

# Sundara Kānda: Hanuman's Odyssey

By BS Murthy

## Canto 1 - Hurdles in Skies

Egged on by peers Vayu's son Enshrined by man as Hanuman Enthused himself to shoulder Search of Seetha, Rama's spouse Snared whom Ravan to Lanka Sea across that hundred leagues.	1
With his head then held so high Gained he size for task on hand.	2
On that Mahendra mountain then Colossus like he sauntered there.	3
Uprooted were trees all those Brushed as with his chest that strong.	4
Varied hues of elements there Made that mountain resplendent.	5
Grace angels those hill ranges For their honeymoon so near moon.	6
At length he reached that hilltop Lay where elephants in their scores.	7
Besides Brahma 'n Surya Prayed he Indra and Vayu.	8
Facing east he sought blessings Of Vayu then his Wind God dad And grew more by turning south.	9
Grew as Hanuman more and more To cross that sea vast as it roared With full tides of full-moon night Came he face to face with clouds.	10
As though to test that mountain Whether it's right for his take-off Tapped it Hanuman with his legs.	11
Shook that mountain his impinge Shed trees flowers of hues varied.	12
Flowers all fell then covered it full Spread they fragrance far and wide.	13
Welled out water in thick springs Such was pressure of Hanuman's feel.	14
From the cracks it developed thus Creaked out molten metals varied.	15
While huge boulders slid in scores Out came smoke in thick columns.	16
With that squeeze it came under	

Cried all creatures in their caves.	17
Frightened was no less wildlife	
Heard were their howls world over.	18
In their state of confusion	
Serpents with all fiery fangs	
Marks of swastik on their hoods	
Spewed then venom in profusion.	19
Venom they spit was fireball like	
Turned to tiny stones there rocks.	20
Herbs of anti-venom were there	
Turned though antidote none of them.	21
Felt all yogis spirit at play	
Took to their heels demigods then.	22
Not to speak of vessels of gold	
In their fright gods left all goods.	23
In panic they left mid-meal	
Thought they none of gold armour.	24
In their sodden demeanours then	
Reached they all their heavenly homes.	25
Amorous angels in their scores	
Built their love-nests in those skies.	26
Ascetics of earth ascended	
For bird's eye view of Hanuman's feat.	27
Heard all averments of siddhas	
As well seers all stationed there.	28
Hill like Hanuman is all set	
Agile as ether to cross seas.	29
It was vanar Lord Sugreev	
That sent him on Ram's errand.	30
Angels there who heard those words	
Looked at Hanuman then wide-eyed.	31
Raring to go then Hanuman	
Slapped his thighs and roared like clouds.	32
Stretched he full then his long tail	
Jerked it like would eagle its prey.	33
Circled Hanuman his tail then	
Looked that eagle-clawed serpent.	34
Set to take off on that flight	
Stance he took for task that tough.	35
In that as he shrugged himself	
Seemed he eager and vigorous.	36
Stared he long at his flight route	
Deep breathed he for take-off then.	37
All set to go Hanuman then	
Thought it fit to them address	
Folks his who were so anxious.	38
Spoke he thus to assure them:	
Won't I dart like Ram's arrow	
To Ravan's land there lay yonder?	39
No sooner than I set foot	

Find I Rama's spouse Seetha.	40
Were I to happen to fail there Won't I rush to heaven itself?	41
Were I to land in blind alley Won't I go back to Lanka?	42
Prevail I over Ravan then And fetch Seetha unfettered With him in tow but in chains.	43
As he took-off he declared Comes it ever if to the brink Uproot he would all Lanka And bring it as gift to Ram.	44
By the thrust of his take-off Sucked in were trees into flight.	45
As he flew at jet speed then Tailed him trees with birds on them And buds that flowered in between.	46
In truck with him all of them Seemed they relatives at send off.	47
Sal trees then too followed suit Seemed he spearhead of large force.	48
With the flowers and birds in tow Made then Hanuman wondrous sight.	49
In time weakened as the pull Dropped all trees in those waters.	50
Covered as he by flowers and all Hanuman flew then glowworm like.	51
As he shrugged off in mid-air Fell some flowers on salt waters.	52
Turned as flower-bed sea that vast Seemed it then like star filled sky.	53
Flowers of varied hues on him Rainbow on move made him seem.	54
Sonic boom of Hanuman's flight Scattered flowers on those waters Seemed then that sea sky at dawn.	55
Arms his outstretched in his flight Looked like serpents with five hoods.	56
Filled his shadow shore to shore Though he picked up Mach two speed.	57
Sparkled his eyes as in flight Seemed some lava there in flow.	58
Wide open were his bright eyes Seemed they sun 'n moon in skies.	59
With his rosy nose-tip then Looked he like the setting sun.	60
In flight his tail that was long Banner then of Indra seemed.	61
With the sparkling teeth of his And the tail thus well coiled	

Sun like aura Hanuman had.	62
Blood red as those Hanuman's hinds Seemed they red hills thus sundered.	63
Wind as passed through his armpits Roared it then like lightning clouds.	64
Mistook him then sky watchers For some meteor that was rare.	65
In flight he looked like elephant With its tail spread round its waist.	66
Shadow that he cast on seas Seemed to all a speeding boat.	67
Concord like he moved in skies Caused he whirlpools in the seas.	68
With his broad chest Hanuman did Ward off sea tides that reached him.	69
As he speeded in his flight Formed a cyclone in the skies Caused that storm then in the seas.	70
Mean sea level as rose to skies Made he light of all those tides.	71
As he sped he seemed to count Mountain tides that so neared him.	72
Splash from tides as foamed the skies Gave that silver coat to space.	73
Torn as thus the water sheet Felt all fish as turned naked.	74
Water snakes as sighted skies Feared they eagle was on prowl.	75
Thick and wide was his shadow Seemed so symmetric to one's eyes.	76
Sped as he past in high skies Seemed his shadow like a cloud.	77
Looked then Hanuman in motion Like a mountain with huge wings.	78
Split as that sea in columns Cruisers they seemed in his chase.	79
Coursed as he thus Garuda like In those skies that filled with birds Wind like then he scattered clouds.	80
Clouds as all then went askance Shone they well in colours varied.	81
In and out of clouds Hanuman Seemed he like the moon on course.	82
In awe celestial beings then Flowers myriad they showered on him.	83
Filtered Surya his heat then While made easy breeze Vayu.	84
Sang his praises seers all there Awestruck angels his prowess.	85

Wondered at his endurance Angels all who watched him then.	86
Felt thus Sagar, Lord of Seas For whom Rama's cause came first.	87
Were I to fail to help Hanuman Make I myself blameworthy.	88
Won't I owe my reign and all To Ram's ancestor, my namesake?	89
For he exerts for Ram's cause Bound am I to help Hanuman.	90
Spoke then Sagar to Mainak Prince of hills with golden peaks Made who ocean bed his home.	91
Confined were thou by Indra On my bed for ever so long Barrier though as to netherworld.	92
Demons all for that lay therein Block thou approach to this world.	93
Prowess such is unique thine Expand thou the way thy wish.	94
Behold Hanuman as he flies Head over mine for Ram's sake.	95
Owe that I his ancestor Seek I now thy helping hand To let our Hanuma serve Rama.	96
Fail if we to help him out Enrage we might angels all.	97
Shoot up forthwith in his path And let him rest on peak thy high.	98
Hanuman is so long in flight Feel I time he rests a while.	99
Lighten if thou his burden Brings it end to Rama's plight Agony as well of his spouse.	100
Shoot up now O golden hill Graced by varied vegetation.	101
Came out then as Mainaka Depths of sea from that so deep Scene it made like mid-day sun Came out as it from thick clouds.	102
In the midst of sea that vast Shone then Mainak like Surya.	103
Lovers all there as lay languid Skimmed its peaks the rim of skies.	104
With his golden peak Mainak Shone he then like rising sun.	105
In time as he showed up full Dazzled he like suns in scores.	106
Mistook Hanuman for hurdle Mainak who rose to the skies.	107

Not the one to get daunted Hanuman toppled Mainaka With his bare chest that was strong.	108
Turned as he all turtle then Mainaka was so dumbfounded.	109
As a way to woo Hanuman Assumed Mainak human form.	110
It's my request O Hanuman That thee rest on my shoulder.	111
It was Rama's ancestor Helped who seas all to expand That's why grateful Lord of Seas Sent me to help thee take rest.	112
Well it's adage that so old Help we must all those us help Sees thus Sagar as favour Rest if thou on my shoulder.	113
Wants me Sagar make thou feel At home on my peak utmost.	114
Pray thee break now on my back Non-stop flight leagues eight hundred.	115
Might as well thou savour now Smell-well fruits of rarest taste.	116
Have as we such ties us bind Consent thou to strengthen them.	117
Cross as thou sea Concord like Proud are all of us of thee.	118
Make as thee our V.I.P Guests all we give due respect.	119
Amongst demigods rank thee high Speed thine no less than thy dad.	120
Let if am I to serve thee Feel I served thy dad as well Hold I whom in special esteem.	121
Had all mountains wings in yore Hovered thus they all three worlds.	122
Scared all angels and sages Mischance could well cause us crash.	123
It's thus Indra clipped our wings With the diamond sword of his.	124
Came in time as my own turn Unsheathed Indra diamond sword, Spiriting me off with gale wind It's thy dad that saved my wings.	125
Owing to thy parent's grace Wings mine escaped Indra's wrath.	126
See in this I golden chance Debt to repay benefactor.	127
Pray thee give a chance to us Redeem that we age old debt.	128

Now thou consent O great soul  
 Rest have thee as our dear guest. 129

Hanuman at that told Mainak:  
 Words though thine me move no end  
 Precedence takes now Rama's cause. 130

Stop if I now in mid-flight  
 How am I to meet deadline? 131

Token then as of his love  
 Caressed Hanuman Mainak's head. 132

Moved were Sagar 'n Mainak  
 At the way thus Hanuman placed  
 Lord's his interest above all else. 133

Bidding adieu to them both  
 Picked up Hanuman height in flight. 134

While on course in skies Hanuman  
 Looked at them both in reverence. 135

Well in awe at what they saw  
 Praised all angels Hanuman then. 136

Standing ovation gave Indra  
 With other gods to Mainaka. 137

Heartened then by his gesture  
 Addressed Indra Mainak thus: 138

Pleased as gods all Mainaka  
 Feel at ease as I leave thee free. 139

In spite of the threat I posed  
 Came out thou to aid Hanuman. 140

In thy bid to help Hanuman  
 Tried thee to aid Rama's cause. 141

Indra as thus assured him  
 Breathed then easy that mountain. 142

Cherished as Mainak his freedom  
 Sped past Hanuman by him then. 143

Thought it fit then gods to put  
 Hanuman to test in his quest  
 Spoke they thus to mother of snakes: 144

Well O Surasa see Hanuman  
 Flies he how to find Seetha  
 Sea this across to Lanka! 145

Pray posit thyself in his way  
 Obstruct him with ogress frame. 146

Test we must the mettle in him  
 Moves on or he beats retreat. 147

Egged on thus by gods themselves  
 Surasa came to confront him. 148

With its ogress look Surasa  
 Addressed Hanuman in mid-air. 149

Gods all destined thy large frame  
 Serves as sumptuous meal for me. 150

Without a twitch of his eyelids

Addressed Hanuman that ogress.	151
Let me tell thee what happened To Ram 'n Seetha as they stayed With Lakshman in tow in Dandak.	152
Sent evil Ravan Maareecha Decoy as to lure Rama And snared his spouse to Lanka.	153
Set as I on Seetha's trial And live as thou by Rama's grace Pray thee not put stop to that.	154
Eye me if thou as thy prey As soon as I finish my task Return I would to oblige thee.	155
Surasa made him then privy Boon which Brahma gave to her That none can ever pass her by Until and unless she lets go.	156
Having ignored Surasa's threat Kept as Hanuman his own course To test him thus she engaged him.	157
None there is an escape route Settled it all that Brahma's boon As and when I come in way Pass all through but mine own mouth.	158
Enraged Hanuman dared Surasa See if she could swallow him.	159
Neared as she with hill like mouth Outgrew Hanuman mountain like.	160
Stretched she jaws then undaunted Tides that took and clouds in stride.	161
Stalling Surasa's great swallow Assumed Himalayan size Hanuman.	162
Stretched she into troposphere Touched he then the stratosphere.	163
None less was the mother serpent Mouth she widened enough for him.	164
Hanuman to thwart her for all Raised himself to heaven itself.	165
Snarled then she her mouth awful Enough to engulf heaven and earth.	166
With his presence of mind Hanuman Turned then simian with thin tail.	167
Before she could drop her jaws Traversed Hanuman through her mouth.	168
Gaped as Surasa spoke Hanuman: Came out as I from thy mouth Boon of Brahma thus fulfilled Feel I am a free bird now.	169
Seemed he then to Surasa's eyes Like the moon that's past eclipse.	170



Spoke thus Surasa to Hanuman: Go on with no hindrance now And bring Seetha back to Ram.	171
Looked all worlds in wonderment Hanuman's feat that third in row.	172
Having tricked that Surasa thus Then in high skies flew Hanuman.	173
Celestial singers there he saw Stable of Airavat as well.	174
With features of earth's wildlife Saw he flying beasts in skies.	175
With their aura of angels Lived all righteous people there.	176
Went he near to sun 'n moon Saw he Agni conduits who Oblations to gods all there.	177
It's the region that ruled by Visvavas the king that fair Live where angels 'n such like Besides good souls after death.	178
Entered he then that region Serves as canopy of three worlds, Path there sun 'n moon doth share With Indra's stable of white elephants.	179
Saw them he all in their turn Martyrs all of great battles.	180
Clouds of myriad colours in skies Scattered were by Hanuman's thrust.	181
Clouds with playing hide and seek In skies then he shone like moon.	182
Flying non-stop in high skies Looked he like a winged mountain.	183
Seeing Hanuman thus speeding Fiendish Simhik turned greedy.	184
Was there ever a prey like this? What a sumptuous meal it makes!	185
Gripped she then him by shadow Cast which Hanuman coast to coast.	186
Ship in sail as up the wind Slowed down Hanuman in his course.	187
At last as he looked for clue Found his shadow in fiend's grip.	188
Recalled he in dismay then What Sugreev said at outset That one fiend had aptitude To grip its prey by mere shadow.	189
Stuck as he got in spite of Effort his great to speed up well Realized that he was its prey.	190
Grew he then to fill the skies	

Cast his shadow on all earth.	191
At that Simhik came jumping	
At him with her cave-like mouth.	192
Sensed as he then her intent	
Hanuman thought then better of it.	193
As with Surasa so with her	
Turned he simian in no time	
And thus entered her wide mouth.	194
Seen in awe by all angels	
It was as if moon eclipsed.	195
Into Simhik as he went	
Vitals her tore with his nails.	196
Moaned as she then in great pain	
Opened she wide mouth her large,	
Came out as he from her then	
Stopped she moaning as she died.	197
Torso as her sank in seas	
Flight he resumed in those skies.	198
Saw all demigods his great deed	
Showered they praises then on him.	199
Blessed him angels nonetheless	
Wished him well on his errand.	200
Felt all Hanuman's great passion	
Search for Seetha, Rama's spouse	
Worth it was for Hall of Fame.	201
Flew as he leagues eight-hundred	
Saw he yonder some island.	202
On that horizon came to sight	
Found he tree-lines touching skies.	203
Landed he soon on high peak	
Of the Malaya mountain range.	204
Like a mountain on the move	
Sauntered Hanuman on that high.	205
Felt he then that his giant size	
Won't make spying his easy.	206
It's thus Hanuman thought it fit	
Better he assumed simian shape.	207
It was akin to Vishnu	
Becoming pygmean to push down	
Bali into depths of earth.	208
Before he turned a small fry then	
Looked he at his huge frame though.	209
Climbed he Lamba Mountain then	
Had which countless coconut crowns.	210
For the close up of the town	
Jumped onto ground then Hanuman.	211
Sea across that miles and miles	
In the end then thus Hanuman	
Made his way to Ravan's land.	212

## Canto 2 - City in Clouds

On the landmass of Lanka Chitrakoot was the king mountain Kissed its peaks all clouds in skies Reigned Ravan from peak foremost.	1
Climbed as Hanuman that mountain Rained all trees then flowers on him.	2
Such was stamina of Hanuman Fresh he looked from that short rest.	3
Felt he had still left in him Strength to circle earth itself.	4
Flying wonder that Hanuman Powerful soldier none the less.	5
Green all yonder found Hanuman Reached as he that mountain range.	6
Valleys all of that hill range Had thick trees 'n wide gardens.	7
Had he thus a full measure of Land of Ravan that was green.	8
Bore all trees there fruits varied Besides date palms and santras.	9
Thick were bushes on those hills Fragrant flowers all bloomed therein.	10
Birds well nestled on trees all there Rustled leaves were by southern breeze.	11
Graced flowers lotus tanks all those Swans in them swam with rare grace.	12
Grew fruits well in all seasons Well-grown farms in scores there lay.	13
Itching to search Ravan's town Hanuman in time reached its gates.	14
Lest Rama should sneak in there On high alert were Ravan's troops.	15
Bricks of gold made Lanka's wall Kissed its mansions clouds in skies.	16
Mansions it had in millions Wide 'n well laid were there roads.	17
Climbed creepers green gold arches Looked like Lanka heaven on earth.	18
Seemed as Lanka city in clouds Lay dwellings on mountain peaks.	19
Built it was by gods' builder Earned it fame in Ravan's reign.	20
Lankan fort in that sea then Seemed like <i>saree</i> clad maiden, Compound wall its laid in gold Looked like virgin's narrow waist,	

