

- 1 ["Slave, listen to me."] "Here I am, sir, here [I am.]"
- 2 ["Quickly, fetch me the] chariot and hitch it up so that I can drive to the palace."
- 3 ["Drive, sir, drive . . .] . . . will be for you;
- 4 [.] will pardon you."
- 5 ["No, slave, I] will by no means drive to the palace."
- 6 ["Do not drive,] sir, do not drive.
- 7 [. . .] . . . will send you [. . .]
- 8 And will make you take a [route] that you do not know;
- 9 He will make you suffer agony [day and] night."
- 10 "Slave, [listen] to me." "Here I am, sir, here I am."
- 11 "Quickly, [fetch] me water for my hands, and give it to me so that I can dine."
- 12 "Dine, sir, dine. Repeated dining relaxes the mind.
- 13 . [. . .] . his god's repast; Šamaš accompanies washed hands."
- 14 "No, [slave,] I will certainly not dine."
- 15 "Do not dine, sir, do not dine.
- 16 Hunger and eating, thirst and drinking, come upon a man."
- 17 "Slave, listen to me." "Here I am, sir, here I am."
- 18 "Quickly, fetch me the chariot and hitch it up so that I can drive to the open country."
- 19 "Drive, sir, drive. A hunter gets his belly filled.
- 20 The hunting dogs will break the (prey's) bones,
- 21 The hunter's falcon will settle down,
- 22 And the fleeting wild ass . . . [. . .]"
- 23 "No, slave, I will by no means [drive] to the open country."
- 24 "Do not drive, sir, do not drive.
- 25 The hunter's luck changes:
- 26 The hunting dog's teeth will get broken,
- 27 The home of the hunter's falcon is in [. . .] wall,
- 28 And the fleeting wild ass has the uplands for its lair."
- 29 "Slave, listen [to me." "Here I am, sir, here I am.]"
- 30 "I am going to set up [a home and have] children."
- 31 "Have some, [sir,] have some. [The man who sets] up a home [. . .] . .
- 32 [.] . a door called 'The Snare'.
- 33 [. . .] . robust, two-thirds a weakling."
- 34 [" . . .] I will burn, *go* and return.
- 35 I will give way to my prosecutor."

on a have not been strictly followed; see Introduction.

32-33 The Akkadian Wisdom text SU 1952, 15+91+186+350 rev. 4-5 has these lines:

[×] *ša la i-ḫ[AL × ×] pi-til-[tu]*

[× (×) *l]ib-bi [. . . šī-n]i-pat [lil-lī]* See p. 117.

30, 31, 41 The restorations are conjectural.

36 "So give way, sir, give way."

37 "So, so, I will make a home." "Do not make a home.

38 A man who follows this course breaks up his father's home."

(The preceding section seems to be in some disorder; in particular 35 and 36 are probably from another section dealing with litigation. The end of what appears to be a variant form of this assumed paragraph appears in another manuscript as follows:

2' "Remain silent, sir, remain silent. [.]"

3' "No, slave, I will not remain silent."

4' "Do not stay silent, sir, [do not stay silent.]

5' Unless you open your mouth]

6' Your prosecutors will be savage to you [. . ."])

39 "Slave, listen to me." "Here I am, sir, here [I am.]"

40 "I will lead a revolution." "So lead, sir, lead.

41 Unless you lead a revolution, where will your clothes come from?

42 Who will enable you to fill your belly?"

43 "No, slave, I will by no means lead a revolution."

44 "The man who leads a revolution is either killed, or flayed,

45 Or has his eyes put out, or is arrested, or is thrown into jail."

46 "Slave, listen to me." "Here I am, sir, here I am."

47 "I am going to love a woman." "So love, sir, love.

48 The man who loves a woman forgets sorrow and fear."

49 "No, slave, I will by no means love a woman."

50 ["Do not] love, sir, do not love.

51 Woman is a pitfall—a pitfall, a hole, a ditch,

52 Woman is a sharp iron dagger that cuts a man's throat."

53 "Slave, listen to me." "Here I am, sir, here I am."

