

Through mail and buckle. From his charger's back
 Bárman fell headlong, the bright orb of day
 Turned dark to him, his army's heart was broken,
 His soldiers fled. Káran the chieftain then
 Went on toward Párs with all his valiant men.

§ 7

How Naudar was taken by Afrásiyáb

Naudar, on hearing that Káran had gone,
 Sped after him, all instant to escape
 The evil day, lest heaven should trample him.
 Afrásiyáb gat tidings that Naudar
 Had sought the waste, collected troops, and followed
 As 'twere a lion. Drawing near he found
 The foemen ready for a running fight,
 And as he marched mused how to take the head
 That wore the crown. They fought all night till
 noonday,
 And earth was dark with warriors' dust. At length
 The Sháh was taken with twelve hundred nobles;
 Thou wouldst have said: "Their place on earth is
 void."

Strive as they might to flee they were ensnared
 Within the net of bale. Afrásiyáb
 Put into bonds the captured host and Sháh.

V. 264

Though thou shouldst sit in conclave with the sky
 Yet will its revolutions grind thee down.
 It giveth majesty and throne and crown,
 It giveth too despair and misery.
 It playeth friend and foe, and proffereth thee,
 At times a kernel and at times a shell;
 It is a conjurer that knoweth well
 The sleights of every form of jugglery.