Long-range guns its plaits parted Seemed as gables gold ear-rings.	21
Moved as Hanuman languidly Thought he thus in wonderment:	22
Sky scrappers these of Lanka Won't they lead to heaven itself!	23
None but Kubera owned it once But vile Ravan grabbed from him.	24
Demons then came to own this place Teeth that protrude seem them fiends.	25
Such as reside in Lanka Circled by seas as it were Foe to fear made king Ravan.	26
Came as cropper demigods all Of what avail Rama's vanar force!	27
Maginot line that Ravan built Find would Rama hard to breach.	28
Rich as Lankans 'n powerful Bribe 'n bravery might not work.	29
But for Angad, Neel 'n Sugreev Rest might get stuck at these gates.	30
Place why horse before the cart Makes it sense to strive my best.	31
So felt Hanuman it's proper Handled he better task on hand.	32
With my normal simian form Won't I hoodwink Ravan's men?	33
Big and powerful they are all How to throw wool in their eyes!	34
Why not I turn tinier And wait till the sun goes down.	35
Lying in wait Hanuman then Weighed all options on his hand.	36
Not by letting Ravan's men Smell the rat of my spying How am I to find Seetha!	37
Without muddling my errand How to find here Seetha soon?	38
Towel in throws as night at dawn Confronted by unforeseen Mid-course dullards leave their jobs.	39
Mission one's awry goes for sure Meddles if one in half knowledge.	40
Thus for having come so far Why not carry Seetha's word For the waiting ears of Ram.	41
Stop me if these in my tracks Derailed gets then Seetha's search.	42

How to look for Rama's spouse Unseen by these guards in scores!	43
Given the strength of their network None the disguise might well work.	44
Were I to surface as it were Might I as well get captured.	45
Makes it eminent if I move With darkness to aid me well.	46
It's night that makes conducive To search Ravan's own premises.	47
Having worked out his plan thus Waited Hanuman moon to come.	48
When the sun went out of scene Cat-like instinct showed Hanuman.	49
Airborne was he soon over Lanka's well-laid avenues all.	50
Pillars silver had buildings Windows whose wore golden frames.	51
Built were mansions eight-storied Set on gold floors were cat's eyes.	52
Stuccoes precious gems had walls Adorned pearls their wide doors all.	53
Domes there were all gold plated Bright they were by day and night.	54
Having had a bird's-eye view Flustered Hanuman Lanka's wealth.	55
Land that was of king Ravan Domicile of those demons varied.	56
As if to show him the way Moon came out in full bloom then.	57
In the moon rays of full moon Seen Hanuman the green signal.	58

### **Canto 3 - Prelude to Entry**

Having hovered in the skies Landed Hanuman in Lanka.	1
Bypassed Hanuman those sentries Manned who Lanka's gates all there.	2
Such was mirth of Lankans then Matched in decibels roars of seas Graced that place with soothing breeze.	3
Lived there people strong 'n stout Carved were elephants on main gates.	4
Of the star-filled bluish skies Mirror image so Lanka seemed.	5
Unfurled sea breeze Lankan flags Unleashed tinkles their trinkets.	6
Onto Lankan wall he jumped	

Got he then a bird's-eye view.	7
Doors there all were gold plated Paved were verandahs with corals.	8
Facades were all filled with gems Rooftops there had gold elephants.	9
Cat's eyes inlaid staircases Furnished well were drawing rooms.	10
In tandem with those tinkles Emanated from women's jewels Bird calls rent air from courtyards.	11
Wide-eyed he then stared for long At such splendour never equalled.	12
Marveled as he at such wealth Thoughts his turned to Ravan's might.	13
Guarded as well Lanka thus Is there scope for entry then?	14
But Kumud, Angad, Sushena too Might stand chance as Maind and Dwivid.	15
Not to speak of Lord Sugreev Kusaparv, Jambavan, Ketumal, and I no less.	16
Be that as it may Lanka Stands no chance with Ram Lakshman.	17
Won't look Lanka like a dame With these dwellings as ear-rings And its workshops her huge boobs?	18
Lights with its on won't Lanka Look like woman in white <i>saree</i> ?	19
Got wind of him Lankin then Deity Lanka's that huge fiend.	20
Came she forthwith in his way Hideous with her frame so large.	21
Lost she no time to confront Him in her tone that was harsh.	22
Value if thou life thy now Make a clean breast of thyself.	23
How it entered thy little head Sneak thou might in Ravan's land?	24
Undaunted said thus Hanuman: Dared as thee to address thus May I know now who art thou?	25
With thy hideous looks and all Why thee stand guard at this time?	26
Then the deity in response Spoke to Hanuman in disdain.	27
Guard I Lanka day 'n night Serve I Ravan in good faith.	28
Tuck thy tail and run for life	

Lest thy soul should rest in peace.	29
That thou realized who I am Make haste now 'n beat retreat.	30
Hanuman at this grew so huge Matching Lankin pound for pound.	31
Having come thus face to face Hanuman then her thus addressed.	32
As I heard of thy Lanka Know I came as just tourist.	33
All I want is to saunter All through Lanka in leisure.	34
With that Lankin lost her cool Flared she thus at Hanuman then.	35
Enough of cunning O simian Dare if thou cross swords with me.	36
Acting then all innocent Addressed Hanuman thus Lankin: Seek as I to see thy place Wonder why thou make big fuss?	37
Lankin at that turned physical With her fist on Hanuman's frame.	38
Roused as Hanuman in anger Roared he loud like lion hungry.	39
Then a left hook he landed On her huge frame bare fisted.	40
Yet he did no more than that Out of respect for women folk.	41
With the power of his punch then On all fours the fiend fell down.	42
Writhed as she in such great pain Pitied Hanuman the woman in her.	43
Scared no end was wounded fiend Bagged she mercy from Hanuman.	44
Hurt not women valorous men Know am Lankin, Lanka's deity.	45
As I was by thee matted Think I time to tell thee all.	46
Signalled Brahma to Lanka Nadir as I lose my fight At the hands of some simian.	47
Lost as I the fight to thee End I see of Ravan's reign.	48
How can Brahma ever go wrong? Seetha's kidnap proves him right.	49
Thus O Hanuman get thee set On thy mission in Lanka straight.	50
Seizes us as Brahma's curse	

Go in search of Seetha now  
Snared who Ravan to this land. 51

## **Canto 4 - Foray into Fort**

Lankin as thus gave visa  
Set then Hanuman on his course. 1

Having Lanka's bird's eye view  
Through its back door he entered. 2

So to bring it bad tidings  
Put forth he then his left foot. 3

In time he went to King's Way  
Had that flowering trees on sides. 4

Dwellings in all either side  
Saw he mirth 'n merry then. 5

Glow of Lanka seemed to him  
As cloud of silver in the skies. 6

Light as creaked out from houses  
Swastiks in their scores rays made. 7

Roamed as he then Ravan's town  
Well-pleased Hanuman with himself. 8

Houses he passed one by one  
Each was shaped a different one. 9

Sang as dames in those dwellings  
The sound of music pleased Hanuman. 10

Wore as women waist-bands all  
Trinkets theirs made music scores. 11

Breathed in roars who exercised  
Rhapsodic too were Vedic chants. 12

Saw he demons all there gathered  
Sang they hymns in Ravan's praise. 13

For men in arms and spies on rolls  
In Lanka's heart lay large barracks. 14

Tonsured men in penance he saw  
Magical powers all seemed to have. 15

Weird men he found single-eyed  
With lone ear some left him dumb. 16

Hideous many such fiends he found  
Well armed with their arms varied,  
Maces some had furrows-long  
Discs rest held that covered acres. 17

Medium built they by and large  
Frames theirs neither long nor short. 18

Fair were some and others darkish  
Lookers were there in both groups. 19

Turns took sentries to hold high  
Ravan's standards of conquests. 20

Flowers men garlands wore pastel  
Frames their glowed with sandal paste. 21



Men all dressed in ways varied Myriad all they arms carried.	22
To guard Ravan's gynoeecium In midst garrison was there laid.	23
Archways wide of solid gold Adorned Ravan's famed palace.	24
Moats it had of lotus white Wide-eyed Hanuman witnessed them.	25
Chamber music rent then air Neighed white horses in courtyards.	26
Lined as chariots in deep files Lay in hangers airplanes large, Languid while in move elephants Scores were horses with long manes.	27
Strolled all over deer in heat So the sentries on their beat.	28
In spite of the vigil they kept Threw Hanuman wool in their eyes.	29

## **Canto 5 - Life in Lanka**

Moon in time came overhead Raged he bull like in cow-pen.	1
Kept he darkness all at bay Seemed to dispel sins of men.	2
Rays his splendid in columns Sparkled lotus-like in prime.	3
In those high skies full of clouds Seemed he like one swam encaged.	4
Spot his that was well visible Appeared like a well-horned bull.	5
Light the king of stars as shed Fell that on his cousin blooming Brought that latter's spots luster.	6
Like the king on diamond throne Shone as well the moon that night.	7
Ambience moonlight enticed all Mates estranged to warm embrace.	8
Went as wanton to walk streets Women married were ever eager To mate their men they loved to core.	9
Men there were no less in scores Gulped who by then pint or more.	10
Some of them as tried to boast Rest in fistcuffs took to brawls.	11
Tried to shake their stupor as some Others took amorous routes to mates.	12
Full of smiles were women fulfilled Heaved though heavy then unfulfilled.	13

Roared as skies then like trumpets Swore soldiers like hissing snakes.	14
Saw he many there sober souls Took place debates informed then.	15
Found he many an ugly folk Were they none the less decent.	16
Women wondrous had virtuous mates Matched they stars of cloudless skies.	17
Birds as hidden by flowering buds Women charming lay in male arms.	18
Went to their men women in want Fondlers they turned to rouse them.	19
Women lovelorn who rivalled moon Lacked as they mates turned all pale.	20
Men all who had women to mate Love they made to them all night.	21
Eye lashes of dove-eyed dames Hid their eyes in thick black veils, Jewels that those wore in scores Cast a charming light on them.	22
None of them though made him feel Seetha could be one of them.	23
Forlorn Seetha he knew well Would be lost in Rama's thought.	24
Saw he none of that anguish In them Seetha would have felt.	25
In her agonized mood Seetha Won't she look like that crescent Screened by thick dark clouds in skies?	26
Failed as he to find Seetha Nonplussed was then Vayu's son.	27

## **Canto 6 - Precincts to Beat**

Having recouped from despair Roamed then Hanuman all the more.	1
Entered he then Admin block Came with face-to-face palace.	2
Keep at bay as lions poachers Looked all scary palace guards.	3
Archways silver, gateways gold Made that look like heaven on earth.	4
Vigil while some kept on elephants Rode others tireless horses there.	5
Guards had ivory chariots there Wheels of which were made of gold.	6
Facades had all well cut gems Furniture there lay out of world.	7

Deer as ran fast in their stride Birds went helter-skelter then.	8
Like a diamond in the sky Lay there palace of Ravan.	9
Wore there dames all such jewels Made which them all seem angels.	10
Lay shaking hands sandal trees And that gave it woods like look.	11
Kettledrums as raised high decibels Conchs in chambers blared in scores.	12
Ocean like spread had that fort Paved its rooftop with rare gems.	13
Such was splendour of that place Gaped it Hanuman wonder-struck.	14
Felt of Ravan's place he then As the jewel crown of worlds.	15
Left he none there bush to search Peeped he then through all windows.	16
Done with dwellings of hirelings Prahastha's mansion then he reached.	17
Kumbhakarn 'n Vibhishan Ravan's siblings both of them Lived in mansions magnificent.	18
Went in Hanuman one by one Quarters there of eminent men.	19
Entered he then abodes of Vidyunmal 'n Vidyujjivih.	20
Spared he not the places of Sons of Ravan in his search.	21
Sumali's palace he sauntered Jambumali's own not to spare.	22
Hurried Hanuman in his search Of Math's as well Yuddhonmath's.	23
Into Sukana's house he went Came he out of Vikata's place.	24
Got as he in Vakra's place Lost his privacy latter then.	25
Karala's residence came under Hanuman's scanner along with Pisaacha's palace that was next.	26
In his search of Seetha thus Laid he bare there all nobles.	27
Having drawn blank with Lieutenants' Quarters he searched then General's.	28
Hideous ogresses at the gates Guarded Ravan's high fortress.	29
Fearful they looked head to foot Carried weapons they weird in shape.	30
As though to catch foes in flight Harnessed scores were horses there.	31

Pedigreed pachyderms all of them Lay there battle hardened hundreds.	32
Mountain-like they move in wars Make they enemies run for life.	33
Shiver all mighty down the spine When they come to hear trumpets.	34
In their gold shields soldiers all Glittered then like mid-day sun.	35
Found he there all palanquins gold Galleries filled with masters' works.	36
Gyms as there for body builders Parks to peck for lovers there were.	37
Ravan's place was mountain like Peacocks there strolled on their toes.	38
Flags there fluttered in their scores Lent they breeze the roaring sound.	39
Like hot sun of mid-summer Dazzled Ravan in nightgown.	40
Vessels of gold and ivory cots Hanuman in scores saw them there.	41
Sauntered as he in aisles then Spillover on wine he stepped.	42
Women there as had lovely gait Rustled <i>sarees</i> to rhythmic beat.	43
Women in numbers he found there Looked who charming dream-girl like.	44

## **Canto 7 - Palace in the Plane**

To probe Ravan's own chambers Ventured Hanuman further down.	1
Armaments stacked in piles he found With rare conchs that give war cries.	2
With flaw none in cut or shine Vessels he found with gems to brim.	3
What he saw in Ravan's place Made it seem like magic land.	4
To his wonder he found parked Aircar unique called Pushpak.	5
Stood out for its looks Pushpak Seemed it was like made for gods.	6
Lodged in it were women of charm Live wire like they moved in aisles.	7
In its splendour looked Pushpak Like the moon on earth landed.	8
Insignia it had hills of gold Bore they trees of flowers diamond.	9
Housed it mansions furrows-long Lawns theirs had large swimming pools.	10

Seemed it as if on take-off Sight that made him rub his eyes.	11
Carved were birds on huge corals Made of gems were horse statues.	12
Birds therein all seemed to him Like the allies of Love God.	13
Goddess Lakshmi's deity lay On lotus red in blue waters With elephants white on either side.	14
Swayed as it him no end then Went he in thrall round Pushpak.	15
Overawed though he by Pushpak Resumed his search soon Hanuman.	16
Having failed to trace Seetha Seized was he with thus sorrow.	17

## **Canto 8 - Pushpak's Prowess**

End to end he searched Pushpak Cover he could not all its ground.	1
Wonder that was Pushpak called Like the one that never conceived.	2
Abodes of gods 'n angels too Add up not to Pushpak's tail.	3
It had in itself to change Needs to suit of who owns it, Got it Ravan not for song For he had to shed his blood.	4
When in flight it acquires speed Synch which would with pilot's mind.	5
Presence of it then got Lanka Preeminence in all three worlds.	6
Frescos it had men in rows With that vigorous look on them.	7
Amidst vernal season then Looked Pushpak like flower mountain.	8

## **Canto 9 - Harem at Night**

In the midst of Pushpak lay The Palace Royal of Ravan.	1
Built it was with gems all rare Plinth it had of two score miles.	2
Went in Hanuman in the hope Therein he would find Seetha.	3
Having got in he sauntered In those royal chambers there.	4
With their knives drawn to the hilt Found he guards there door to door.	5

Saw he Ravan's wives in scores Maidens that he grabbed by force.	6
Found he ponds of ocean size Lived where crocodiles with white whales.	7
Amidst the riches it sported God like Ravan lived in there.	8
With sons 'n siblings there Ravan Bettered thus lifestyle of all gods.	9
Entered harem Ravan's Hanuman Pushpak's that was star attraction.	10
Custom built was that Pushpak By God's own architect for Brahma.	11
In the times of yore Kuber Sought and got it from Brahma, Wanting it to serve his needs Grabbed it Ravan waging war.	12
Spoils of war as it made Pictured bullfights on its walls.	13
Stretched its ceiling to high skies Cellars its touched depths of earth.	14
Pushpak's glitter makes Lanka Seem as daytime during nights.	15
Emeralds it had for doorknobs Windowpanes were crystal class.	16
Pearls it had all paved for floor Gave that look of white carpet.	17
Woodwork of its red sandals Made the place all smell so sweet.	18
Shaped so well were secret vaults Deceive they would the best of spies.	19
Entered Hanuman its pantry Feed which could a million mouths.	20
Aroma of all recipes there Reached him with a come-hither tag.	21
Entered he then that portion Lived where Ravan as the god.	22
Stairs it had of gems inlaid Handles of them ivory made.	23
Pillars it had gold ingots Glowed they all like candlelights.	24
None was taken for granted Flawless was the way it shaped.	25
With woven Atlas on them bright Laid were carpets continent size.	26
Birds on heat were perched on trees Cooed they in their scores well pecked.	27
Smoke that scented sticks emitted Got spread throughout Ravan's land.	28

Kept its aura gloom at bay It's where Ravan set his shop.	29
At home Hanuman felt therein Entered though he enemy's place.	30
Felt he was in heaven itself Fit for gods of every faith.	31
Finding no scent of Seetha Seemed he gambler who lost all.	32
With his person 'n harem No less Ravan added then Lustre to that bright Pushpak.	33
Maidens there were in thousands Dressed they like for fashion show.	34
Drunk they were all to the dregs Bent their eyelids all downward.	35
Slept one by one all of them Seemed the place as swan filled pond.	36
Postures theirs were well composed Breath their smelled as flowers at dawn.	37
Petals like lotus their faces Seemed in sleep all lotus buds.	38
Zoomed all drunken bees in scores As would go round flowers in bloom.	39
Celibate as he wished they were Flowers all real and not damsels.	40
Angel like dames made Ravan's Harem seem like star filled sky.	41
Ravan in their midst then looked Like the blooming moon in skies.	42
Felt of Ravan's lovers Hanuman Were like meteors made there home.	43
Skins theirs were like cloudless skies Pure were demeanours of those dames.	44
Orgasms multiple they had all Askance went things on them all.	45
In their coitus furious dots Vermilion theirs smudged foreheads.	46
Passion with such they coited Crushed were pearls of chains they wore.	47
Breath of theirs as they made love Withered all flowers of their garlands.	48
Chains of jewels that they wore Made their boobs seem sun 'n moon.	49
Sank as pearls in their valleys Seemed they swans that lay in rest.	50
Looked like canal banks their thighs Waists theirs seemed so tiny streams.	51
Smiled in slumber some sweetly Dreamt as though of lay they had.	52

