



# Zuñi Lover's Wooing

(or BLANKET SONG.)

Before the opening of the annual spring festivities, it is the custom especially among the graduated braves of a certain age—the sons of the Chiefs and high Priests—to seek for themselves a wife, who must also be a maiden in high standing in the tribe. It is almost incumbent upon a Zuni by the laws of his forefathers, in order to become eligible to the highest positions and honors of the tribe, to be a father, and especially to have male offspring.

The time considered by the Zunis propitious for advancing their addresses is at the approach of, or during, full-moon, and in the silent hours of the night, when the people rest in slumber.

Arrayed in most gorgeous attire, adorned with a handsome headgear of various colored feathers, and profusely decorated with silver ornaments, shells and turquoises, the young brave goes forth to the abode of his love. Every step scintillating with the music of his tarconea and the beating of his snake-rattle filled with corals, he is indeed a delightful and captivating sight to behold. Yet his special pride in the display of his attire he attaches to his handsomely woven blanket, which he wears and gracefully waves in his dance with the object of inducing his beloved to come and take a walk with him, which confirms her actual acceptance of him, as her lover.

He first cautiously approaches the dwelling of his loved one, watching silently for any signs of her presence at home—listening for any strains of song from her lips, or a glimmer of light from the fire upon the roof—and when reasonably assured of her presence, enters with zeal into his happy song and dance. The coy maiden keeps herself well concealed from his gaze, until she feels more confident of accepting him. If she likes his personality or his blanket, or both, she will, as her first assent, throw him some various colored plumes, an arrow or bear's tooth, as emblems of love, bravery or fearlessness, according to her preference. He is however expected to repeat his song and dance a third time before the maiden decides to accept him or to make her appearance. Failing in the latter, he may as well consider his suit rejected. His suit is however much dependant upon the fire burning on the house top. If it burns brightly and is kept alive by the maiden, it indicates she is favorably inclined to his suit. If otherwise the fire fades away, his fate is against him, and he then ends his song by a decisive "Tan-a-lu" (Will she come)



*f*

O! What happiness! how de-lightful, When to - gether we, 'neath one blanket walk. We to -  
 Shan-e - tanda-mey, shan-e - lú - lu, Pa - ku lu - u - ku, pa - ku lu - u - ku. Shan-e -

*f*

*Ped.* \* *Ped.* \* *Ped.* \*

*p dolce* *diminuen - - do*

gether, 'neath one blanket walk. We to - gether, 'neath one blanket walk, We — walk.  
 lu - lu, shan-e - tanda-mey, Pa - ku lu - ku, pa - ku lu - u - ku, u - - ku.

*p*

*Ped.* \*

*mf*

Can it be that my young maiden fair, sits a - waiting, all a - lone tonight? Is she  
 Shu - a - tchi-ma, ho - thl lash-to - ki, ho - mi - sho - kia, teth - lin - ee - man - i? Homi

*mf*

*senza Pedale*

*con calore*

wait - ing, for me on - ly? Is she wait - ing, for me on - ly?  
 sho - kia, teth - lin - ee - man - i? Ho - mi sho - kia, teth - lin - ee - man - i?

*Ped.* \* *Ped.* \*

*f*

May I hope it is, my young maiden, sit-ting all alone and a -  
 Shu - a - tchi - a - ma, ho - mi sho - kia, ho - thl lash-to - ki, teth - lin -

*f*

*Ped.* \* *Ped.* \* *Ped.*

*p*

wait-ing me; Will she come then? Will she walk with me? 'neath one  
 ee - man - i; Shan - e - lu - lu, Shan - e - tan - da - mey? shan - e -

*p*

\* *Ped.*

*p sotto voce* *dimin - - -*

blanket, we to - gether be, We, We two, We two -  
 lu - lu, pa - ku lu - u - ku. Ku, Lu ku, Lu ku -

*f*

*Ped.* \* *Ped.*

*uen* *rallen - tan - do* *f risoluto*

We two, We two, Will she come?  
 Lu ku, Lu ku, Tan - a - lu?

*f* *ff Fine.*

\* *Ped.* \* *Ped.* \*

# A Complete List of the Traditional Songs and Dances of the Zuni Indians and Other South-Western Tribes

Transcribed and Harmonized by  
**CARLOS TROYER**

## SONGS

1. "The Sunrise Call" (or Echo Song) . . . . . 50c. \*E-I
2. "Zunian Lullaby" { *a*) Incantation upon a sleeping infant . . . . . 30c. E-I  
  *b*) Invocation to the Sun-God . . . . . 30c. E-I  

N. B.—These two numbers, *a* and *b*, should be sung together as *one* Concert song.
3. "Zuni Lover's Wooing" (or Blanket Song) . . . . . 40c. E-I
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6. "The Great Rain Dance of the Zunis" . . . . . 75c. E
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\* E—English Text. I—Indian Text.

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