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## Father of Persian Verse

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*Devotion to love*

What use is facing the house of God, when the heart  
 Faces Bukhārā and the beauties of Tarāz?  
 God will accept your devotion to love,  
 But he will not accept your prayers.

*My heart is a grain*

Dear heart, why are you so selfish?  
 Why do you love the enemy in vain?  
 Why do you seek faith from the unfaithful?  
 Why do you strike iron that is cold?  
 And you, whose cheeks are like the lily,  
 The lily is jealous of your beauty.  
 Go down this dead-end street just once,  
 You'll light a fire under its residents.  
 My heart is a grain, your love, a mountain.  
 Why crush the grain under the mountain?  
 Forgive me dear boy, forgive me.  
 Don't needlessly kill a lover like me.  
 Come now, take a look at Rudaki,  
 If you want to see a lifeless body walk.

روی به محراب نهادن چه سود  
 دل به بخارا و بتان تراز  
 ایزد ما وسوسه عاشقی  
 از تو پذیرد، نپذیرد نماز

دلا تا کی همی جویی منی را  
 چه داری دوست هرزه دشمنی را  
 چرا جویی وفا از بی وفایی  
 چه کوبی بیهده سرد آهنی را  
 ایا سوسن بناگوشی که داری  
 بر شك خویشتن هر سوسنی را  
 یکی زین برزن نا راه برشو  
 که بر آتش نشانی برزنی را  
 دل من ارزنی، عشق تو کوهی  
 چه سایه زیر کوهی ارزنی را  
 بیخشا، ای پسر، بر من بیخشا  
 مکش در عشق خیره چون منی را  
 بیا اینک نگه کن رودکی را  
 اگر بی جان روان خواهی تنی را