Embrace in theirs of Ravan Breasts of theirs as chest his crushed Made then imprints of their chains Seemed that matching pairs on them.	53
Covered as <i>pallus</i> their faces Pairs of bellows turned their breaths.	54
As was standards of Ravan Bright were hues of their <i>sarees</i> .	55
Turned as <i>pallus</i> to bellows Vibed like pendulums their ear-rings.	56
Smelled well as the breath of theirs Got that better with wine they had.	57
Sexy co-wives of Ravan Kissed in ardour one another.	58
In their craving for Ravan Made they lesbian love in turns.	59
Some of them in their slumber Folded their hands for pillows.	60
Made some thighs of their co-wives Headrests for their wondrous heads.	61
Used some leggies flat bellies Of co-wives to spread their legs.	62
Entwined slept as Ravan's dames Seemed they strings of white roses, Hair theirs seemed to cover them all Bees as would all flowers in bloom.	63
Harem Ravan's felt Hanuman Creeper like grove in full spring.	64
Body odours of those dames Lent the air all with then scents.	65
With such abandon slept they all Moved their <i>sarees</i> up their thighs.	66
That Ravan was fast asleep Gods dared eye his women in sleep.	67
Most of them in Ravan's hold Came coveting him on their own.	68
Beauty as theirs made him weak Dragged he some of them to bed.	69
Fetches him some the hearsay true His great valour spread world over.	70
Found none of them then Hanuman Found might wanting to share throne.	71
Seeing them all so fulfilled Wished he Ram 'n Seetha well.	72
That the learned Ravan snared Seetha who was chaste to Rama Saddened Hanuman no end then.	73



## Canto 10 - Women in Want

Hanuman on the sly entered Chambers private of Ravan.	1
Such a cot he found lay there Made to rival Ravan's throne.	2
Meant to impart moon's aura Had it canopy made of wreaths.	3
Cot his huge was made of gold Seemed on it sun came to rest.	4
Fanned by lovely handmaidens Rent air perfumes rare fragrance.	5
Bed it had of soft sheepskin Stuffed to brim with silk cotton.	6
With red eyes for want of sleep He-man Ravan lay there spread.	7
Layers thick of sandal paste Applied on his manly frame Soothed those scores of love bites deep.	8
Splendid jewels wore he then Seemed they lightning in grey cloud.	9
In the forest of fair sex Slept there Ravan like a log.	10
Signs there were for all to see Left he none there to make love.	11
Hanuman in awe neared Ravan But the fact that he played foul Made him stop then in his tracks.	12
Such was aura of Ravan Made the simian stare at him.	13
Harem in his lay Ravan Like a trunk with thick creepers.	14
Arms his long with gold epaulets Looked like poles for Indra's flags.	15
Sported scores both combat scars Of his battles fought with gods.	16
Like the mythical five-hood snakes Arms his strong were well tapered.	17
Of hair oils his women used Smelled his hands of varied scents.	18
Rings he wore on his fingers Gave a measure of his strong hands Made which worlds all bow to him.	19
With the power of his own hands Subdue he could all three worlds.	20
In that king-size bed Ravan Lay he like a king elephant.	21
Such was the build of his frame	

Looked he like a mountain then.	22
Breaths of Ravan seemed to fill The insides all of that Pushpak.	23
Thus the aisles of that Pushpak Were then filled with flowery scent.	24
Diamond ear-studs of Ravan Seemed as diadem askew then.	25
On his hairy chest that broad Glistened all well his golden chains.	26
Loincloth he wore of white silk Left its guard on legs his strong.	27
Lay as he on white bedspread Looked he like a black diamond.	28
Amidst the candle light that night Seemed he like rain-bearing cloud.	29
Women that slept on his huge bed Shone like stars in clear blue skies.	30
Saw Hanuman all Ravan's wives With their aura that paled moon.	31
While some slept on arms his long Others lay on his thighs that strong.	32
Had they ear-rings of cat's eyes Wore they armlets of large gems.	33
It's their aura in Pushpak Made it Milky Way on earth.	34
Hourglass figure women all had Had them Ravan all of them.	35
For those in queue to make it To Ravan's bed of hot pursuit Thought of his was so pumping Failed they manage to have wink.	36
Like a wreath that logged to boat Lasses some hugged their <i>veenas</i> .	37
Slept a dame with drum by side As would she have her newborn.	38
One with throbbing boobs so big Hugged a drum like lover in want.	39
Pressed one flute in her valley As would amorous woman manhood.	40
Hugged as eager woman violin Pressed by heaving breasts of hers Scored it erotic notes on own.	41
Looked one temptress every inch Hugged she trumpet like a wrench.	42
One who drank all to the dregs Tabor she locked in armpit.	43
Demure was the one that hugged	

Drum so small her breasts could hold.	44
Those that could hold no longer Made they dildos of their flutes.	45
Tipsy turned a woman in sleep Jug of lavender thus upturned.	46
One of those whom Ravan had Drained as she to dress herself Nipples of hers she covered with hands.	47
Amorous woman in all her want Locked one lissome lass like brace.	48
Came to Ravan's women handy Instruments varied that there lay.	49
Saw he then the gem of all Slept who on a separate cot.	50
Charm hers was such made the rest Seemed like stars of full moon night.	51
Woman of golden hue there lay None other than king Ravan's queen	52
Heard as he all gods coveted Mandodari the magnificent, Yet felt Hanuman that peerless Woman might as well be Seetha.	53
In his joy he found Seetha Got he into simian ways.	54

## **Canto 11 - Qualms of Celibate**

Felt soon Hanuman that Seetha Forsake would not her Lord Ram.	1
How could forlorn Seetha then Would have had that happy look?	2
Could ever Seetha find a man Who would out tempt her Rama?	3
In his search for Rama's spouse Went in Hanuman further down.	4
To his surprise there he found Many more in wait for Ravan.	5
After a bout of game of dice Worn out there lay some on beds.	6
On their sexiness lasses Indulged then in innuendos.	7
Some as cracked crude party jokes Rest of them had heck of time.	8
Praised all each other's wantonness Bragged they all about ways of flesh.	9
Felt then Hanuman if at dawn Should Ravan all lay them true Makes him raging bull in pen.	10
Finds as he his mates on heat	

Looks he no less king elephant.	11
Meant to succor their sex urge Sweets varied were well laid there.	12
Found he there lay on platter Meat of deer and boars deep-fried.	13
'Use-me' vessels of solid gold Brimming there with leftovers.	14
Beasts assorted were slaughtered For the sumptuous meal they had.	15
Recipes all of fish he found Flesh as well of birds roasted.	16
Plentiful lay food vegetarian Fresh that was and spicy too.	17
Besides silver jars of wine Desserts were there in gold plates.	18
On the cots that lined furlongs Spread were jasmines one foot deep.	19
Corals those that filled the floors Seemed they all like burning coals.	20
Aroma of the food there lay All the more them made hungry.	21
Served were juices of fresh fruits Spirits they raised in there gathered.	22
Mean it was no that quarter Than those chambers of Ravan.	23
Entered storeroom as Hanuman Found he racks and racks of gold.	24
Saw he wine in vats of gold Studded which all with rare gems.	25
Vats of silver there he found With half full of wine still left.	26
Lay there mounds of food so fresh Feed which could scores hungry souls.	27
Found be broken goblets there Stamped by maidens in their haste.	28
Stepped he out of that quarter Straight into that banquet hall Lesbians full in their couplings.	29
In their pairs they shared blankets Which in turns they pulled on each.	30
Breath of some made own <i>pallus</i> Ripple like reeds in windy climes.	31
Aroma from their breath then matched With those dregs of wine they left.	32
Sea breeze that was so profuse Scent theirs took to all corners.	33
In that banquet hall were found Beauties black 'n blonds as well.	34

Worn out as by excess sex Looked some then like shrunken bees.	35
Women of allure though they were None had charms of Rama's spouse.	36
Celibate that he was Hanuman Developed thus he qualms of own If the sight was right for him!	37
Doubts came thick and fast to him Turned if he then peeping Tom.	38
Blamed he Ravan for his plight Act whose brought him to that pass.	39
Single minded that Hanuman Aside he set his doubts in time.	40
For he had no covetous look Women all failed to excite him.	41
Felt he nice that his own mind Helped his celibate intent then.	42
What else could he do to find Seetha than to scan fair sex.	43
Would one expect to find her Amidst a flock of deer on run.	44
With no stone as left unturned Alas, Seetha he couldn't find.	45
Lovely women all he found there But not Seetha his Lord's spouse.	46
Looked he then back at Pushpak Searched he which from tip to toe.	47
Not the one to leave mid-course Pursued Hanuman Seetha's search.	48

## **Canto 12 - At Wits End**

In his search for Seetha thus Sauntered Ravan's place Hanuman.	1
Failed as he to find her still Felt she could have died of grief.	2
Finding her no yielding type Ravan could have got her hanged.	3
Or else Seetha should've gone Underground in Ravan's land.	4
Were he to go with blank page Would Lord Sugreev approve that?	5
Would not all the pains it took For him to reach Ravan's land Come to naught were she not found?	6
When he would go back in time	

Won't his peers and Lords as well Get round him for Seetha's news?	7
Were he to show empty hand Won't that break the hearts of all?	8
What would elder Jambavan say? How Prince Angad would take it!	9
So as not to fail them all Not by finding Seetha now, Better I pull up socks my well So to pass through pathless woods.	10
If one gives up not on hopes Tends that towards goal his own.	11
Resolved he thus not to sulk But to press then even more.	12
Having felt thus he went back To all those places he had been.	13
After making one more round Of the harem of Ravan Stepped he out of Pushpak then.	14
Entered he then those dwellings Annexed to Ravan's Royal Court.	15
Searched he then the town proper That was Lanka's headquarters.	16
As though to leave none to chance Sauntered Hanuman suburbs there all.	17
Left he none of private parks Nor he spared a public place.	18
But for woman of hideous looks Found he not there Rama's spouse.	19
Saw he though there stunners too Found he Seetha nowhere there.	20
Saw he many an angel there In them in vain he searched her.	21
Drew he blank in captive cells Lodged where women by Ravan brought.	22
Having failed to find her there Agonized Hanuman even more.	23
What a waste of time it was To come to Lanka in her search!	24
Sank he on his knees Hanuman Despaired of that mission failure.	25

### **Canto 13 - Errand in the Bend**

On the rebound then Hanuman Like a lightning reached Pushpak.	1
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Staring at the place he searched Thought he errand of his failed.	2
How come Seetha was not found Left I though no room to search?	3
In all entire land of this Had I left a stone unturned?	4
Won't those leads of Jataayu Vulture king who fought Ravan And lost who life to stop kidnap, Lends scope to find Seetha here?	5
Would have Seetha in despair Succumbed to Ravan in secret!	6
Sped as Ravan her in arms Out of range of Ram's arrow, Preferring death to his amour Did she into ocean drop?	7
Flew as Ravan her in skies Having seen never ending seas Lost she might have been her nerve And thus died in mid-air then.	8
Chaste as Seetha to her man The thought of rape by Ravan then Would have led her heart to seize.	9
Committed that she to her Lord Tried as she to wriggle herself Would have slipped from Ravan's grip.	10
With none around to rescue her Drowned she might have Ram in mind.	11
For that matter Ravan's wives Would have killed her by envy.	12
Or else forlorn Seetha might Have died in her great despair.	13
For Lakshman to help her out Seetha would have surely cried.	14
Maybe in some secret vault Ravan could have confined her.	15
Seems it absurd even then Seetha would to Ravan turn.	16
With no news of Seetha now Makes it no sense to go back.	17
Reported dead or found missing, What a breaking news it makes?	18
What an end to such beginning Should that ever end in deadlock?	19
Were I to go now without a clue What's the worth of my errand?	20
Not for Sugreev sent me here Have I count of Ravan's wives.	21

What would Rama have to say Were I to face him blank faced?	22
Were I to state that found her not Wouldn't he die of broken heart?	23
Hears if he of mission failure What for he would like to live?	24
Seeing Rama slip in coma Lakshman too would come to grief.	25
Back home Bharat 'n Satrughna Break down hearing breaking news.	26
Won't on hearsay go to grave Mothers three of brothers those four?	27
Having failed to keep his word Won't our Sugreev die of shame?	28
Unable to bear the death of his Wouldn't then Ruma forego life?	29
Mourns as Tara, Vali's death Won't her new Lord's death kill her?	30
Wont' then follow suit Angad Tara's son to Vali born.	31
If ever enemies eye our land What would come of our empire?	32
Made all prosper Sugreev's reign Won't they feel all orphaned now?	33
In the wake of Sugreev's death Sport 'n pastime suffer no end?	34
Won't feel vanars fatherless And get scattered world over?	35
In that depressed state of theirs Many might as well end their lives.	36
Were I to go without her sight It's like taking death sentence.	37
Serves no purpose going there Without the news of her welfare.	38
Were I to stay put here itself Might they as well live in hope.	39
Better I remain in her search Feed I would on fruits 'n roots.	40
As and when I reach dead end Can't I immolate without a trace?	41
Or unto death I would fast Upon my frame let beasts all feast.	42
Why not I let myself drown In the selfsame sea I crossed?	43
It was such a good beginning Why should it ever end different?	44
Fail in case to find Seetha What if I turn ascetic here?	45
Live if I in Lanka thus	



Won't I let live my folk there?	46
Downs as curtain death on life Takes none further part on stage.	47
At not finding Rama's spouse That's how Hanuman's mind wavered.	48
Brave that he was rose in time And thought of seeing Ravan's end.	49
Or else I could lift Ravan And fly across the sea I crossed.	50
Confined somewhere in these parts How that would serve Seetha's cause?	51
As he thought the better of it And thought none of Ravan more Came to sing the same old tune.	52
Were I to go by Jataayu's words And fetch Rama here forthwith Finding her not he would sulk And his wrath would harm us all.	53
Stay if I back in Lanka Harm I none in Kishkindha.	54
Oh, isn't yonder garden there? Well, how I failed to notice that!	55
Seems like gods are guiding me In my search of Rama's spouse.	56
What if that grove yields that fruit Brings which joy to Rama's heart?	57
Buoyed by that thought he set Sights his all then on that grove.	58
So to bring him good tidings Prayed he Ram 'n Seetha then As well Lakshman and Rudra, Besides Indra and Vayu Yama 'n Surya not to speak Angels all there in the skies Prayed them all he in reverence.	59
Hoping to find her in grove Sought he as well Sugreev's grace.	60
Striding there in long strides Worked out moves his in advance.	61
Find I would there guards for sure With swords drawn to stop trespass.	62
For the comfort of someone Breezes past that he that grove Seems that Vayu is concerned.	63
Assume I might tiny form And turn needle in haystack.	64
Hope gods all of heavens there are Help me in my mission on earth.	65
If I were to go blindfold Moonlight hope would lead me to	

Rama's spouse in Ravan's land.	66
Sure to bless is Lord Vishnu That I would see Seetha now.	67
How I wish to see Seetha With such beauty that is rare.	68
Pining for so long for Ram May not she look at her best.	69

## **Canto 14 - Garden of Grief**

With Seetha in mind Hanuman Reached that garden royal soon And he perched on compound wall.	1
In that grove that's thick and wide Saw he scores of full-grown trees.	2
Besides Asoka trees there were Flowering neem and mangoes too.	3
Like Ram's arrow then he sped Towards a climber in that grove.	4
Flowers there all pleased him much Thrilled him sounds all birds then made.	5
Shone there flowers North Star like Sauntered there then deer languid.	6
Craving cuckoos cried on trees Bees on heat on flowers there zoomed.	7
Hovered birds then for their mates Clamoured peacocks there on ground.	8
Jumped as he from tree to tree Woke up birds all from their sleep	9
Birds as fluttered into skies Severed by their wings flowers all there .	10
Fell as flowers those on him thus Made they mountain on his frame.	11
To get rid of that flower burden As he grew in size Hanuman Seemed he Spring God on the rise.	12
Flowers as scattered all over Gave that mother earth maiden look.	13
Toyed as he then with trees there Fell all balance flowers they wore.	14
Tried as he to test his strength Dropped were ripen fruits they bore.	15
Spared not his push leaves even Trees there stood like lost gamblers.	16
Bare as turned thus trees all there Birds were then left with no shades.	17
Pulled he trunks then with his tail Broke them all with arms and legs.	18
Like the ravaged women by him Battered there lay Ravan's grove.	19

As would scatter clouds by wind Severed lay creepers from tree trunks.	20
Found as he his way inside Saw he footpaths paved with gold.	21
Ponds were there of pure water Steps which had with gems inlaid.	22
Beds of those had pearls for sand Grew there golden trees on banks.	23
Made flowers lotus red carpets Swans like royal guests sauntered.	24
Serviced were they by canals Brought they water nectar like.	25
Lined on banks of those canals Trees that nearly kissed skyline.	26
In the midst of that vast grove Mountain there lay that was huge.	27
Had it numerous caves so deep House which could a million men.	28
Found on it a stream Hanuman Seemed that like a dame enraged Sprang who up from beloved's lap.	29
As would desist her friends then Her from leaving estranged mate So bent branches on those banks Touching waters at mid-stream.	30
Wound its way then back that stream As would pacified woman backtrack.	31
On those branches of thick trees Birds of same feather flocked together.	32
With clear water that was cool Laid there was a swimming pool.	33
Change rooms built for both sexes Gave that complex ambiance rare.	34
Gardens lay there in the scores Walkways were all coral paved.	35
Flowerpots plenty of pure gold Contained colorful crotons there.	36
Spread there Sinsupa far and wide Dais of gold all covered its ground. .	37
Round the dais of spick and span Grown were tropical trees varied.	38
In that grove of golden hues Shone Hanuman like rising sun.	39
Trinkets tied to branches there Set they tune for passing breeze.	40
Soared as hopes his sky high then Climbed he Sinsupa's topmost branch.	41
Had a premonition Hanuman then Seetha would grace that place soon.	42

Wonder as was that Pushpak Seemed the garden none the less.	43
Forlorn so long that Seetha Wouldn't she find this grove soothing?	44
Why not as she got used to Strolling in the thick jungles.	45
Fatigued as would be Seetha By the constant thought of Ram Might come her for recouping.	46
As she saunters in that grove Recall she would with fondness Time she spent with her man then.	47
Besides she was so fond of All that goes for life in woods.	48
Fail she might not to turn up For her morning bath downstream.	49
Think I not of another place Better which would for morning walk.	50
Were she to be alive still Won't she be drawn to this stream?	51
Driven by hope of finding her Lay there Hanuman in hiding.	52