54 "Quickly, fetch me water for my hands, and give it to me

55 So that I can sacrifice to my god." "Sacrifice, sir, sacrifice.

56 The man who sacrifices to his god is satisfied with the bargain:

57 He is making loan upon loan."

58 "No, slave, I will by no means sacrifice to my god."

59 "Do not sacrifice, sir, do not sacrifice.

51 a: *bur-t[u] MIN* b: *bu-ur-tu[m] bu-[ur-t]um šu-ut-ta-tú* e: *šu-ut-ta-tum* 52 e: *ta-na-ki-su* gú gurus a: *g[uruš]* 53 b: *¹an-n[u]-ú* e: *mu-un-tan-gir-an-ni an-nu-ú ^{ab}bēl* 54 b: *a-n[a]* e: *a-na qa-ti-ia i* 55 e: *ni-qa-a* 56 e: *a-me-lu, ni-qa-a, lib-ba-šu ta-ab[-šu]* D: *^{ud}[un]iqā* b: *a-na libbašu tābšu* was apparently lacking from b. 57 e: *qī-ip-tu ana muh-ḥi qī-ip-tu* D: *¹[q]i-ip[-* b: *²qīp-t[i]* 58 e: *ni-qa-a a-[na ili-]ia* b: *[a]-na il[i]-ia, e-pu-uš* 59 b: *te-e]p-pu-u[š, te]-ep-pu-uš* D: *¹tep[-* e: *be-lí M[IN]*

- 60 You can teach your god to run after you like a dog,
 61 Whether he asks of you rites, or 'Do not consult your god', or anything else."
 62 "Slave, listen to me." "Here I am, sir, here I am."
 63 "I am going to make loans as a creditor." "So make loans, sir, [make loans.]
 64 The man who makes loans as a creditor—his grain remains his grain, while his interest
 is enormous."
 65 "No, slave, I will by no means make loans as a creditor."
 66 "Do not make loans, sir, do not make loans.
 67 Making loans is like loving [a woman;] getting them back is like having children [.]
 68 They will eat your grain, curse [you] without ceasing,
 69 And deprive you of the interest on your grain."

(Another recension of the preceding section is also attested:

- 29' "Slave, listen to me." "Here I am, sir, here I am."
 30' "I will loan food to my country." "So loan, sir, loan.
 31' The man who loans food to his country, his grain
 32' Is grain * enormous." "No, slave, I will not loan food to my country."
 33' "Do not loan, sir, do not loan. They will eat your grain,
 34' Diminish the interest on your grain, and curse you without ceasing in addition.")
 70 "Slave, listen to me." "Here I am, sir, here I am."
 71 "I will perform a public benefit for my country." "So perform, sir, perform.
 72 The man who performs a public benefit for his country,
 73 His deeds are placed in the *ring* of Marduk."
 74 "No, slave, I will by no means perform a public benefit for my country."
 75 "Do not perform, sir, do not perform.
 76 Go up on to the ancient ruin heaps and walk about;
 77 See the skulls of high and low.
 78 Which is the malefactor, and which is the benefactor?"
 79 "Slave, listen to me." "Here I am, sir, here I am."
 80 "What, then, is good?"
 81 "To have my neck and your neck broken
 82 And to be thrown into the river is good.
 83 'Who is so tall as to ascend to the heavens?
 84 Who is so broad as to compass the underworld?' "
 85 "No, slave, I will kill you and send you first."
 86 "And my master would certainly not outlive me by even three days."

an aberrant trace before *ú-hal-la[-* 70 e: *mu-un-tan-gir-an-ni an-nu-ú^{dbēl}* b: *¹an-nu]-ú*
 71 *um-ma*: om. be e: *ú-sa-tu*, om. *ki-mi, ¹e-pu-uš* b: *¹e-p[u-uš* 72 e: *ú-sa-tu, mātiⁱ-šú*
 73 e: *šak-na-a ú-sa-ti-šú ina gap-pat* 74 e: *ú-sa-tu* b: *]¹a¹-na* 75 b: *¹te-p[u-uš* e: *¹te-*
ep-pu-uš, ²te-ep¹[76 b: *e-le-¹e¹[* C: *e-[li-ma* Colophon on a: *[gi]n₇ sumun-šú sar-ma igi.kár*

* The text is clearly defective at this point.