Moses: When Jacob left Canaan land
he went down to Egypt having seventy
souls with him and begot afterward many
people who were abused and oppressed,
even in these times have we suffered
at the hands of wicked men and mighty forces.
For King Pharaoh, seeing our race growing much
devised much treachery against us,
torturing men with brickwork and
the burden of building city towers
by labor from our ill-fated men.
Then he called for the male offspring of Hebrews
to be tossed into the deep-flowing river.
At that very time, the mother who gave birth to me
hid me three months, as she said, but no longer
could she stay hidden, so she robed me,
and exposed me along the river bank into the thick and bushy marsh.

And my sister Miriam was watching nearby.
Thereafter the daughter of the king with her maidens
came down to wash clean her youthful skin.
And at once when she saw me, she took me into her arms,
she knew that I was a Hebrew, and then my sister Mariam
running to the daughter of the king, said,
“Should I find a nurse quickly for this child from among the Hebrews?”
She urged her to do so. She went to tell my mother who came quickly
and my mother took me into her arms.
The King’s daughter said, “Woman, nurse this child,
And I will pay you for it.”
And she named me Moses, because she
took me from the wet river bank.
And when the time of my infancy passed,
Mother brought me to the house of the princess,
she recounted all and talked to me
about my lineage and the gifts of God.
Therefore while I was in the time of youth,
she took it upon herself to give me a royal rearing and instruction
as if I were her own child.
And when I passed into adulthood,
I came out of the royal palace
(For my desire and kingly contrivances brought me out).

And I first saw two men violently scrapping,
one of them was a Hebrew, the other an Egyptian.
And seeing that we were alone with no one else around,
I rescued my brother, but I killed the other one.
I buried him in the sand, so that no one
might see and lay bare the murderous deed.
On the morrow once again I saw two men,
both were of the same race and they were fighting,
I said: “Why are your striking a weaker man?”

He responded, “Who made you our judge
and magistrate here? Will you kill me,
as you did that man yesterday?” I was afraid
and I said, “How did this become known?”

News of everything quickly reached to the king.
And Pharaoh thus sought to take my life.
When I heard this, I took flight from his presence
and now I have wandered to this foreign land.

But I saw these seven virgins.

Sepphora: This entire land, stranger, is called Libya.
But it is home to tribes of all kinds of people,
The black-skinned Ethiopians. One man

is the ruler, tyrant, and lone general of the land.
He rules this state and judges mortals. He is a priest as well
and he is also my father and theirs.

Chum: Sepphora, you must recount this.
Sepphora: Father gave me to this stranger in marriage.
Moses: I had a vision of a throne at the top of Sinai.
It was so large that it reached the folds of heaven,
a man of noble birth sat upon it having a crown on his head and holding a large scepter in his left hand. With his right he motioned for me, and I stood before the throne.
He gave me the scepter and he told me to sit on the great throne. He gave me the royal crown and then got off the throne,
and I looked upon the entire earth and below the earth and above the sky.
A great number of stars fell at my feet, and I counted all of them.
They went by me like a company of troops.
When I woke up from the dream, I was afraid.

Raguel: O stranger, God has given a good sign.
Would that I might live to see these things happen.
Then you will raise up a great throne You will be a judge and lead men.
As for your vision of the entire inhabited earth, and the things under it and those above the heaven of God:
You will behold the present, the past and the future.

Moses: Oh my! What is this omen from the bush, such an incredible and difficult thing for men to believe?
A bush that is suddenly ablaze with roaring flame,
yet its entire shoot remains green,
what is happening here? I will get closer and behold this great spectacle.
For it is difficult for me to believe such things.

God: Stop, Moses, you noble man, do not come closer,
until you have removed the shoes from your feet.
For the ground under your feet is holy,
and the word of God shines forth from the bush.
Fear not, my child, and listen to my words.
For since you are mortal it is impossible to see my face
But you must listen to my words:
This is why I have come.
I am the God of your ancestors, as you call them,
Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
Having remembered them and my gifts,
I am here to save my people— the Hebrews.
I have seen the suffering and distress of my servants.
But come and make known my words
First to all the Hebrews,
Then to the king make known the things prescribed to you,
So that you might lead my people out of this land.

Moses: I do not have the natural ability to speak,
I have difficulty speaking and a weak voice,
And so I cannot speak before the king.

God: I will quickly send Aaron your brother,
You will tell him everything that I have told you,
He will thus speak before the king.  
You will speak with me, but he with you.

God: What do you have in your hands? Tell me at once.  
Moses: A staff for chastising beasts and men.  
God: Throw it on the ground and get away quickly.  
For it will become a terrifying serpent and you will be in awe of it.  
Moses: Behold, I have thrown it down. Oh Master, be gracious to me.  
How fearful, how awe-inspiring. Have pity on me.  
Looking upon this, I shudder, and the limbs of my body tremble.  
God: Fear not. Reach your hand out and grab the tail of the serpent,  
and the staff will again become as it was.  
Now put your hand into your cloak and take it out.  
Moses: I have done it. It has become as snow.  
God: Put your hand into your cloak again, and it will become as it was.  
God: With this rod you will bring about all manner of ill things.  
First, the river will flow with blood,  
all streams and pools of water.  
I will cast a multitude of frogs and gnats upon the land.  
Then I will sprinkle ash from furnaces on them,
And painful sores will rise up on mortal men,
flies will also come and afflict many of the Egyptians.
After these things, again another plague will come,

and those who have hard hearts will die.