## **Canto 15 - Withered Flower**

Failed as Seetha to turn up Came in open then Hanuman.	1
Deep breathed as he so he felt Scent there that of sandalwood.	2
Ventured as he further down Thought he was in Indra's grove.	3
Wildlife he found there so rare Thought he visited other planet.	4
Buildings there were five-storied By boulevards wide hundred feet.	5
Fruits they bore all golden hues Seemed they street lamps in their scores.	6
Perched as they in their thousands Seemed as trees had birds for leaves.	7
Birds as flew with flowers in beaks Looked they all like well-decked brides.	8
For their flowery burden then Developed branches some hunchbacks.	9
Garden plants in some courtyards Peeped over their compound walls.	10
Find them would a passerby In their varied shades of green.	11
Wondered Hanuman how he failed First to search that wondrous place.	12

In the gardens of all earth Won't it score a perfect ten?	13
What other place can Ravan find Helps which Seetha change her mind?	14
Saw he then that hall supreme Built by Ravan to rival God's own pavilion in grandeur.	15
Raised on thousand gold pillars Glowed that like one thousand suns.	16
When he could his sight adjust Saw he towers its kiss the clouds.	17
As if it were by sixth sense To Sinsupa turned back Hanuman Only to find there seated Woman so young with dress so old.	18
Heard her sighs he on and off Circled her as demonic guards.	19
Seemed she like a flame so bright Shrouded then by smoke that thick.	20
Clad she was in soiled silk Wore no necklace on her self.	21
Grief her wore down to core Sat she bowing head in shame.	22
Cried she with her tear-filled eyes Looked she distraught 'n famished.	23
Like a hare that lost its way Into hounds on hunt she looked.	24
Dark hair hers in plait that thick Touched the ground on which she sat.	25
In spite soiled <i>saree</i> she wore Demeanor hers was lady like.	26
Well she could be Rama's wife Kidnapped by the Lankan king.	27
No doubt it was Rama's spouse For she matches thumbnail sketch That Lord Rama gave Hanuman.	28
Charm her golden frame oozes Brings forth brightness to darkness.	29
Waist her narrow lends her frame The flowing look that aids her gait.	30
Eyes her wide like lotus leaves Were shaped to acquire amorous looks.	31
But, in her grief they lost lustre As would stars by clouds shrouded.	32
As would spendthrift his holding Agony of hers shrivelled her frame.	33
With signs none of her rescue Seemed she lost her will to live.	34

Wanted she her man to know  
 Ravan by force brought her there  
 Though she would not yield to him. 35

Swollen were her tearful eyes  
 Sunken were her crimson cheeks. 36

Ever since Ravan brought her there  
 Looked she had no bath since then  
 Made which seem her cloudy moon. 37

Found in dilemma Hanuman then  
 If she could be Rama's spouse. 38

But then aura he espied  
 None but Seetha could have that. 39

Looked he then on for jewels  
 As though they were missing links. 40

Those to him Ram made privy  
 Found he lay them on low branch. 41

To help Seetha please Rama  
 Well crafted were all of them. 42

Dust as they all thus gathered  
 Turned those into dirty brown. 43

Missing indeed from that lot  
 What she let go from mid-air  
 So to give clue to her man. 44

It was vanars who found her  
 Shawl with jewels hers tied in  
 That she dropped on Rushyamook. 45

How well these all now I see  
 Match with those that dropped by her. 46

That she wears the same *saree*  
 Wore she when was abducted  
 Won't that shawl well go with this. 47

Who else would have this aura  
 Than dear Rama's spouse Seetha! 48

Bound am I to rescue her  
 From the clutches of these guards. 49

Won't that gladden Rama's heart  
 Saddened for so long for her? 50

Paired as well as Seetha-Ram  
 Were there ever a couple on earth! 51

Ravan though had parted them  
 Minds in their they stay as one. 52

Robbed as he of his Seetha  
 Rama still has will to fight. 53

What a wonder Rama lived  
 Sans his spouse for so long now. 54

Felt glad Hanuman that he could  
 Find the beloved of his Lord. 55

## Canto 16 - She is Seetha

Prayed then Hanuma in earnest Lord Rama he revered most And then thought of task on hand.	1
Seeing her in such distress Felt as if his heart was seized.	2
Casts when shadow fate on man Can he ever go beyond its reach?	3
But for being Rama's spouse Wouldn't have fate ever crunched her more?	4
Whichever way one might see it Made for each other couple they make.	5
Seeing Seetha in her plight Recalled he then Ram's valour.	6
If not for her would have Ram Cared to end ever Vali's reign?	7
If not for his exile Ram Why should ever he kill Viradha?	8
Miss not targets Ram's arrows Struck were demons in their thousands.	9
Khara neither nor Trisura Could stand Rama in combat.	10
But for Seetha how Sugreev Would have got great Vali's crown.	11
Why in search of her I came To this land that Ravan rules.	12
Were Rama to lose patience Won't he topsy-turvy world?	13
Not for Ram the crown of earth Were Seetha not sharing throne.	14
But for being Janaka's darling Can one decline Ravan's hand?	15
Daunting must be plight her now Though she is Lord Rama's spouse.	16
Wonder how she puts up with Fiends all those who pester her!	17
How sad Seetha had to miss Folk back home all who love her.	18
It's her love for her man Ram Makes which Seetha shun Ravan.	19
In her sorrow for her man Lost she appetite once for all.	20
Ceases not she not to sigh Once she never ceased to smile.	21
Seeks as oasis one in sands Craves Rama to see his wife.	22
Gets Ram when his beloved back Won't he feel like dethroned king	23

Gets when back his crown in time!	
No doubt it's her will to meet Her man that keeps her going.	24
Turned she to her captor blind Ever she keeps her man in mind.	25
Spouse Ram makes the crown jewel Sans him she's just jewel-less crown.	26
It's no different with Lord Ram Braves who though she's not on hand.	27
Sight of hers as shakes me thus How would Ram ever take her plight?	28
Can he bear to see Seetha's Plight now wretched as here captive?	29
In the forlorn state of hers Shadow she's no more than Of the former self of hers.	30
Seem in vain the rays of moon Try to soothe her soul perturbed.	31
At the plight of his Lord's spouse That's what mighty Hanuman felt.	32

## **Canto 17 - Guards all Hideous**

Swans as swim in blue waters So did moon in Lankan skies.	1
It's as if moon wanted him Espy Seetha's distressed self.	2
For the eyes of Hanuman then Seetha seemed a sinking boat.	3
Seen then Hanuman in moonlight All those guarding Rama's spouse.	4
Saw he many a single eyed With no ears he many there found.	5
Baldish there were some of them Had hair others from head to foot.	6
Many had there such drooping lips Brushed which with their sagging breasts.	7
Midgets ugly were there too With weird sentries in their scores.	8
Coarse all were they in discourse Wore all sheepskin for their dress.	9
On their well built torsos some Had there animal heads varied.	10
Had some of them camel feet Moved while others on elephant legs.	11
On their beastly bodies some Carried handsome human heads.	12
Noses had some there across Had others vertical lips on them.	13



Tongues had many of carpet size Hanged which on their wall like lips.	14
Ogresses such as kept an eye On Rama's spouse in that garden.	15
Armed they were all to their teeth With varied weapons of war carried.	16
Flesh they ate of every beast Drank they blood from veins direct.	17
On guard was that hideous lot Circled Seetha round the clock.	18
Bathed not Seetha in Lanka Cared she not to comb her hair.	19
Pulled was Seetha thus forlorn Weaned from Rama for so long.	20
Bereft though of she jewels Love for her man lent aura.	21
Seemed she hapless deer no less Strayed who into lions on prowl.	22
Looks she had of looking glass Never once dusted for so long.	23
Failed that graceful Ravan's grove To cheer despaired Rama's spouse.	24
Sans her smile did Seetha seem Flowerless plant in midst of spring.	25
Moved was Hanuman by her sight Thought he too of Rama's plight.	26
Won't she know in heart of hearts That her man would come to her?	27
Doubt she had none in her mind Life of hers was tied with Ram.	28
Heat of her sighs seemed to char Nascent leaves of high branches.	29
Having perceived her nature Poised Hanuman to praise her.	30
Felt he glad for his Lord too Got who such a wife like her.	31
Having prayed to Lord Rama Hanuman lay in wait for dawn.	32

## **Canto 18 - Ravan on Heat**

In time it was time to dawn Sprang up Lanka to last man.	1
Vedic chants that rent the air Sounded music to Hanuman.	2
Surely Ravan would wake up Then to sound of that music.	3
Thought as Hanuman so Ravan Stirred in bed in Seetha's thought.	4

Lust of his for Rama's wife Made him lose his peace of mind.	5
Got as he down from his bed Lost he no time to reach her.	6
Entered Ravan that garden Failed it charm his enamored heart.	7
Stride in his to reach Seetha Left Ravan all deer stranded.	8
Heat of Ravan's lusting self Made the drops of dew boil.	9
So to be at beck and call Moved in tow then women of his.	10
Heading he thus his harem Headed Ravan to add one.	11
Fanned some then their man on move Dames with swords some doubled for guards.	12
Held one pretty jug of gold Filled with vintage wine for him.	13
Shade one leggy lass of grace Gave him with a hood of gold.	14
Still in stupor some of them Seemed to follow him by scent.	15
With no time to turn becoming Followed him some as they woke.	16
Let loose was hair on their face Had they none their bras on them.	17
Lusted they all for Ravan Bestowed on them he favours.	18
Felt they proud of his valour Fetched which riches of all worlds.	19
Wore they all those gold jewels Made which Hanuman gasp for breath.	20
Sighted as he Ravan then With the women he saw by night Overawed Hanuman by that sight.	21
Aiding nascent light at dawn Led him some with candlelights.	22
With his libido thus evident Looked Ravan like Cupid on earth.	23
In his stride his silk garment Slid over his broad shoulders.	24
Overwhelmed by what he saw Discreet distance kept Hanuman.	25
Hand in hand moved Ravan's wives Seemed they strengthened his position.	26
Cooed then <i>koels</i> to caution Seetha as he seemed nearing.	27
Strode yet Ravan in long strides Towards Seetha whom he snared.	28

Wondered Hanuman why Ravan Wanted Seetha who spurned him.	29
For she spurned a handsome king Valued Hanuman Rama's spouse.	30
At the might of king Ravan Felt he humble being strong.	31
At length Ravan reached Seetha Turned who by then his heartthrob.	32

## **Canto 19 -Dame in Despair**

Seetha whose head bowed so low Sensed that Ravan neared her then.	1
Shook she like a paddy reed Swept by stormy coastal winds.	2
Cried she no end in her fright Black-eyed Seetha at the threat.	3
Like she was a forlorn boat In the midst of sea that vast.	4
Severed as from a well-grown tree Seemed so withered a branch Seetha.	5
In spite of her forlorn state Gave her bright look innate charm.	6
Made though Ravan her captive Mind of hers was with her man.	7
Bore she travails to love Ram Than to triumphant Ravan yield.	8
Kept as captive by Ravan End of tunnel she saw none.	9
Wondered Hanuman how her fate Deemed it fit to languish her.	10
In her grief then looked Seetha Like one caught in some scandal.	11
Looked she like a waning lamp Amidst Ravan's women on guard.	12
For the loss of Rama's love Wore she look of bankrupt then.	13
Made her grief then look her like Lotus stem that plucked from bed.	14
Like the moon on eclipse night Lost she spark of her charm then.	15
Looked she like a lotus pond Trampled by score wild elephants.	16
Cheeks her both seemed river beds With lean streams in summer months.	17
Fair as lily though she was Sunburns turned brown then her skin.	18
Pined then Seetha as lioness In some zoo for jungle mate.	19

With her thick plait Seetha looked  
 Like mother earth with well-grown trees. 20

Engrossed being with Rama  
 Seetha lived by breathing air. 21

That her man might slay Ravan  
 Prayed she gods all in reverence. 22

It was in that state Ravan  
 Found he Seetha whom he craved. 23

## **Canto 20 - Womanizer at Work**

To fair Seetha he confined  
 Spoke then Ravan in disdain. 1

With thy pair of lovely hands  
 Why block sight of thy bosom  
 Hope it's not the fear of me  
 Prompts thee squat in like fashion. 2

Is a beauty like thine ever  
 And a lover than me better! 3

What to fear in this Lanka  
 Lost whose Lord his heart to thee. 4

Fair it's not for thee to blame  
 Granted when it's to our ilk  
 Force we might all women we fond  
 Never mind ever their state of mind. 5

Crave as I for thine embrace  
 Wait I though for thy consent. 6

Fill thy heart with love for me  
 Let not fear ever grip thy mind. 7

Having known my love for thee  
 Don't thou know that it's not fair  
 That thee should fail thy upkeep  
 And thus make me sad for thee. 8

From heaven I fetch would garments such  
 Which make thee dame best dressed on earth. 9

For thy wear I get jewels  
 Not even by angels worn. 10

Thou being the crown jewel  
 Of the feminine world at large  
 How come then thou shun jewels! 11

Knowing as well youth is like  
 River that courses to the seas  
 Why not grant me thy favour  
 And thus make the best of life. 12

Since there none to rival thee  
 Having set the hallmark thus  
 Looks like Brahma ceased His work. 13

Perchance He now espies thee

Finding thou so well endowed  
 What with such rare sex appeal  
 Would He ever quit ogling thee? 14

Such is beauty of thy frame  
 Wherever I look I get stuck. 15

Dearth there none for mates for me  
 Brought them in scores from all lands  
 Yet I've taken to thy charms  
 Make I thee my Queen of Hearts. 16

Gods from I got such ransom  
 Made me that the richest man,  
 Not to speak of self as well  
 Won't I place all at thy feet. 17

Worlds I conquered all the three  
 Wealth of nations I plundered  
 Consent if thou to take me  
 Gift all that to thy father. 18

None is there in heaven 'n earth  
 Dares who ever to cross my path. 19

Dust I made to bite enemies  
 Burnt their standards in their sight. 20

Since no one can rescue thee  
 Better thee tie thy life with me. 21

Know I value thee no end  
 Turn thy mind to life at hand. 22

Spend thy days in royal ways  
 Make we love in nights for long. 23

Having enslaved my heart now  
 Might well treat me as thy slave. 24

Weigh if thee that Ram and me  
 In the scale of thy interest  
 Won't thou know the way it tilts? 25

Lost he crown when all too young  
 Could have died though not so old. 26

What if he still lives on earth  
 Gets he how a clue of thee? 27

Were he to get wind of thee  
 How doth he dare to face me? 28

O dear lady thou have won  
 The heart of mine the ladies man. 29

O *femme fatale* as I burn  
 For the possession of thy frame  
 Fail I women all who crave me. 30

See all these are queens no less  
 Make them willing maids to thee. 31

Served as thus by all of them  
 Won't thou look a goddess then. 32

In the Pushpak that I won

Come to live like favoured one.	33
If ever thy man regains crown Would he make a patch on me?	34
So that I add honey as well Know thy buttered side of bread.	35
Lovebirds like we all our life Live ever making love no end.	36

## **Canto 21 - Steadfast in Love**

Hurt by Ravan's words Seetha Spoke to him thus in smooth tone.	1
How thou belittle my Lord Ram! Doth it behove a learned man?	2
Blinded by thy lust Ravan Fail thou see the God in Ram.	3
Having lovely wives in scores Why eye me Ram's only wife?	4
How come thou think Rama's wife Would ever bed with another man!	5
Pray thee divert from me lust Engage all thy women in want.	6
Want as thou thy wives loyal Let me be bound to my man.	7
Lust if thou for another's wife Won't thou know that mars thy life?	8
That thee take the righteous path Won't thou have a right counsel?	9
Wonder how thee fail to see Lanka by thine act would rue.	10
History all know bears witness Ruined are kingdoms ruled by vile.	11
If thou wish thy Lanka well Better bear that in mind O king.	12
Well O Ravan wicked as thee Sure thou die like some street dog.	13
Hear as all those by thee hurt Sure they feel good at thy death.	14
Sever as its rays never from sun Never I would know wean from Ram.	15
Had I Rama's arm for rest Is there better for thee to give?	16
Gain as wisdom read who Vedas It's my Lord who gained my hand.	17
Help as might a gamekeeper Beast on heat to find its mate Let me lovelorn meet my man.	18
Why thou want to ruin thyself	

Why not fences mend with Ram.	19
My Lord I tell is large hearted Treats he kindly those penitent.	20
Take O Ravan my counsel So thou could live for so long.	21
Plead I would thy case with Ram Though thou hurt my cause no end.	22
Scare thou might the death even Escape there none from his wrath.	23
Comes when Rama with war cry Thou then shiver in thine own shoes.	24
Leave my Lord the king archer Can thou stand up to Lakshman?	25
Come their arrows thick and fast Where thee find some place to hide?	26
Know it won't be beyond my man Lakshman being there with him To hunt down thee all to last man.	27
It's no big deal for my man To take me back by slaying thee.	28
Having known thy limitations To confront my man in person Don't I know that thou contrived That golden deer to keep him out.	29
Shame on thee O low Ravan With that golden deer as ruse The way thou snared me to Lanka.	30
It's one thing to trick me then When my man was not at home As thou face Ram 'n Lakshman Ball game it would be different.	31
Canst thou hold their little fingers How can then thou fight them both?	32
Scorch as sun-rays ponds there all Sharp their arrows sieve thy frame.	33
Earned as thee, wrath of Ram Know thine end is so near end.	34

## **Canto 22 - Deadline to Death**

Hurt as he by Seetha's taunts Spoke thus Ravan in harsh tone.	1
Wonder the way women all tend Tends as enamoured man of them, As if his stock fell so low Tend they all to belittle him.	2
If not for my love for thee Rein in how could my anger!	3
It's but fondness for thee mine Spares that thou now from my wrath.	4

But for the fact thou won me Head thine would have rolled by now.	5
Know the way thee rubbished me Should've earned thee third degree.	6
Afflicted though by his lust Couldn't take Ravan Seetha's snub.	7
Months two more is all I give For thee to choose death or me.	8
Fail if thou to bed with me Make thy flesh then my breakfast.	9
Feared all angels having heard Threat that Ravan's to Seetha.	10
Concern theirs for Seetha then Made them signal her welfare.	11
Assured thus of angelic grace Spoketh Seetha thus assured:	12
To put the right into thy head Sad O Ravan thee have none.	13
Knowing that I'm Rama's wife Thinks fit none to day-dream me.	14
For the sin of snaring me Escape there none thee from death.	15
Bid in thine to kidnap me If not for thy fear of Ram Why thee contrived his absence?	16
What to make of thy valour Boast thou as from safe distance From my Lord thou fear to face?	17
Ogle as thee Rama's wife Wonder how thou turned not blind ?	18
Abused as thou my Lord Ram How come thou not turned yet dumb!	19
Given if Rama me the nod Power I have to burn thee now.	20
It's no joke to dupe my man Ruse it's but of thine own fate Helped thee thus to hijack me So that my Lord sees thy end.	21
For that cowardly act of thine Boasts of thine all sound hollow.	22
Enraged by her words Ravan Stared at her in seething rage.	23
Shook he as in burning wrath Stilted sideways his gold crown.	24
Turned as his, eyes blood red Peeled off sandal paste on him.	25
Turned to lumps of coal at once Diamonds of his waist-band then.	26



