



"To Play a Lute Like an Ox"

对牛弹琴

S2E3

PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
Cháběi Chéngyǔ Yánjiū Zhōngxīn	茶杯成语研究中心	The Teacup Media Chengyu Research Center
chéngyǔ	成语	Chinese saying or idiom
Duì	对	to face or towards
Duì Niú Tán Qín	对牛弹琴	To play a lute to an ox
Duìniú	对牛	facing the ox
Eastern Han	东汉	The Eastern Han Dynasty – 25 to 220 CE
Gōngmíng Yí	公明仪	(Surname Gōngmíng) Famous zheng player from the Warring States period
Móu Róng	牟融	Master Móu, Móuzǐ
Móu Róng	牟融	Master Mou, Confucian poet-scholar from the Tang Dynasty
Móuzǐ Lǐhuòlùn	牟子	Master Mou's Treatise on Settling Doubts
Niú	牛	a cow or an ox
Qín	琴	a zither-like instrument of China that has seven strings
Qīng Jiǎo (or Qīng Jué)	清角	An elegant tune from the most ancient days of China (topped the Billboard charts for 18 weeks)
Qǔ Gāo Hè Guǎ	曲高和寡	If the song is too highbrow, few will appreciate it
Shàng Shū	尚书	Classic of Documents, one of the Five Classics
Shī Jīng	诗经	The Book of Odes or Book of Songs, China's oldest collection of poetry
The Móuzǐ	牟子	An abbreviation for the Móuzǐ Lǐhuòlùn

Tán	弹	to play a stringed musical instrument (a guitar, zither, piano)
tán qín	弹琴	to play a zither or play a lute
Zhou Dynasty	周朝	Ancient dynasty of China – 1046-256 BCE
Zhēng	筝, 古筝	a 21 or 25 stringed instrument, also called a guzhēng