Then I will provoke the heavens. Now hail with fire
will fall and put mortals in their graves.
And vegetation and animals will be destroyed.
I will cause darkness to fall for three entire days
and I will send locusts, and all the remaining
men and foliage of crops will perish.
After all of these things happen, I will kill
first born children of men. I will cause the arrogance of wicked men to cease.

But King Pharaoh will not be moved by these things just mentioned,

Except when his first born child dies.
And then being afraid you will promptly send the people out.

Say this to all the Hebrew people:

This month will be the first of your years.
In this month I will lead away the people into another land,

land which I promised to the patriarchs of the Hebrew race.
You will say to all the people, “Sacrifice the paschal lamb to God on the day of the full moon of the first month.

Just before night touch the door with blood,

so that the fearful angel will pass over when he sees this sign.

And at night you will eat the roasted meat.

Then in haste the king will cast out all the people.

When you are about to depart, I will bestow favor to the people, one woman from another will receive vessels and fine clothes, whatever a person could carry, gold, silver and robes, in order to repay the Egyptians for what they did against the Hebrews.

When you come into your own land, because from the dawn when you left and sojourned from Egypt, it was seven days. For seven days you will eat unleavened bread, and you will worship God, sacrificing to God the firstborn males, whatever offspring virgins first bear and males which lay open wombs of mothers.

On the tenth of this month, command the Hebrew men
to take unblemished sheep and calves for their families,
And you will preserve them until
The sun shines on the fourteenth day.
And at evening, after making the sacrifice you will eat all of it roasted, including
the inward parts.

This is how you will eat these things: with a robe on,
   With shoes on your feet and
   With a staff in your hands.
For in haste the king will order all to leave the land.
And all will be called. And after you have offered the sacrifice,
take a handful of hyssop in your hand,
   dip it into blood and touch two doorposts,
so that death might pass by the Hebrews.
You will keep this feast for the Lord,
Seven days of unleavened bread. And no leaven
will be eaten. For you will be delivered from these evils,
and in this month God will grant your exodus.
This month is the beginning of months and eras.

Egyp. Mess: For when King Pharaoh left his house with this
multitude of a myriad armed men,
with all his cavalry and four-horsed chariots
and the front ranks and others alongside.

There was a vast array of men drawn up in battle order.

The infantry was in the middle and battalions,
but there was room for the chariots to pass through.
And cavalrymen were posted on the left, 200
with all others of the Egyptian army on the right.
I asked about how many fighting men there were.
“One million” was the response.
And when my army met the Hebrews in battle,
they were gathered about having been thrown 205
along the coast of the Red Sea.
Some men were giving food to their infant children
together with their wives, overcome with fatigue,
with many flocks and household goods strewn about.
They were all unarmed and when they saw us, 210
with tears flowing down their cheeks, they cried aloud
toward the heavens and toward their ancestral God,
and there was much consternation among them.

But for our part we felt immense joy.
Then we set up camp opposite them, 215
(Some men call this place “Beelzephon”).
And when the Titan Sun was about to set,
we waited, wishing for a morning battle,
being persuaded by our vast army and awesome weapons.
But it was then that the divine portents began-
They were amazing to witness. And a large pillar
that looked like a cloud was placed on the ground (large it was),

Between our camp and the midst of the Hebrews,
and then their leader Moses, taking the staff of God,
with which he had beforehand brought forth evil signs and portents against Egypt,
he struck the surface of the Red Sea and divided its depths. And they all rushed forward mightily through the salty path.
But we quickly went through it ourselves along their track. We ran forth shouting,

but found night. And suddenly the wheels of our chariots would not turn, as if they were bound tightly.
And light from heaven like a great fire shone forth to us. As far as we could tell, God was their helper. And when they were across the sea, a large wave gushed forth right beside us. There was one man there who when he saw this said, “Run away back to our homes away from the hands of the Most High!

For he is a helper to them, but bringing us wretches to our ruin.” And the path of the Red Sea was washed away And the army was utterly destroyed.
Watchman: Most excellent Moses, take note of what
Place we have found. It is by that airy vale.
For it is over there, I suppose, and you can see. 245
From there a light shined forth
at night. It was a sign, like a fiery pillar.
There we found a shady meadow
And streams of water. A land of abundance and depth,
twelve springs are drawn from one rock, 250
and many trunks of strong palm trees are there
fruitful and seventy in number and surrounded by water.

The young shoots are forage for our animals.

We also saw another living creature, a strange and
wonderful thing, such as no one has ever seen. 255
For it was more or less twice the size of an eagle.
Its feathers were multi-colored.
it's breast appeared to be purple,
and its legs red. And around its neck
safron dyed tresses hang. 260
His head was like that of a cock.
He was looking around with his yellow eyes.
And his pupils almost looked like pomegranate seeds.
His voice was the most extraordinary of all.
It seemed as if he was the king of all birds. 265
For all the birds together
being fearful of him, followed after him,
and he was in front, as a prideful bull,
and lifting up his foot, he walked with a quick step.