On his arms with gold epaulets Hair his stood all in straight lines.	27
Ear-rings his of bright corals Matched they both the rising sun.	28
In his rage did Ravan seem Like the funeral pyre on fire.	29
Hissed then Ravan in anger Spoke to her thus in despair.	30
But for lack of common sense How can someone fall for Ram! Looks like I have lost patience Time I end thy rein on life.	31
Having spoken to Ram's wife Addressed Ravan his own folk.	32
Know I lost my heart to her Kept I whom as thy captive.	33
For the possession of this lass Passion mine is ever on raise.	34
Until she takes me in arms I can't have the peace of mind.	35
If she were to turn my queen Make her see the life in store.	36
Pander her to my embrace Pamper would I her in bed.	37
Fails if she to fall in line Torture all the way to hell.	38
Came at that an ardent dame Spoke she then in passion thus:	39
Make me thine in heat Ravan What thou get from this cold fish?	40
Brahma seems to have deprived Her the chance to bed with thee.	41
Requites not if lass his love Won't she turn a pain in neck?	42
Mounts if man a dame in want Takes she would him to his cum, Having said that lass on heat Forced then Ravan fence across.	43
Turned as ground their makeshift bed Seemed as though the earth had quaked.	44
Came as he back from that jaunt Led Ravan his women all home.	45
Went as he thus to Pushpak Left was Seetha in panic.	46

### **Canto 23 - Guards that Pander**

To see Ravan off the grove Followed suit then guards all there.	1
At the bidding of their king	

Trooped they all back to Seetha.	2
Felt they disgust for Seetha That she rubbished Ravan thus.	3
Sang they praises of Ravan Sense they tried to put in her.	4
In time lost a guard temper And then spoke to Seetha thus:	5
Great grandad of king Ravan Is none other than Lord Brahma.	6
Ravan's father Visravas Was the son of Pulasthyu.	7
Looks thy wits have gone astray To snub Brahma's great grandson.	8
To give Seetha more of lead Harijata took the baton then.	9
Don't thee know that Ravan's might Made all demigods turn their backs?	10
To make Ravan thine own man Wonder how thou take so long?	11
To entice Seetha for their Lord Praised then Praghasa thus Ravan:	12
Loves no less his queen Ravan Looks whose make thee pale even That's why it's all seem so strange That our king should take to thee.	13
Harem his filled to the brim With beauties of rarest kind Who would rival thee no less.	14
Taunting Seetha as her wont Took-off then an amorous one.	15
Dames all die to climb his bed Craves he but to bed with thee Seem thou fail to well perceive What's it like his lovemaking?	16
Sun said another in same vein Looks so pale at Ravan's glow.	17
Why thou fail to bask thyself In the embrace of such man?	18
At thy feet is king of kings Wonder how thee shun him thus.	19
Well be thou in Ravan's bed Why thee opt for then deathbed.	20

## **Canto 24 - Carrot and Stick**

Finding Seetha still unmoved Thought the better of guards all then Brought they dreamland close to her.	1
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Said they all in one tone then  
 None there ever a Pushpak like  
 In which Ravan keeps his queens. 2

For thy man the Lankan gates  
 Out of bounds by Ravan made  
 Stop thy lament for lost cause  
 Make the best as Lankan queen. 3

Know Ravan is Fortune One  
 Takes thee as his beloved one  
 Grant he would thine every wish. 4

Even one-night stand with him  
 Make thee forget thy man's want  
 Lost who throne 'n failed thee too. 5

For all they said to pander her  
 Hurt was Seetha's aggrieved soul  
 Take she could no more of that. 6

Stop thy tirade of my man  
 Know it's sin to belittle him  
 And to pander his spouse thus. 7

Prefer I die as Rama's wife  
 Than to live as Ravan's queen. 8

Though he lost the crown of his  
 Sits he yet on my heart's throne. 9

What if he lacks worldly wealth  
 Makes me rich his manly worth. 10

Apart though are our bodies  
 Milk and water make our souls. 11

It's thy foolishness to think  
 My man can't ever make it here,  
 In the palanquin of my heart  
 Didn't I bring him so long back? 12

Raged as were they by her sneer  
 Enraged they mobbed all her then. 13

Saw as he the scene Hanuman  
 Feared he then for Seetha's life. 14

Frightful as all made themselves  
 Shivered then Seetha in her shoes. 15

Picked up they all pick-axes  
 Poked they Seetha with stick's end. 16

At that Hanuman saw Seetha  
 Run for cover to where he was. 17

Chased all Seetha all the way  
 Nail they could her in the end. 18

Worked all single minded then  
 To make Seetha change her mind. 19

To floor Seetha for their Lord  
 Took then fiendish Vinatha floor. 20

It's as well thee stood by Ram  
 It's time that thee shift thy base. 21

For thy steadfastness to Ram

Looks like gods all granted thee Fortune that's rare for fair sex That of becoming Ravan's queen.	22
Why to speak in equal terms Can Ram match his little finger?	23
Block thy past as Rama's wife Gloat thyself as Ravan's queen.	24
Why not take thee Ravan's hand And turn toast of all three worlds?	25
In time thy man in despair Wander would he to deathbed.	26
Were thou fail to heed our words Won't we make a meal of thee?	27
With her sagging breasts that swing Venomous Vikata came forward.	28
Spoketh as thee words such rash It's our goodness that spared thee.	29
Brought thee Ravan to this shore Forget that Ram comes this far.	30
Dares none ever to eye Lanka Scope there none for thy escape.	31
Invoke and see Lord Indra How he fears our king Ravan.	32
What's the sense in thy crying It's time that thee jump for joy.	33
Surely thou pass prime in time What would be then left of thee? As the favoured of Ravan Why not make the best of prime?	34
In the garden of thy bloom It's all joy rides with Ravan.	35
At the beck and call we all Come to serve thee all the time.	36
Fail if thee take Ravan's hand Fail we not to sever thy head.	37
Chandodari then put her mace Breasts large those of Rama's wife.	38
Is it not to enjoy these Brought thee Ravan all the way?	39
As thou let not Ravan lay Hands his eager on thy breasts Make I would them food for me.	40
At that Praghosa spoken thus:	41
Why to waste our breath on her Why not stuff out breath of hers.	42
As she failed to lay with him Learns as Ravan of her death	

Won't he let us feast her flesh?	43
Set the pyre to roast her well And fetch I arrack in barrels.	44
Surpanakha thus spoketh then. Find I tiring all this grind Guarding Seetha round the clock High time it's all brought to end In grand orgy with her flesh.	45 46
Put they thus the fear of death In Seetha who then liked to live For the sake of Ram she loved.	47

## **Canto 25 - Hapless Soul**

Guards as gave her no respite Broke down Seetha in despair.	1
Seetha in time pulled herself And thus explained her position.	2
It's no custom for humans To get wed to the demonic folk. Stick I would to our tradition Leave the rest to thy decision.	3
Having stated her position Sulked then Seetha in distress.	4
Cornered as would deer hunted Crouched there Seetha in dismay.	5
Like a withered leaf on floor Lovelorn Seetha thus there lay.	6
Tears those profuse as she shed Passed her valley in thick streams.	7
In her fright then her frail frame Looked like banana plant in storm.	8
In her fear as shivered Seetha Snake like shrivelled then her black plait.	9
Ceased as Seetha not to sigh Blouse her wet then turned all dry.	10
In her pain then Seetha wailed 'Oh my Rama where art thou'!	11
Why not thou me give consent Now to die though love to live To spend the rest of life with thee.	12
Won't it prove the words of wise One can't time his death himself?	13
Takes as leaking boat its time To sink down to ocean bed What if my grief kills me slow?	14
Seems my sorrow cuts my heart Erode as floods the banks there all.	15
What else it's but misfortune	

To lose such a good husband.	16
Suffer I like the one who took Arsenic on one's way to death.	17
Looks like I am paying price For the misdeeds of last birth.	18
See none escape route to Ram Better I draw the curtains now On the accursed life of mine.	19
How I forgot as his wife Until he doth give his nod Right none have I to take life!	20

## **Canto 26 - Wandering Thoughts**

Sense of respect for her man Made her position all the worse.	1
Having lost her nerve in time Cried she like a hapless child.	2
With the intent to snare me Cruel Ravan lured my man With that golden deer I craved.	3
That thy canny Ravan made Me the captive of thee folk Taunt as thou by sadist pranks Intent have I none to live.	4
Of what avail is my life now Useless since it's to my Lord.	5
Seems my heart is made of steel Or else grief mine sundered same.	6
Sans Ram life is leper like Since I nurse it nonetheless What a worthless woman am I?	7
What a man is my Lord Ram Sans him what doth life portend?	8
How I wish thou kill me now Bear I can this pain no more.	9
Not even with mile long pole Touch I would that wretched Ravan.	10
Scorned by me as all the way What a shameless man is he So to crave for hand of mine?	11
No way I would turn to him Why thou waste thy time on me?	12
Wonder how my wondrous man Came to spare this beastly man!	13
On his own did slay my Lord Demons fourteen thousand once.	14
What threat Ravan would then pose To my Lord who killed those fiends?	15

He who slain Viradha then Would he fail to save me now?	16
True it's no mean task to come To Ravan's land in midst of seas But can one ever stop my man?	17
Still I wonder why Rama Fails to come to my rescue!	18
Looks like my Lord is clueless Where his beloved wife is held, If not for that wouldn't he chase Ravan all the way to hell?	19
When he took him in mid-air Clipped as Jataayu's wings Ravan Who then Rama makes privy It was Ravan that snared me!	20
How I owe my gratitude To that noble bird so old Who fought Ravan for my sake.	21
Should Rama get wind of me Won't he descend on this land Whirlwind like to suck Ravan?	22
Won't he turn on his wrath then On the demonic Ravan's force?	23
Won't thus Lankan women all get Measure for measure of my pain then?	24
One and all of Ravan's men Would find too hot to handle Ram in battle with Lakshman.	25
Won't all funeral pyres redden Skies of Lanka for days on?	26
It's all Ravan's mindlessness Brings which Lanka to the brink.	27
Won't I see omens portend Lanka's fall in near future?	28
Bites as Ravan battle dust Brings that Lanka to nadir.	29
As thy men all go to hell Won't thee then all pine for them?	30
With no male to caress thee Wail all thee in every hearth.	31
Comes all this true when Rama Learns here Ravan confines me.	32
Lands as Ram in hot pursuit Ravan would have no respite.	33
Naïve is Ravan for he gloats That he kept me on death row.	34
Won't he shortly come to know That he himself dug his grave?	35
Demon deserve folk no more now Graves than mass in barren lands.	36

Having put a brave face thus Gripped was Seetha yet by doubts!	37
Can I come to see my Ram Should vile Ravan keeps his word And gets served me for breakfast?	38
Might my Lord have thought I died Or else wouldn't he scan all earth?	39
Taking me for dead and gone Man mine would have given up life.	40
Won't he gladden gods all there Stay with his in heaven of theirs?	41
Would a godly man like Ram Need to keep his woman in mind?	42
Out of sight is out of mind Maybe norm with all humans, With his sense of fairness Ram Won't he cherish his life with me?	43
Wonder how I met this fate Being wife of such great soul!	44
Turned as void for his loss Why hanker for life I now?	45
Having lost the will to fight What if Ram 'n Lakshman too Penance to taken in despair!	46
Who knows wily Ravan didn't Contrive death of Ram and him.	47
See I no end of misery Carry why now more of it?	48
Come I nowhere near yogis For whom joys and sorrows Meaning have none of their own.	49
But the rest all gloat fortune And get shaken by hard times.	50
Ram as is not there to guide Why not I take my own life?	51

## **Canto 27 - Dream of a Nightmare**

Seetha's intent to end life Made some scurry to Ravan.	1
Stayed some back to turn their ire On Rama's spouse in despair then.	2
That thou would put to death No need for thee to end life.	3
Rose then Trijata one learned Appraised thus the risks involved.	4
She's Janaka's daughter fair Married young to Dasarath's son Reveres whom world as Lord Rama.	5
Slept off as I dream I had	



Trouble that portends to us all.	6
Trijata's prophesy of doomsday Shell-shocked those on Seetha's guard.	7
Detail now thou dream thy had Makes thee speak thus so frightened.	8
Averred well Trijata that she saw Heavenly palanquin in her dream.	9
Reclined therein Ram in white Stood by Lakshman in blood red.	10
Found I Seetha in my dream Sit on sky-high white mountain.	11
Mounted then Ram 'n Lakshman Huge white elephant with four tusks.	12
Oh that elephant that unique Made they to that mountain peak.	13
Taken as if cue from Ram Lowered its back that white giant.	14
For her to climb up to him Gave Ram his hand to Seetha.	15
Having sat thus in Ram's lap Rose as Seetha so to probe Saw I touch her sun 'n moon.	16
Took they chariot swift all then Drawn by bulls all eight snow white.	17
Drove it Lakshman to us straight Ram and Seetha came our midst.	18
In our land as they landed Reached out Pushpak in welcome.	19
Having took them on its board Flew off Pushpak then northwards.	20
It's as if gods beckon Rama Makes that risky for Ravan.	21
Saw I Ravan in my dream Drunkard like lay on the floor.	22
In his flight to save his skin Seems he slipped from thus Pushpak.	23
Saw I Ravan's tonsured head Peeping from that donkey cart.	24
Looked he like one out of mind Madman like he played then pranks.	25
In all fear then fell Ravan On all fours in front of Ram.	26
Tore he all his garments then Lost he coherence as he raved.	27
Went he then to hole so foul Filled with filth and night soil.	28
Pushed as was he by some lass Fouled he was from head to foot.	29
All the way to that quagmire	

Dragged was Kumbhakarna too As though to share Ravan's fate.	30
Saw I naked Ravan's sons Riding southward on wild beasts.	31
In that pell-mell in Lanka Found I Vibhishan stand his ground Waving that white flag at Ram.	32
All in white with his aura Wore Vibhishan then Lankan crown.	33
Held as Vibhishan Court Royal Played then music Band Royal.	34
Climbed he up a white elephant With his men wise four in tow.	35
Heard I demon folk of Lanka Playing drums to funeral tunes.	36
To the brim of its gables Saw I Lanka sink in seas. With his burning tail I saw Came down Rama's aid on us, Torched as he thus one by one Went up in flames homes of all.	37 38
Lanka as was thus burning Wailing I saw women in streets.	39
Saw I men folk of Lanka Apply cow dung on their wives.	40
So to escape Rama's wrath Better we into woods retreat.	41
No man ever spares tormentors Of the woman he comes to love.	42
Stop thy tirade at Seetha Seek her pardon for thy life.	43
Portend but well such dreams all For those hapless women forlorn.	44
Count thou on her good nature Though all thee had abused her.	45
Nothing but her forgiveness Can save us from Rama's ire.	46
Take this all as just bad patch In her glorious reign on earth.	47
In the regal mien of queen Seen I Seetha with Rama Flying back to her native.	48
Portends trouble to our Ravan At the hands of Seetha's man.	49
See that eyelid left her twitch Fetches it news her all too good.	50
Shoulder as her left spasms It's but signal troubles exit.	51
See I quivering her left thigh	

Know it portends no different.	52
Heard I some bird tell Seetha Expect she could her man soon.	53
Having heard what Trijata said In her goodness Rama's wife Promised them all safe passage As and when Ram comes chasing.	54

## **Canto 28 - On the Verge**

Stunned as guards all kept silent Had then Seetha yet second thought.	1
Recalled as she Ravan's threat Thought she fit to end her life.	2
Wonder didn't I drop dead now Ravan though scared me to death!	3
If it were not made of stone Why wouldn't sorrow break my heart?	4
Better on my own end my life Fiends all here sure skin me live.	5
Fails to turn up if my Lord Bound to cruel Ravan then Like a surgeon at his work Turn his scalpel on my frame.	6
Since the outer limit he gave Me to lean my mind on him Would be at hand in two months Feel I like one on death row To be led for her hanging One fine morning to gallows.	7
How can ever I tell my folk Fate mine is like boat that caught In the storm of high seas now.	8
It's by craving golden deer Brought I ruin on all of us.	9
Looks like ill-fate was at work To make me lose my common sense.	10
Thou all-knowing O my Lord How thou fail to come to know Me that Ravan vowed to kill?	11
My heart though is set on thee It's as though thou forsook me.	12
O my Lord, how come thou Thought it fit to ignore me!	13
When thou regain crown thine soon Won't thou regale with new queens?	14
But thy Seetha likes to end Life hers as thy faithful one.	15
Loyal here all to Ravan	

Who would poison me procure?	16
Wavered as her hapless mind So she wandered for low branch.	17
In her bid to hang herself Coiled she her hair that long.	18
Thought she dearly of her man And her beloved brother-in-law.	19
As she was to take the plunge Paused she finding omens some good.	20

## **Canto 29 - Good Tidings**

Courtiers as would flock to kings Omens good came in thick and fast.	1
Twitched her left eye unceasing Turned as bright her dark eyes then.	2
Shoulder splendid of hers left Wont to shoulder Rama's head Seized by spasm to usher good.	3
As if her man was on hand Shivered the left one in welcome Wondrous thigh of hers so round	4
As if Rama sought them both Slid down <i>pallu</i> from her breasts.	5
Having read the signals right Seed she seemed at onset sown Of that monsoon which was full.	6
In the phase of post eclipse Moon like looked then Rama's wife.	7
Felt at all ease Seetha then Hoping better days would come soon.	8

## **Canto 30 - Hanuman's Dilemma**

Picture perfect of Seetha From his hiding got Hanuman.	1
Divined having Seetha thus Gloated Hanuman his fortune.	2
Hoping to see Rama's wife Roam as my peers world over Blessed am I that gods all willed It's me but who finds her now.	3
Since is in Ravan's land Won't my spying aid Rama?	4
Privy if to ins and outs Of the fortress of Lanka Won't that come all so handy For Lord Ram to win this war?	5
Isn't lament pulling her	

