## A Rendezvous at 明以記 Minh Dĩ Ký: Play reportage

## Apart from some of the things that went pretty steadily

- The coffee shop was overcrowded pretty steadily.
- Like how a market busted pretty steadily, a duplicated space stood in juxtaposition with the original market swirling in stiff silence outside. in the form of an artificial space juxtaposing the atmosphere of a silent-stiff outdoor market.
- The customers giggled and chitchated pretty steadily and they also waited pretty steadily.
- Lights went faintly dimmed pretty steadily.
- Oxy scarcity went pretty steadily.
- The workers of the shop were doing their assigned tasks and serving the customers pretty steadily.
- The ice-smasher was smashing the ice pretty steadily.
- Even their wearisomeness emerged pretty steadily after each round of serving.
- A baby girl in a fur coat was watching the telly pretty steadily.
- The very steady silence from 4-5 men who were rubbing their heads into the chessboard.
- The truly steady arrival of a ravishing woman. She walked in the shop maintaining a pretty steady dialogue with a man wearing a pair of glasses. Pretty steady was their command of language. The way the woman left was just like that.
- Another man in a highly-focused manner sometimes appeared troubled. Before leaving he asked around other tables for a pen to write something down the envelope. Rarely one saw this moment to its fullest, the circumambient distance was not sufficient for them to observe, the lighting too anaerobic to see clear of it. Fortunately a few people sitting nearby saw the jotted-down words were in Ancient Chinese characters. Before leaving, the man put the envelope into a nylon bag hung on the glass door's handle of the shop. In the nylon bag there was sugar, milk cartoons, and a few oranges. Next to it is a bunch of 34 keys hung by the glass door.
- The peddler's sound *Who wants some bánh khúc with peanut sticky rice, to the Doorsteps I arrive\** is what first interrupted the pervasive steadiness.

One person got a bánh khúc, then two, then did many others... someone totaled that she eventually sold 30 pieces of bánh khúc. By that time the sound of the bánh khúc's peddling became pretty steady.

- The chessboard game was dismissed because the closing hour of the shop was approaching closely.
- A call to the phone of the shop's female owner, in a split-second a shipper parked his motorcycle right in front of the shop.
- He carried a gigantic Luc Bình vase from the backyard across the compartments of the shop then put it in down, preparing to tie it down to the passenger seat of his motorbike.
- The female owner gave sixty thousands dong as shipping fees to the shipper then returned to the shop.
- After a few seconds: clanking.
- A thundering sound of something being broken just blew up in front of the shop, as she went straight into the backyard.
- The door of the shop slowly unfolded itself.
- Music started to jam in.
- A song by Văn Cao rose amidst the darkness of the shop the moment the lights were starting to go off.
- Then all the lights went down.
- From the backyard, a man appeared with a feeble coal pellet, still hot but not the pinkish-hot, that in roughly half of an hour it would turn into steady cool mounds. This person asked something before pressing his finger against the button to uplift the enclosed folding door.
- Everything ended with a shoal of aforementioned characters standing in the backyard with another Luc Bình vase, but this time it hit different.

- (\*) The peddler's clamor 'Bánh Khúc, Anyone?' is an accident that was improvisationally incorporated into the play.
- (\*) The reporting of the Gopro camera also resembled a steady customer in the duration of the play.