

## Sidyala Dona Rado Lyo

*Dona was sitting, oh, Radoh*

Srednogorie, Bulgaria

(From the repertoire of Kushlevi sisters)

SQQQQ + SQQ+immeasurable open “tail” instead of the last QQ

### 1. PART A

Сидяла Дона, Радо льо  
Sidyala Dona, Rado lyo

*Dona was sitting, oh, Radoh<sup>1</sup>*

В мала градинка, либе ле  
V mala gradinka, libe le //

*in a small garden, oh, dear beloved one*

### PART B

В мала градинка, Радо льо  
V mala gradinka, Rado lyo

*v mala gradinka, oh, Radoh*

Под бял, под червен трендафил  
Pod byal, pod cherven trendafil //

*under a white, under a red carnation*

### 2. PART A

Та е низала, Радо льо  
Ta e nizala, Rado lyo

*And she was stringing, oh, Radoh*

Мънистен гердан, либе ле  
Mănisten gerdan, libe le //

*beads into a necklace*

### PART B

Мънистен гердан, Радо льо  
Mănisten gerdan, Rado lyo

*beads'necklace, oh, Radoh*

Жълти алтъни  
Zhalti altŭni, libe le //

*yellow alŭni<sup>2</sup>, oh my beloved one*

### 3. PART A

Като е Дона низала  
Kato e Dona nizala

*And as Dona was stringing (beads and altuns)*

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<sup>1</sup> “Rado” is a vocative form of “Rada” – Bulgarian feminine name. “lyo” is a common part of lyrics to fill the rhyme and springs from “Oh, my Rado.”

<sup>2</sup> “Altŭni” (pl.) from Turkish. During the Ottoman Empire the golden coins were called “altuni”.

Тѣй ми е сладко заспала  
Tăy mi e sladko zaspala //

*she sweetly fall asleep*

PART B

Тѣй ми е сладко заспала  
Tăy mi e sladko zaspala

*She was sweetly sleeping*

Заспала, засънувала  
Zaspala, zasŕnuvala //

*And as she was sleeping, she began  
dreaming...*

Translated by Daniela Ivanova-Nyberg, 2019.