How to infuse hope in her!	6
Worry she had none of yore Neck deep now she in sorrow Won't I owe it to my Lord Console should I his beloved.	7
Were I to fail to infuse hope In the hapless Rama's spouse Of what avail this trip mine?	8
Fail if I to inform her Rama's intent to reach her In her state of helplessness Won't I leave her high and dry?	9
Truly it's my chance of life Make I could Ram feel at ease With the news of her welfare.	10
How to make it to Seetha Encircled by Ravan's guards?	11
Fail if I to sound her now In her hapless state of mind Might end her life as it dawns.	12
Fail if I to speak to her What am I to tell her man?	13
Were I to go back to Rama Without a word from his beloved Won't that make him frustrated?	14
Fail if I were to lift her Before we close in on Ravan Won't she bring her life to close?	15
Why rush back to Kishkindha Why not find I ways 'n means To appraise her of Rama's plans.	16
Speak I might as well to her To make her know there all to know.	17
Were I to converse in Sanskrit Might she take me for Ravan In the guise of Rama's friend.	18
Let me talk in native slang That she takes me for vanar.	19
In her state of shock Seetha See might in me weird creature.	20
Fearing Ravan came in disguise What if Seetha starts shouting?	21
With the knives all drawn out now Won't guards all those gherao me?	22
Might they as well try to kill Me to serve as mid-day meal.	23
Well, would they find me sitting duck Won't I jump from branch to branch.	24
As I go on gaining size	

Won't they shiver all down their spines?	25
Forces to fetch to rein me	
Won't they all to Ravan run?	26
Won't then Ravan send his force	
Chance that gives me to take then.	27
But in that sea of his men	
How to find an escape route?	28
If I were to get captured	
Fail I would to contact her,	
So she fails to get the wind	
Of the state of Rama's mind?	29
Seetha as would stay perturbed	
Won't that make my trip wasted?	33
Keeps that Rama in darkness	
Place where Ravan confined her.	31
Were I to get killed or captured	
Leaves that Rama in square one.	32
Can one Rama find to cross	
Sea this vast to reach Seetha?	33
Take I can all Ravan's men	
But that drags on for so long	
Thus I can't go back in time.	34
How can one ever zero on	
One who wins the war on hand	
Gauge I till width of the gulf	
Wise it not to go for jump.	35
If I were to turn my tail	
How would Seetha get my trial,	
Were I to try to talk to her	
Won't I have a war on hand?	36
Won't the success of errands	
Come to depend on the one	
Vested who is with the same?	37
Won't the best of well-laid plans	
Go awry in hands of those	
That lack tact to tackle them?	38
Better I fail not Rama's cause	
With some thoughtless act of mine.	39
How to make her take it cool	
That me her man sent for her!	40
In the hearing of her now	
Mutter if I would Rama's tale	
Might it as well dawn on her	
It was her Lord that sent me.	41
Won't my words in praise of Ram	
Bring back memories of their time?	42
So to sing then Rama's tale	
In the hearing of his spouse	
Perched then Hanuman on low branch.	43

## Canto 31 -Rama's Ballad

For Seetha's ears then Rama's tale Sang in sonorous tone Hanuman.	1
In lineage old of Ikshvaakus Known to all for his valour Dasarath was the reigning king.	2
Noble as he was the king Valued was he like a saint Power he had to rival gods.	3
Generous was he by nature Took he care of his subjects Ruled he like a god on earth.	4
For his righteous reign Dasarath Earned he fame the world over.	5
Esteemed he his eldest son Known to all as Lord Rama, Prowess his to target well Arrows at his enemies awe.	6
Wavers not he from dharma Adheres he to human rights Keeps his word at every turn Gives no quarter to enemies.	7
Stepmother of Ram, Kaikeyi Wanted who crown for her son Coerced as she Dasarath then Gave up Ram thus his birthright So led Seetha with Lakshman To the thick woods of Dandak.	8
Demons ruled roost in Dandak Menaced they folk lived all there Killed them all Ram at one go Restored he thus righteous reign.	9
At the news of kindred's death Thought of settling scores Ravan, So he summoned Maareecha Turned who into golden deer Tempting Seetha to seek him, Sent then Seetha Ram to fetch Magic deer that stole her heart, Arrow when Ram's hit Maareecha Rent he cries then mimicking him Made which Seetha fear for Ram, Goaded Rama's wife Lakshman To go in search of his sibling, With none there to stand by her Kidnapped Ravan Seetha then.	10
Set as he on search for spouse Came Ram in touch with Sugreev Stole whose wife his own sibling.	11

To uphold dharma then Rama Slew he Vali that mighty Helping Sugreev ascend throne.	12
In time as per pact he made Sent Sugreev his vanar force In search of Seetha thus missing.	13
It's my fortune that I came Place to this in search of her.	14
Picture have I of Seetha Painted for me by Rama.	15
Won't this lady well tally Picture with that Ram gave me?	16
Spake as he with all his warmth Looked up Rama's wife in hope.	17
Found though she no soul in sight What she heard then made her glad.	18
Sensing Seetha's upbeat mood From hideout then came out Hanuman.	19

### **Canto 32 - Is it true?**

Aura Hanuman's made Seetha Think in terms of sun at dawn Peeping out of branching trees.	1
Stared then Seetha in wonder Hanuman sighted in splendour.	2
Wondered in awe then Seetha Who that wondrous vanar was.	3
As she was at loss to know What to make of that visitor Prayed she then Ram for guidance.	4
Stared as Hanuman at her long In her awe then swooned Seetha.	5
Seetha at length pulled herself Wondered whether she had a dream.	6
Looked then Seetha all over Waking up though from her sleep.	7
Finding Hanuman staring her Lost she consciousness at once.	8
Regained sense as she in time Recalled she then that proverb Portend simians ill in dreams.	9
Felt then Seetha to start with Wink with none in lovelorn state How she could have had a dream!	10
Since I tend to think of Ram All the time with never a pause What I heard that simian sing Product could be of my mind.	11



Song as it's that my heart sings  
Seems my ears have probed inside. 12

But then it's no illusion  
Him I see in flesh and blood. 13

May god bless that what he said  
Would come true to bring me cheer. 14

### **Canto 33 - Genesis of Exile**

Seeing Seetha's demeanour change  
Gladdened Hanuman's heart no end. 1

Folding his hands in reverence  
Approached he then Rama's wife. 2

Find thee grieving for some time  
What doth make thee feel so sad? 3

Thy eyes that are all welled up  
Make they clear that thou are hurt. 4

From thy bearing one can see  
Come that thou from noble stock. 5

Tend I think that thou are none  
But an angel strayed to earth. 6

Wonder thou could be North Star  
Came down here from those high skies. 7

Pray thee tell me who art thou  
Have thee left thy man in huff? 8

Seen thee grieving for some time  
Have thee lost some dear soul then? 9

The more I see thee lovely one  
All the more I hold thee high. 10

O thy bearing 'n demeanour  
No less empress make thee look. 11

Are thee hapless Seetha then  
Snared by Ravan from thy man? 12

Making two plus two as four  
Take I thee for Rama's wife. 13

Spoke as Hanuman to her thus  
Seetha thought it fit to speak. 14

Dasarath was the king of kings  
Daughter in-law am his dearest  
Treated me he daughter no less. 15

Am but Seetha Janaka's darling  
Given in marriage to Lord Ram. 16

In that palace of Koshal  
What a life I led with Ram  
For the best of twelve summers. 17

Heavenly rule to bring on earth  
Came then time to crown Rama. 18

Thought it fit then Kaikeyi  
Dasarath's favoured number three

To see her son then ascend throne.	19
Made she clear then to Dasarath Surely she would starve to death Were he to crown Ram instead.	20
Pressed as she her suit to hilt Cited she then that caveat Cater would the king to her Wishes three all when expressed.	21
Pulled as by his love for Ram Stressed as Dasarath to the core Wanted she that Ram may spend From then fourteen years in woods.	22
Bound as Dasarath to his word Sounded he then his first-born.	23
Gladly my man gave up then Birthright his to rule his land.	24
Ordained thus by Kaikeyi Set to Dandak woods then Ram.	25
Wanting hassles none for me Wanted Ram that I stayed back.	26
What was there for me to cling On to Dasarath's palace then When my man was not at home?	27
Not the one to forego Ram Lakshman too then joined us.	28
That's how three of us entered Those thick jungles of Dandak.	29
Neared as end of our exile Snared me Ravan from my man.	30
Intends Ravan to kill me Were I to fail to take his hand No more than in two more months, Who is there to tell my man Made up my mind to die now For none I would have of Ravan.	31

### **Canto 34 - Swings in Mood**

Moved as Hanuman to the core Made he move to soothe Seetha.	1
Know am Hanuman Rama's man Came in search of thee his spouse.	2
Rama is so scholarly Well versed he with four Vedas Possesses as well <i>Brahmastra</i> Spares that none in combat zone.	3
Know Lakshman is no less sad That he made thee hapless then.	4
Having heard all what he said Joyous turned then Rama's wife.	5
Hoping for the best in life	

How well said that one should live.	6
Felt all at ease then Seetha With the simian her man sent.	7
Seeing change in Seetha thus Moved he then to reach her close.	8
What if Ravan came disguised Developed Seetha thus second thought.	9
Opened my mind to Ravan What a fool all I made myself!	10
Taking Hanuman for Ravan Sank in sorrow then Seetha.	11
Saddened as her change of stance Bent then Hanuman in reverence.	12
Sighed then Seetha at her fate She at length thus addressed him.	13
In thy disguise as vanar Won't I know thee vile Ravan?	14
How come thou think I forgot Saintly garb donned by thee then?	15
What a shame on thee Ravan Stalk thou dame so unwilling?	16
Sensing Hanuman in distress Looked she into his eyes then, Feelings what she saw in him Made her sing a different tune: Make as thou me feel easy And that Ravan puts me off Think my fears are but liars Seems thou art but Rama's man.	17
If thou are by Rama sent Won't thee tell me his welfare?	18
Flood waters as wear river-banks Rama's name so weans sorrows.	19
Is it true and not a dream That Rama's Hanuman is with me?	20
Seem jealous are dreams no less Grant me none they Rama's sight!	21
Sights as 'n when man vanar Said to bring all good tidings, Came I face-to-face with thee Won't it then all portend well?	22
How come at the drop of hat Changing am I my thinking?	23
Time I kept my doubts at bay Lest Ravan should gain leeway.	24
In spite of her averments thus Failed Seetha to trust Hanuman.	25
Having into shell withdrawn	

Kept she then her own counsel.	26
Having gauged her state of mind Addressed Hanuman her sweetly.	27
It's but sun-like shines thy Rama Nears him when moon turns all pale.	28
Him none equals in learning Rivals gods in kindness Ram.	29
Sight at his all vile turn pale Next to him looks Cupid but plain.	30
Using his man Maareecha Turned who into golden deer Contrived Ravan to make Ram Chase it leaving thee his spouse.	31
Ram in time would let Ravan Pay the price for snaring thee.	32
To make thee privy his intent Sent I was by thine own Lord.	33
Lovelorn Ram is crestfallen Lakshman too is ever eager To set thee free from evil Ravan.	34
Pledged his force all Lord Sugreev That Lord Ram could fight Ravan.	35
Back home all but think of thee Know they sent me to trace thee.	36
Take it won't thee long to meet Ram and Lakshman in this spot.	37
Treats me equal as Sugreev Servant like I serve thy Ram.	38
Crossed I know the sea this vast Bade by Ram to reach thee now.	39
Know it none of Ravan's tricks But am Hanuman Rama's man.	40

### **Canto 35 - Winning the Trust**

Spoke as Hanuman in that vein Developed Seetha trust in him.	1
She then said in sonorous tone - How come Rama came in touch With thee and thy Lord Sugreev?	2
How can thou be so certain Ram 'n Lakshman that thou met.	3
Tell O Hanuman for my sake Facial features of those two.	4
Gladdened as she opened up Spoke thus Hanuman to Seetha:	5
Talking no end of thy man It's a pleasure of its own kind.	6
Recall as I his features	

Solace it would thy sad heart.	7
Whether it's godly frame of his Or his kindly heart therein None can ever know which scores more.	8
While frame his is mid-sun like Hath he patience of mother earth.	9
Gives he shelter who might seek Blemish he hath none in conduct.	10
Lays he store on noble thoughts Goads his folk to think likewise.	11
Leads he life of celibate now Fate as thee thus weaned from him.	12
None he slights as come to seek Given not Ram to spare who dare.	13
Hath he Vedas all by heart Excels he ever in warfare.	14
Second to none he in valour None there equals him in grace.	15
Whoso submit tone his soothes Terse it turns to those oppose.	16
While at ease he seems vigorous Looks he strong from head to foot.	17
Frame his seven-foot is well built Face his oblong ever looks good.	18
Lips his rosy slip like glove Rows teeth over of snow white.	19
Eyes his wide both compelling Strike so dark and deep as well.	20
Manner as well demeanour his Holds good adage of old thus Handsome is as handsome doth.	21
Worthy no less than thy man Lakshman the brother-in-law thine.	22
If thy Ram is blue diamond Lakshman is all golden-hued.	23
It's the search for thee Seetha Brought them both to Kishkindha.	24
Banished as by his sibling Met them Sugreev in hiding.	25
Sugreev as was good to us Followed we his loyal band.	26
It was thus we came to meet Ram 'n Lakshman dressed all coarse.	27
But Ram had that bow on him Make which would all bow to him.	28
Sighted as he them in arms Shivered but Sugreev in his pants.	29

Sent me my Lord on errand So that I could befriend them.	30
Made I thus thy man privy Plight of our own Lord so good.	31
Having heard that story Ram Thought it fit to meet Sugreev.	32
Realized as they both of them Sail they thus in same boat then Lords those both came ever so close.	33
Consoled Rama vanar Lord Lost who wife to his sibling.	34
Said then Lakshman to Sugreev Seems Ram's spouse was snared by some.	35
That Ram had to lose his wife Made Sugreev grieve all the more.	36
Flew as Ravan thee by force Recall how thee threw jewels From the skies of Kishkindha.	37
Showed we them all to thy man Told we know not who snared thee.	38
How the sound of that landing Still rings fresh in Kishkindha ?	39
Sighted as he thy jewels Fainted Ram in Lakshman's lap.	40
Compelled as if by thy thought Woke up Ram and tapped them all.	41
As if to dust them all then Shed Ram tears on all of them.	42
Left with no more drop to drop Seemed he drained his heart for thee.	43
For safe keeping of them all Gave them Ram to Sugreeva.	44
Having thus lost thee consort There none is to console Ram.	45
Had he no wink all these days Pines he ever to sleep with thee.	46
Having lost the trace of thee Know thy man is truly lost.	47
Lost as he his lovely spouse Pleases him none spring even.	48
It's for certain that Rama Would kill Ravan in Lanka.	49
Know vanars all bound by oath Take thee back soon to thy Lord.	50
For he slew the vile Vali Oath we took to help thy Lord.	51
Having crowned our Sugreeva As the king of Kishkindha Won't we all owe to thy man?	52

Grateful Sugreev vow then took To help thy man to get thee back.	53
It's in thy search Sugreeva Sent all simians to scan earth.	54
Bade us Sugreev not to leave Stone unturned to search Seetha.	55
Vanars are on global hunt To nail the vile who snared thee thus.	56
Angad son of slain Vali Marched with some of us southward.	57
Lost we way in vast Vindhya Groped in dark for several weeks.	58
Not to go sans breaking news To our Lord who owed thy man Thought we all to end our lives.	59
If ever it came to the crunch Felt we should die exhausted In search of Rama's dear Seetha.	60
Haunted by our own failure Lost we hope of finding thee.	61
Low then we all felt to core Lay we flat on mountain peak	62
Flew in then Sampaathi Sibling of slain Jataayu.	63
Having heard his sibling's death Spaketh thus the agonized bird.	64
Pray thee tell me O vanars Who did kill my good sibling?	65
Angad then told Sampaathi Trying to save Rama's spouse Lost his sibling his own life.	66
Having heard the story thus Sampaathi then told Angad With the bird's-eye view of his Sensed he Ram's spouse in Lanka.	67
Having got the clue from him Led us southward then Angad.	68
At the prospect of success Enthused were then all of us.	69
Sea vast in time as we reached Poured that water on our hopes.	70
In that Angad and the rest Saw the mission as ending there.	71
But the urge to find out thee Made me lunge that sea across.	72
Chance I had to see Ravan Glad I met my Rama's wife.	73
It's me Rama's own Hanuman Treat me as thine own servant.	74

Know am none but Vayu's son Trust that Rama yearns for thee.	75
Lakshman as is wont of his Is at Rama's beck and call.	76
Sent me Sugreev to Lanka In the service of thy Lord.	77
At the news of thy kidnap Sunk our vanar folk in grief.	78
Break I when the news to them Know they all would jump for joy.	79
Hears as Rama thou are sad Won't he itch to take thee soon?	80
Know am but the son born to Anjana Devi queen of queens.	81
Married though she king Kesar Womb hers was by Vayu blessed.	82
Valour of mine 'n conduct Spread far 'n wide fame of mine.	83
Brought I thee as good tidings Time thee look for happy times.	84
Ardour that she found in him Made then Seetha trust Hanuman.	85
With the change of her mind thus Rolled on her cheeks tears of joy.	86
With that bright look on her face Shone she like a full moon then Freshly out of grand eclipse.	87
Knowing that he won her trust Spoke then Hanuman to her thus:	88
It's time that I now start moving Pray tell whatever in thy mind Treat I would as Rama's word.	89
Being none but Wind God's son Strength I have to fly all worlds.	90

### **Canto 36 - More of the Same**

Went on Hanuman in same vein So that Seetha trusts him more.	1
O Lord Rama's revered wife Gave thy man this ring of his Me to pass on to thee now.	2
Guessed thy man thy state of mind Felt his ring would make thee trust Me he sent in search of thee.	3
Grabbed then Seetha Rama's ring Fondled it for ever so long As she would her husband's hand.	4
Aided by that bright diamond Face her glowed like moon in bloom.	5
Reminisc'd as she Rama's love Turned then coy her demeanour.	6



