moun - tain,

61

stream is blue! All the
and the stream is blue. All the
stream is blue.
stream is blue.

63

S.
A.
T.
B.

maid - ens of the moun - tain, pret - ty like ___ wa - ter.

65

Men of the moun - tain, strong as the moun - tain ___

67

high.

Na - wa ni - ya, na - wa ni - ya hei, na - wa hei. Ni - ya

69

Musical notation for measures 69-70. The vocal line is in a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of two flats. The piano part features a steady accompaniment of chords in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

hei, na - wa ni - ya, na - wa ni - ya — hei. Hei!

Piano accompaniment for measures 69-70. The right hand plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and chords, while the left hand provides a harmonic foundation with chords and a few moving lines.

71

Musical notation for measures 71-72. The vocal line starts with a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte). The piano accompaniment continues with similar patterns to the previous section.

Na - wa ni ya,

Na - wa ni - ya, na - wa ni - ya hei, na - wa hei. Ni - ya

Piano accompaniment for measures 71-72. The piano part maintains the established accompaniment style, supporting the vocal melody.

73

Musical notation for measures 73-74. The vocal line concludes with a final phrase. The piano accompaniment also concludes with a final chord and a fermata.

na wa hei. Ni - ya

hei, na - wa ni - ya, na - wa ni - ya — hei. Hei!

Piano accompaniment for measures 73-74. The piano part concludes with a final chord and a fermata, mirroring the vocal line.

75 SOPRANO

hei. *f* Gao shan

ALTO

hei.

TENOR

Na - wa ni - ya, na - wa ni - ya, na - wa ni - ya, na - wa ni - ya,

BASS

Gao shan qing.

77 qing. *f* Gao shan qing! Hei!

ALTO

Gao shan qing. Hei!

TENOR

na - wa ni - ya, na - wa ni - ya hei. Hei!

BASS

Gao, gao shan qing. Hei!