

Well, today my mother and I had to put two of our beloved cats (RIP Bear and Cinnamon) down (မြန်မာလို: ဒီနေ့ ကျွန်တော်မေမေ နဲ့ ကျွန်တော်တို့က မြတ်နိုးတဲ့ကြောင်နှစ်ကောင်ကို မနာကျင်စေဘဲ သက်တောင့်သက်သာသေစေရန် လုပ်ရခဲ့တယ်။). So, to take my mind off of them, I've decided it's time to translate another poem. This one was written by a young poet named သဲသဲလေး who has a blog here: <http://myanmarlovepoem.blogspot.com/> The title is called “ချစ်သူရယ်” (Eng: Oh, Lover). As always, I'll provide first an interlinear version, a literal English version, and an English rendering.

တစ်ခါတလေ... ငါလည်း...

[NUM: 1][N: instance][NUM: 1 (spelling variant)][UNKNOWN][PRO: 1st][PART: also]

မျက်မမြင်နားမကြားသောသူတစ်ယောက်ကိုလို

[N: vision][PART: Neg-prefix][V: to see][N: ear][PART: Neg-prefix][V: to hear]

[PART: adjective-marker][N: person][NUM: 1][Counter-N: person][PART: Obj-marker][PART: like/as]

ဖြစ်ပါစေလို့ ဆုတောင်းခဲ့မိတယ်။

[V: become/ occur][PART: politeness][PART: conditional][V: pray]

[V-prt: past-tense][PART: to happen to do sth.][PART: Verb end]

ဘာကြောင့်လဲ...

[INT: what][PART: because][PART: open-ended Q]

ငါ့ချစ်တဲ့သူလေး တစ်ခြားတစ်ယောက်နဲ့

[PRO (poss.): 1st][V: love][PART: adj marker][N: person][PART: diminutive]

[NUM: 1][Adj: foreign/ different][NUM: 1][N: person][PART: with]

ပျော်ရွှင်ကြည်နူးနေတာကို...

[2-part V: be happy][2-part V: be enraptured]

[V-Prt: Pres.-prog.][PART (colloq.): noun-former][PART: object-marker]

ငါ မမြင်ရဲမကြားရက်နိုင်လို့ပါ...

[PRO: 1st][PART: Neg-prefix][V: to see][Vprt: sense of having the courage to do sth.]

[V-prt: Neg-prefix][V: hear][V-prt: verb suffix to denote lack of consideration]

[V-part: be able][PART: because][PART: politeness]

ချစ်သူလေးရယ်

[N: love][N: person][PART: diminutive][PART: oblation marker]

LITERAL ENGLISH:

Sometimes I also
Like being a person who can't see can't hear
Happened to pray as if it were to occur.
Of what cause...?
My lover with another person
To the happy enrapturing...
Because I don't have the courage to see, I am unable to consider hearing
Little lover...

POETIC ENGLISH:

Oh, my love...
Sometimes, I prayed that I'd become like a deaf or a mute...
Why...?
Because I can't bear to see, nor could I consider hearing
That you're happily enraptured with another...



I find that this poem is rather dark, especially in comparison with the last one. However, သဲသဲလေး must either be a really good poet, or she must have had some really emotional breakups! Either way, I think that this is another simple and innocent poem. The unfortunate thing of me not being a native Burman (Myanmar), is that I can only translate the poem in the rendition given to me by the dictionary. There are certain Burmese words like ဒုက္ခ မေတ္တာ and ထာဝရ/ထာဝစဉ် which I believe I can connect to and translate at the level of a native, just because of the experiences and situations in which I used those words. However, I'm glad I found this poem because the words ရဲ and ရက် are quite fascinating, to me, and I hope I can use them in future blog entries. This poem was a lot easier to translate, just because my experience from the last poem, taught me to read it not linearly, but phrasally.