For the valour he had shown Seetha in time praised Hanuman.	7
One as would a small canal Wonder how thou crossed the sea!	8
It's but bravado O Hanuman For thou came to face Ravan.	9
That thou enjoy my man's trust Know thee have my trust as well.	10
Came it when to judging men Know my man is none to err.	11
That Rama is keeping fit Take that as my good fortune.	12
Having lost his loving wife Wonder why it takes so long For him to scorch all this earth!	13
Looks like I am ill-fated That Ravan could confine me Wife of whom all gods give way.	14
Hope not my loss made Rama Lose his nerve to face Ravan.	15
Despair in his at my loss Hath he lost his self-focus?	16
Hath he in his forlorn state Lost all interest in his mates? Came it when to foes of his Hath he softened in his stance?	17
Bid in his to rescue me Can he count on his allies?	18
Doth he draw his plans with care? And yet to make it good in life Need as men all gods' blessings Won't he pray for his success?	19
Hope not year long separation Made him lose his love for me.	20
Knew he not what hardship is Wonder how he bears all this!	21
Hope they are all doing fine Won't he get to hear from home?	22
Beset by grief of my absence What if Rama got bogged down And goes he slow on my rescue?	23
Dutiful sibling that he is To join battle with Ravan Did Bharata send his army?	24
Would thy good Lord Sugreeva Force his bring to fight my cause?	25
Know I Lakshman on his own Can take Ravan and his men.	26

Hope the day is not far off Ravan when is felled by Ram.	27
Doth the heat of his passion Stoked thus by my separation Wont to wither his handsomeness?	28
Word to keep of his father Left he crown with no regret, With no bother in the world Led me with him to the woods, Now that I am not with him Hath he lost the track of life?	29
Loves as he me dear than self Loves his people nonetheless.	30
Having reminisced her man thus Hoping Hanuman picks up threads Kept then silent Rama's spouse.	31
Having read her mind Hanuman Made the position clear then thus:	32
In the know is not thy Lord Ravan it was who snared thee.	33
Report as I back to Ram Ravan it's thee made captive Won't he descend on Lanka With our vanar force to boot?	34
To help us land in Ravan's land Won't he with his arrows make Bridges across sea though vast?	35
Were the god of death to try Stop to Rama in his tracks Won't he slain that god even?	36
Sans his consort to comfort Stirs Ram in bed restlessly.	37
To espy thy man in Lanka Takes it not long for thee now.	38
On my word O Rama's dear Day that now is not far off.	39
Sees as Rama demeanour thine Won't his visage turn so bright?	40
Touches he not drink or meat Partakes but a meagre meal.	41
Fails he feel the flies on him Lives as he lost in thy thought.	42
Engrossed as ever in thy thought Thought he hath none for the rest.	43
Forlorn in his eyes so deep Barring eyelids from closing Fills thy picture to the brim.	44
Sees as he a flower or fruit Wont it his to sigh for thee.	45

Sad though he in separation  
None he slacks in preparation  
To take thee back for reparation. 46

That her man would rescue her  
Made the hapless Seetha glad,  
But the plight of her beloved  
Made the spouse of Rama sad. 47

### **Canto 37 - Aborted Move**

In time Seetha gave Hanuman  
The key to state of mind of hers. 1  
That my man is so constant  
Lifts my spirits all well to skies  
But the news of his despair  
Pulls me down back to square one. 2

Vices if were to drag down  
Man on road of his misery.  
In the plenty of riches  
Forever loses man his course 3

Can one really overcome  
What is ordained by his fate?  
Won't my story underscore  
Aspect this of life on earth. 4

In the high seas of sorrows  
Boat of my life as capsized  
Can my man ever carry me  
To the joyous shores of life? 5

When Rama would bring nadir  
Closer to the Lankan shores? 6

Tell Rama to beat deadline  
Set by Ravan for my death. 7

For Ravan to snuff my life  
Left are just but two more months. 8

Plead did my case Vibhishan  
But paid deaf ear his sibling. 9

Won't make my man Ravan pay  
The price for treating me badly? 10

Told me Anala in person  
Daughter dear of Vibhishan. 11

Aid de Ravan Avindhya  
Advised his Lord in public  
'Better give Seetha to her man'. 12

Averred Ravan's ablest aide  
Lands when Rama in Lanka  
That would be the end of it. 13

Sixth sense of mine seems to tell  
That my man would come for sure. 14

It's not in Ram to leave his wife  
High and dry in enemies' hands. 15

Know I know that he did kill  
 Demons in thousands at one go. 16  
 Know I my man can tackle  
 Ticklish things as one trivia 17  
 Strike his arrows his enemies  
 As would lightning its targets. 18  
 Felt glad Hanuman he induced  
 Hope in Rama's distressed spouse. 19  
 To cheer Seetha all the more  
 Assured he then Ram would come. 20  
 Or else why not escape now  
 Carry thee would on my back  
 And land thee in thy man's lap. 21  
 Permit if thou I would pluck  
 Lanka from its roots in earth  
 And place it at the feet of Ram. 22  
 Either way it helps thee meet  
 Man thine who is in thy wait. 23  
 Be that as it may thy man  
 Is all set to rescue thee. 24  
 Choose if thou to come with me  
 Cuts that short thy separation. 25  
 Make up thy mind Rama's wife  
 Leave thus thou this Ravan's den. 26  
 Rest as thou on my strong back  
 Fly I would at Mach two speed. 27  
 Thee as I fly back to Ram  
 None of Ravan's could catch up. 28  
 Came as I here in flicker  
 Won't we slip back in whisker? 29  
 Amused at what Hanuman said  
 Spoke then Seetha to him thus: 30  
 With due respect to thyself  
 To take me over sea this wide  
 More it takes than simian jumps. 31  
 Tell me how with tiny frame  
 Thou me carry on thy back? 32  
 Words those Seetha's naïve uttered  
 Made great Hanuman feel slighted. 33  
 Why to fault good Rama's wife  
 For she knows not my true worth. 34  
 So thought it fit then Vayu's son  
 To show her all his innate strength. 35  
 For that he then chose a spot  
 Which wouldn't restrict his full growth. 36

Tried as she to keep up pace  
 Glimpse to have of his face then

Seetha at length found herself Staring at the stars themselves.	37
Having shown her his prowess Assumed normal form Hanuman.	38
Told he then her that he could Fetch her forthwith to her man.	39
Won't that let her cut short all Suffering of her beloved Ram?	40
Splendorous Seetha then in awe Spoke to wondrous Hanuman thus.	41
Seen O Hanuman with my eyes What a mighty frame thou have!	42
If not for thy skill Hanuman Know I it's no joke to reach Lanka across sea this vast.	43
Sure I feel thou fly me back For me to reach Rama's feet.	44
But on second thought I wonder Whether I lose my self in flight.	45
Once in mid-air nerve I might Lose and fall down from that height.	46
Then the hungry whales in seas Won't they make a meal of me?	47
Slow down if thou for my sake Won't that make us sitting ducks?	48
Gives that Ravan's loyal men Time to spare in catching us.	49
Gherao as they us mid-air Contrive how thou to escape?	50
Won't that put thy life at risk And mine as well in mid-flight?	51
Fight as thee all Ravan's men Won't in fright I lose balance?	52
Dares not one to ever engage Thee in dogfight in high skies But then Ravan's men in hoards Prevail might by hook or crook.	53
Engage as thou all of them Won't that leave me unguarded?	54
For vile Ravan's men to kill Won't that make me easy prey?	55
Comes it if to such a pass Won't thy toil go in vain?	56
In spite of the odds so great Should thou take me to my man Won't that leave him feel slighted?	57

In case Ravan gets me back

Holds me tight in no man's land How on earth my man gets there?	58
Whichever way might one may look Seems it sound that thou might fetch Man mine here than other way round.	59
Turns it if out mission failure Won't that put the life of Ram As well the rest all at risk?	60
Hear if they soon none of me Ram 'n Lakshman both of them For sure embrace death in time.	61
Credo it's but of my soul Touch I never another man Than my Rama whom I love.	62
Held me Ravan in kidnap Disgust it caused all the way.	63
Know I well my man doth hit Bull's-eye every time he aims.	64
Enters he once battle zone Know his arrows like sun-rays Cease they never from his bow.	65
To join battle with Ravan It's my request O Hanuman Fetch thou my man with Lakshman.	66

### **Canto 38 - Story to Tell**

Respect with all due to her Addressed Hanuman thus Seetha.	1
Surmise I can from thy words What a woman of virtue makes.	2
It was not a fair offer For the fair sex on my part Help I them as piggyback.	3
Intent that thine not to touch Someone other than thy husband Made I know thee stay thus put.	4
One so chastely as Seetha Is there ever in all three worlds!	5
Won't I tell Ram in detail Spoke thee what and all I saw.	6
Urge it's mine to bring an end To the suffering of thee both That was at the back of mind Offered when I thee my back.	7
Thought I fit to offer help Takes as it some time for Ram Reach to Lanka with his force.	8

Owing to my love for Ram Without further loss of time Thought I would fetch his beloved.	9
Canst if thou come back with me Bestow something that soothes him.	10
Moved to core as Rama's wife Spoke with ardour to Hanuman.	11
Dost thou remind my man then The story of that amorous crow.	12
It was during our outing On the banks of Mandakin	
Happened that in broad daylight. Stayed we then at Siddhashram	13
Laid which was in thick garden.	14
Lay as I in Rama's lap Having lapped up garden path, Got a crow at my bosom Dropped I <i>pallu</i> chasing it.	15
Pushed as that I in dismay Back it came to try its luck.	16
Lord mine witnessed that tussle In which my breasts got exposed.	17
Amused by its eagerness Teased as Ram with innuendos Kept I blushing all the while.	18
Scolded him as I roundly Me he took then in embrace Smiled he sweetly to soothe me.	19
Tears that gushed then from my eyes Streams as they made on my cheeks Wiped them then to comfort me.	20
Sapped as I lay in his lap Slumbered I for so long thus.	21
Woke up as I my man took Turn his to rest on my thigh.	22
Finding my man in deep sleep Back came that crow to resume Beaked it flesh from my bosom.	23
Bore all as I fearing that Gets disturbed my man in sleep Blood in streams from my valley Made its way to Rama's chest.	24
Having woke up by its warmth Saw my Lord then my torment.	25
Hurt as I was by that crow Pearl like breasts mine turned corals.	26
Saw as Ram that eager crow With its blood stained beak 'n all Gripped was my Lord with anger.	27

Oh, that crow was Kakasur  
 Happened to be Indra's son  
 Known to cover the earth and all  
 With the matching speed of sound. 28

Seeing Rama's blood red eyes  
 Saw the danger Kakasur  
 Flew thus swiftly in panic. 29

Upset by the hurt it caused  
 To me beloved of his heart  
 Lost no time Ram to punish it. 30

Took he some reed lay nearby  
 Which with power of his mantra  
 Turned then into *Brahmastra*. 31

Chased that missile Kakasur  
 All the way to Indra's place. 32

Even Lord of heavenly gods  
 Felt he could not help his son. 33

Back came that crow to save life  
 Sought he pardon from my Lord. 34

Though Ram came to forgive him  
 The weapon in use was sure to hurt. 35

As a way to save his life  
 Pleaded Kakasur with Ram  
 Let the damage be limited  
 To the right eye that he bore. 36

Having owed his life to Ram  
 Left then one-eyed Indra's son. 37

Wonder how the one who used  
*Brahmastra* on Kakasur  
 Fails to put the same to use  
 To punish the man who confines me? 38

Is it that Ram fails to know  
 Bitter would be his better half! 39

Having taken vow to help  
 All and sundry in distress  
 Is it fair for Ram to leave  
 His own one thus in the lurch? 40

Not the one to act in haste  
 Hath he patience of oceans. 41

Hath my suffering not tested  
 Patience his with vile Ravan? 42

Aims as he and shoots arrows  
 Escape none there for his foes. 43

If my Lord has some concern  
 For me forlorn spouse of his  
 Won't he come to my rescue? 44

What of Lakshman his sibling  
 Moves not one inch in spite of  
 The loss of sister-in-law his? 45



Surely my Lord and Lakshman On their own can bring to knees Gods all there in heaven at once.	46
Looks like it's my misfortune That my Lord and his sibling Should make no move to rescue Me from clutches of this man.	47
Moved as Hanuman by lament Of the hapless Rama's wife Tried he thus to cheer her up.	48
Swear I to the fact that Ram Swallowed was by thy sorrow.	49
Now that I would head to Ram With the tidings of our meet Know its beginning of the end Of thy sorrows of all hues.	50
For these demons to rue in time Count on Ram to bring curtains Down on Ravan's Lankan stage.	51
It's no big deal for Rama To make cruel Ravan meet His nadir with all his men.	52
Let me hasten to thy man So to convey news of thine.	53
In spite of the hope it gave Spoketh in teras thus Seetha.	54
Tell my man that I live by Hope of making life with him.	55
What else can I wish for him Rama's dearest brother Lakshman That he joins his wife soon Whom he left to serve us both.	56
Sad it was that he gave up Conjugal his life for long So to take care of us both.	57
He is such a pet of Ram For he is a handsome man.	58
Though he is my brother-in-law Me he treats as mother no less.	59
If not for his loving care In our exile in those woods Life would have been hell for us.	60
Know that Rama loves Lakshman Much more than me his own spouse.	61
Sees Ram their dad in Lakshman And that helps him soothe himself.	62
To do the needful for my sake Trust I would thou spur Lakshman.	63
Entrust I would thee the task To goad my man to take me back.	64

Let my man know I wouldn't live Day one longer than one more month.	65
Surely Rama can save me From the sin of my suicide.	66
As a token of her love To be passed on to her man Gave him Seetha her diadem.	67
Took that Hanuman in reverence Matched which well with ring finger.	68
Felt then Hanuman truly blessed For the trust that Seetha placed.	69
Being in front of Seetha Bore he Rama in his mind.	70
At length he came out of trance Made he move to take her leave.	71

### **Canto 39 - Doubts to the Fore**

In her new found hope Seetha Voiced then her feelings thus:	1
Once Rama sees this diadem Warmth of my love fills his heart.	2
It's all left to thee Hanuman How thou make it back to Ram.	3
Hope thou slip not on thy way So that I could come out clean.	4
Having assured her Hanuman Inclined was he to take leave.	5
Lost her nerve then Rama's wife Leave would Hanuman all too soon.	6
In the choking tone of hers Encored she her feelings thus: Tell O Hanuman my concern To my man and his sibling.	7
Protocol by thou deem it fit Regards mine pay to thy folk One by one to each of them.	8
Feel I thou art the right one To goad my Lord to save me true.	9
Fetch thou Rama for my sake Earn thee goodwill of us both.	10
Like a rock thou stand by Ram Hurricane like stir his conscience.	11
Roused if Ram by thee Hanuman Know he would turn typhoon then.	12
Having heard thus Seetha speak Assured Hanuman Rama's spouse.	13
At the head of vanar force In no time would land Lord Rama.	14

Declares as Ram war on him Face would Ravan wrath his then.	15
Surely thy hurt would impart Cutting edge to thy Lord's wrath.	16
Know thy Ram is all eager To make thee empress of this world.	17
At those words of Hanuman then Pleased was Rama's spouse no end.	18
Stood as he to bid adieu Tried she thus to detain him.	19
Why not stay for one more day Wish I now thou took some rest.	20
Presence thine in precincts these Soothes my hard pressed mind as well.	21
Till thou come back with my man Wonder whether my life would last?	22
Visit of thine as soared my spirits Fear thy farewell doubles my grief.	23
Honest to be with thee now Doubts on Sugreev's simian force Developed on second thought I now.	24
How can vanars ever on earth And for that matter Ram even Cross the seas to reach this shore?	25
For all I know, other than thee God Vayu and good Garuda Can none ever cross Lankan seas.	26
Be that as it may pray tell How thou could bring vanars all With Ram 'n Lakshman to this land.	27
Find if ways 'n means to take Me back to my anxious Lord Brings that glory none to Ram .	28
Regain I but my glory Go back as I to my folk With the standard of my Lord.	29
If my man ever slays Ravan Battle great in for his spouse, Enhance that would his prestige As the one to contend with.	30
Battle in that for his spouse For my Ram to slay Ravan Pray thee show me script thou have.	31
Felt then Hanuman Seetha's words Worthy they all woman of note So he addressed her nerves thus:	32
How thee fail to reckon Sugreev's Resolve to win this war for Ram?	33

To take on Ravan and his men Know brings Sugreev to Lanka Tens and thousands of vanars.	34
Know our vanar force excels Man to man all Ravan's men.	35
Creed it's that of us vanars Not to show our backs to foes.	36
Bears in our force in numbers None the less than our vanars.	37
Deem if thou me fit and strong Know my folk score more than me.	38
Came as I here all the way For the rest all it's child's play.	39
Thus O Seetha in no time Land would vanars in Lanka.	40
On my shoulders take I Ram As well Lakshman to fly them.	41
Once they set foot in Lanka Know that would end Ravan's reign.	42
Perish as Ravan and his men Take thee back would Rama home.	43
Lurks as Ravan's end in corner Come to quick end thy sufferings.	44
As would Ravan bite thus dust Reach thou thy Lord as free soul.	45
Bound as Ravan to exit Bid all sorrows thee adieu.	46
Though he felt he said it all Resumed Hanuman on second thought.	47
Mark my word O Rama's wife Man thy would soon kill Ravan.	48
So to slay all Ravan's men Vanars know need no more than Mere their nails 'n teeth of theirs.	49
Won't the war cries of vanars Make all Ravan's men stone-deaf?	50
Piqued as by pain in groin Caused by longing for thee long Heat thy man turns on Ravan Caused who thus thy separation.	51
Thus O Seetha be certain Bound is Ram to take thee back.	52
Man as thy hath his sibling Face to Ravan's force in tow What is there for thy worry?	53
With the end of Ravan thus Turn thou new leaf in thy life.	54

## Canto 40 - Repeats the Dose

Spurred as Seetha by pep talk Spoke she then with fortitude.	1
Words thy no less drops of rain Land on that so parched for long.	2
In the despaired heart of mine Seed like words as sowed by thee Seem they turned all sprouts of hope.	3
Ever I cherish the time I spent With my beloved spouse Rama, Keep in mind to remind my Lord The tale of crow that lost its eye.	4
In that night-long lovemaking Smudged as dot my vermillion Remind my Ram that he fashioned Dot on my cheek not forehead.	5
How a valorous man like Ram Fails to wreck his vengeance on Man who came to snare his wife?	6
Let him know that this diadem Which I got at our wedding Helps me think of him fondly.	7
Now that I have parted with Let him know that have I none Helps that to soothe my torment.	8
It's the hope of meeting him With which I bear slights all these.	9
Live I thirty days in hope Fails if my Lord me by then Left I with but no option Than to take my life on own.	10
Ram if fails to come in time With no reason to live more, Ogles at me as Ravan Bear I won't his lustful look.	11
Sank as Seetha in sorrow Spoke thus vanar to cheer her.	12
Swear I do now by thy man Fond he is no less of thee.	13
Now that I traced thee at last For the end of thy sorrows Note the count down hath started.	14
As and when I let him know Though art confined by Ravan To land in Lanka with vanars Wastes not Ram a second even.	15
Battle Royal that follows Ensures Ram would slay Ravan.	16
To spur on Rama even more Why not give me something more?	17

Show if thou him my diadem To spur him on to fight for me Need there none for something else.	18
Enthused by her words Hanuman Stirred his frame to fly back home.	19
Grew as he in size Hanuman In awe Seetha gazed at him.	20
At the prospect of his loss Spoke to him in tears Seetha.	21
Tell my man 'n his sibling Suffering am in anxiety.	22
How to rescue me in time Counsel Rama O Hanuman.	23
Fare thee well O dear vanar Know I wish thee bon voyage.	24
To journey back to Kishkindha All set Hanuman to leave her.	25

### **Canto 41 - Rampage in the Park**

Bid as adieu Hanuman soon Exuded warmth Seetha then.	1
As he left her felt Hanuman - Were I to fail to probe Lanka Won't my trip be incomplete?	2
How to test the guys all these Than ride roughshod over them?	3
Were I to slay a few Generals Won't that weaken Ravan's force?	4
Found as I now Rama's wife What if I dent Ravan's pride?	5
Why not eyes 'n ears I keep Wide open for task on hand?	6
Why fail assess relative strength Of Ravan's men and us vanars?	7
Better I invite Ravan's wrath That he lets loose <i>kinkar</i> force.	8
Battle as I palace guards Chance it gives to test their strength.	9
Oh, this garden of gardens Could be dear to evil Ravan.	10
Were I to arson this garden Spits fire enraged Ravan then.	11
Won't he send his elite force Alive or dead to take me soon?	12
Won't I take on all of them On my own in their own land?	13
All those high and mighty trees Hurricane like then Hanuman mowed.	14

Bulldozed as he his way through Birds there perched all lost their nests.	15
Set he as the place on fire Seemed that like huge funeral pyre.	16
Birds there flew to save their lives Sounds they made then reached the skies.	17
Fire as raged there thick and fast Cried wildlife there then thus trapped.	18
Soon the scene turned inferno Came dwellings all crumbling down.	19
Turned in no time burning coal Garden meant for queens to cool.	20
Hanuman in all eagerness Waited to take Ravan's men Expected to confront him.	21

## **Canto 42 - Panic in the Town**

To the sound of falling trees Woke up Lanka from siesta.	1
Cried as flying birds all then Cuddled all Lankans in panic.	2
Reached as tongues of flame to skies Rushed out Lankans from their homes.	3
So to put the fear of death In them into giant he turned.	4
Ran to Seetha women in fright Hoping that she throws some light.	5
Tell us Seetha what thee know Why this fiend did came to us?	6
Fear thee have none to tell us What was that he spoke to thee?	7
Playing her cards close to chest Countered Seetha them all thus: How can thee ever expect me Privy to thy demonic tricks?	8
Find as serpents their kindred Thou should know him from his ways?	9
If thou let me I surmise Demon some could be on roll now.	10
Ran as some to Ravan then Went round some to see debris.	11
Appraised Lankans then Ravan About the fiend that came to town.	12
O Lord Ravan came vanar With whom Seetha spoke for long.	13
Pressed as we her long 'n hard Preferred she not to divulge things.	14
It's quite likely that vanar Is one sent by her own man.	15

Garden that is Lanka's pride That is after thine own heart Razed that vanar to the ground.	16
In spite of the fire he set Sits as Seetha though unfazed, What else it's but his miracle Touch her none those tongues of fire?	17
Clearly it was his intent To see that Seetha was not hurt.	18
Sits still Seetha in cool shade Right under the tree thus spared.	19
That he conferred with Seetha And caused arson in thy land Feel that fiend hath doubly sinned.	20
Thus we feel O Lankan king Spare thou must not that simian.	21
Words those uttered by his folk Made then Ravan fume in rage.	22
Scorch as if to all three worlds Burned he like the mid-day sun.	23
To restrain vanar on rampage Committed Ravan his panzers.	24
Eighty thousand strong it was Force he sent to take Hanuman.	25
On their way to pin him down Armed they all were to the teeth.	26
Went they all to have a go As if to keep date with death.	27
Came as he in striking range Spears they threw all at him sharp.	28
Closed in they all soon on him With their swords 'n clubs as well.	29
Itching for a fight with them Hit the ground with tail Hanuman.	30
Grew then Hanuman all the more Slapped he arms his to scare them.	31
Sound that traversed to high skies Made birds drop dead in their scores.	32
<b>Invoking Ram 'n Lakshman As well vanar Lord Sugreev, Laid who store on Lord Rama Thundered Hanuman at them thus:</b>	33
<b>Hanuman I'm Vayu's son Privileged to serve mighty Ram Lord of Koshal land there yore, None him in this world equals Sent by him am errand boy Smash I would now all thy heads.</b>	34
<b>Ravans in their scores even Match me not in battle skills, Slabs 'n trees are all I need</b>	



<b>For razing Lanka to the ground.</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Watch as thou in wonderment</b>	
<b>Find I Seetha unhindered</b>	
<b>Leave then Lanka blessed by her. +</b>	<b>36</b>
In the face of Hanuman then	
Saw there Ravan's men nadir.	37
Being loyal to their Lord	
Battle yet they gave Hanuman.	38
Unarmed as he flew in there	
For use as his makeshift club	
Pulled he latch of Lanka's gates.	39
With that latch so thick and strong	
Amuck he ran then amidst his foes.	40
In times yore as Indra did	
Slew then Hanuman them in scores.	41
Scanned he then the battleground	
To take on them who stood the ground.	42
Managed who then to escape	
Ran to Ravan with that news.	43
Slighting as that storm in teacup	
So to throw the book at Hanuman	
Sent then Ravan Prahastha's son.	44

+ these verses are revered the most by the devout.

### **Canto 43 -Itching for Fight**

None there left to give battle	
Prahastha's son as not yet reached	
Thought of future course Hanuman.	1
Thought he fit to despoil	
Hill like palace found therein	
Used for funeral pyres to lay.	2
Up the golden roof of it	
Hop step and jump he went.	3
Perched on top of that terrace	
Seemed he rivalled sun in skies.	4
Saw all those him stand up there	
Wondered how he reached those heights.	5
Grew he so tall that he touched	
Skyscape that was filled with clouds.	6
Slapped afresh he arms his strong	
Sound that made the guards all there	
Lose their consciousness <i>en masse</i> .	7
Prayed he Ram 'n Lakshman too	
Invoked he Lord Sugreev's grace.	8
Gaped as all those guards at him	
Addressed Hanuman them all thus:	9
Come may Ravans in thousands	
Won't I mincemeat make them all.	10

Over thy dead bodies now Go and I see Rama's spouse.	11
So to unnerve them further Roared he like thunderbolt.	12
Provoked by the daring of Intruder who challenged them Rose to one man guards all there So to subdue who snubbed them.	13
Arrayed Ravan's guards well built Aimed they allied weapons at him.	14
Around the vanar thus they trapped Whirlpool like look had those guards.	15
Enraged by their act Hanuman Pulled he pillar of huge girth Of that structure of sky high.	16
Like a rod he twirled it long To ward off weapons they threw at him.	17
Sparks of friction emanated then Burnt that place all far and wide.	18
Spoke thus Hanuman to those few Survived then his great onslaught.	19
Force ours realize hath thousands Match who would me bone to bone.	20
Know they all to smash thy heads Land would soon on Lankan shores.	21
Know a weakling of vanar Equals elephants ten no less.	22
Prowess elite force ours hath Such is that thou can't figure out.	23
Witness how all vanars would Come to kill thee with their nails.	24
It's thy ill fate that thy Lord Snaring Seetha to thy land Invited Ram's wrath on thee Hapless subjects of his State.	25

## **Canto 44 -Takes on Prahastha's Son**

Sent as he was by Ravan In time garden gate Prahastha's Son had reached to slay Hanuman Who by then came back to post.	1
Came thus Hanuman face to face With Jambumali that Prahastha's son Savage fiend that slain all dared Feared thus most the world over.	2
Bow his rivalled Indra's own Sent shivers it down enemies spines.	3
Strung as he the string to test Of his bow to serve his cause Echoed its sound in high skies then.	4

Driven in cart of four donkeys Came as Prahastha's son near him Greeted Hanuman him in scorn Slapping hard his own thighs then.	5
Jambumali then lost no time Aimed he arrows sharp at him.	6
Missed no arrow its target Tip to toe was hurt Hanuman.	7
Bloodied face of Hanuman then Looked like flowering rose at dawn.	8
Hurt by arrows in their scores Mouth of Hanuman's coral red Looked like lotus in full bloom.	9
So to launch a blitzkrieg on Prahastha's son by Ravan sent Picked up some slab then Hanuman.	10
What he hurled at Prahastha's son Turned that then to pebbles latter.	11
Enraged Hanuman plucked a tree And javelined hard at Jambumali.	12
Aimed his arrows Prahastha's son Tree that just left Hanuman's hands.	13
Prowess such was Jambumali's Shot he arrows in their scores Missed none of them its target Chipped to firewood tree all that.	14
With the shield of tree thus lost To body blows of Prahastha's son Laid bare then all Hanuman frame.	15
Hanuman pulled a door latch then Leapt he thus at Prahastha's son.	16
Hit then Hanuman with that latch Chest of Prahastha's son that strong.	17
Blow that Hanuman dealt was such Broke all bones of fiend that strong.	18
Battered as by Hanuman then Lay dead Ravan's chosen one.	19
Heard as breaking news Ravan Of the death of Prahastha's son Went he into rare frenzy.	20
So to bring to book Hanuman Sent Ravan for seven Marshals Heirs apparent of secretaries Seven of his who served him right.	21

## **Canto 45 - Marshals in the Mire**

Like the balls of fearsome fire Forthwith set out seven Marshals.	1
Famous for their fighting skills Went thy all for Hanuman's scalp.	2

Drawn by horses that were swift Chariots theirs were made of gold.	3
Bows theirs were all gold plated Quivers of theirs were made of gems.	4
Enraged they all at the thought Scores of Lankans lost their lives In their own land at alien hands.	5
At the head of their force then Attack they led all from the front.	6
Like the darts of pouring rain Sent they arrows in their scores.	7
In the midst of that downpour Stood then Hanuman like a rock.	8
Rose as Hanuman to high skies Made he null and void those Arrows thus they aimed at him.	9
Battled as he them from skies Seemed he rainbow well therein.	10
Thundered as he from high skies Shivered demons all those there gathered.	11
So to make all those Marshals Bite the dust in battle dress Needed Hanuman just bare fist.	12
By the scare thus caused by him Demons all in scores then and there Died of stroke by awe they felt.	13
Those all at the fringes then Retreated to save their skin.	14
Looked the battlefield in time Like the burial ground to brim.	15
Formed as canals blood by then Flowed with force to hinterland.	16
Seeing backs of fleeing ranks Stood well Hanuman to take on Fresh forays of Lankan force Ordained by king Ravan next.	17

## **Canto 46 - Generals in the Dumps**

Pondered Ravan death over Chosen ones all in their scores.	1
Thought he then it fit to send Four star Generals to take on Vanar that was hard to beat.	2
Chose he Durdhar and his ilk Wage who war with lightning speed.	3
Said Ravan to his Generals Wise it's not to take chances With that vanar on rampage.	4

Use all thy wile to ensnare Him to bring thus to me live.	5
That he could slay best of us Makes him mighty foe no less.	6
For the havoc he had wrought Reckon I not him mere vanar.	7
Seems Indra with all his guile Shaped this simian our equal.	8
Subdued as we for him long Sense it makes to expect that Try he might to hurt us thus.	9
Need thou tackle this vanar With but joint move by thee.	10
Seems he ghost by Indra sent Doubt have I none in my mind.	11
Know I Vali and his tribe Give who can a hearty fight.	12
Yet they make no patch on this Simian shaped by Indra's wile.	13
Looks he like a superman Out to test our demonic strength.	14
All of thee though severally Could win over this simian Wisdom lies to take on him With the combined strength of thine.	15
Pays regardless though to press One shouldn't fail to guard his flanks.	16
Spurred on thus by king Ravan Pressed his Generals to the front.	17
Seemed it as an exodus Led as they their force varied.	18
Came they face to face in time To face thus Hanuman lay in wait.	19
So that they could surprise him Pounced they all at once on him.	20
With no let the five all fought With their lightning arms to boot.	21
First to hit him was Durdhar With his arrows five so sharp Managed which all but to scratch Frame that giant of Hanuman then.	22
Took that Hanuman as affront Turned he skyward to confront.	23
So to engage in dogfight Made chariot his then Durdhar Airborne like a fighter jet	24
Wind as toys with clouds all Arrows all those of Durdhar Managed Hanuman to scatter.	25
Durdhar's job to make difficult Grew then Hanuman further more.	26

In time from high skies Hanuman Landed straight on Durdhar's cart.	27
Crushed as Durdhar therein lay Saucer turned his chariot huge.	28
With the fall of Durdhar thus Crushed he couple of more Generals.	29
Not to give up Ravan's men Hit all Hanuman in tandem With their maces on his chest.	30
Withstood he then their assault With no more than his bare first.	31
Enraged in the end Hanuman Plucked a tree large lay thereby With which he felled Ravan's men.	32
With the death of his peers thus Took on Hanuman Praghana then.	33
Bhasakarna too joined hands So to aid then Praghana's cause.	34
Threw as Praghana at Hanuman Sword his sharp with all his strength Bhasakarna sent lance his long.	35
Bled his body head to foot Hurt as Hanuman by them both.	36
Plucked then Hanuman some hillock With which he crushed them to bones.	37
Having killed all five Generals Slain he then the entire force.	38
In his fury then Hanuman Looked like Indra on rampage.	39
Littered by the corpses then Graveyard looked the battlefield.	40
Amidst the ruins of Ravan's hopes Stood like colossus Hanuman then.	41

### **Canto 47 - Akshay's Life on Line**

Heard as all of Durdhar's fall Akshay truly itched for fight.	1
Fell as Ravan's eyes on him Bowed his son with golden bow.	2
In his chariot made of gold Rode as Akshay to Hanuman Seemed he like the sun on move.	3
Wind God it beats at his game Akshay's chariot drawn by eight.	4
Custom built in heaven itself Outmaneuvers it all on earth.	5
Battles as he from that frame None can ever face Akshay then.	6

With such battle guard Akshay Went to confront Hanuman then.	7
Like the lion on hunt Akshay Looked at Hanuman as his prey.	8
Having met his match Akshay Felt eager to fight Hanuman.	9
To tease the vanar to fight him Shot Akshay then three arrows.	10
Failed as they to hurt his foe Saw the fight on hand Akshay.	11
Hanuman too then came to see Makes Akshay hard nut to crack.	12
Raged as battle between them Stopped all worlds to witness that.	13
Bull's eye hit those arrows three Aimed by Akshay at Hanuman's Head that he held ever so high.	14
Blood as spilled on his frame thus Made him seem the morning sun.	15
Enthused by the fight on hand Enhanced his frame then Hanuman.	16
So to account his foe's affront Destroyed vanar Akshay's force.	17
Angered at that Akshay then Aimed arrows in scores at him, Akin that was to downpour Of monsoon on mountain then.	18
Prowess at such of Akshay Shouted Hanuman his salute.	19
Went as the praise to his head Taunted Akshay Hanuman then To fight the one whom angels dread.	20
Hurt though he was by arrows Sent in rows by Akshay's bow To take then on the daring youth Jumped up Hanuman high in skies.	21
With no respite to Hanuman Aiming arrows thick and fast As would hailstorm hill terrain Chased him all the way Akshay.	22
With his lightning reflexes Escaped arrows all Hanuman.	23
Taking Akshay's tender youth Though he was no babe at arms Felt like sparing him Hanuman.	24
But then Akshay was intent To take the vanar his captive.	25
Matchless prowess of Akshay Made the son of Vayu think Youth he was not meant to die.	26

Lad this Ravan's on his own Could bring gods 'n angels too Knees on to theirs in battles.	27
Battle that's on hand I now Looks he's gaining upper hand.	28
Fail if I now to confine him Shame me he would in no time.	29
No way out for me but now Than slay Akshay Ravan's son.	30
Killed as prelude then Hanuman Stallions eight of Akshay's cart.	31
Broke as Hanuman his vehicle <i>Hors de combat</i> turned Akshay.	32
Not the one to get daunted Kept up tempo still Akshay.	33
Eagle as an would have its prey Took hold Akshay's legs Hanuman.	34
Handled Hanuman then Akshay Washerwoman would as garments On some stone by waterside.	35
With the impact that it took Akshay's frame there lay tattered.	36
With the fall of Akshay thus Even Indra felt surprised.	37
To slay more of Ravan's men Lay then Hanuman there in wait.	38

## **Canto 48 - It takes Indrajit**

Aggrieved as by Akshay's death Thought then Ravan of sending Son his eldest who subdued Indra himself in battle.	1
Addressed Ravan his eldest Who could invoke that mantra To make his arrow <i>Brahmastra</i> And thus stun foes formidable.	2
With thy prowess at battle Beat thou all in battlefield.	3
With thy mystic powers and all None can harm thee in combat.	4
Is there any in all three worlds Hath who not heard of thy fame.	5
In the art of waging war Thou I know are my equal.	6
At the hands of this vanar Dared who challenge Lanka's might Warriors in their thous did die With the Generals at their head.	7



Wonder how did our Akshay In spite of his combat skills Come a cropper with vanar!	8
Wise it not to take him light Saw who end of young Akshay And such veterans from our ranks	9
Won't thy sight in battlefield Scare the mighty of all worlds.	10
Wiped as vanar our panzers Akshay 'n the five Generals Not to speak of seven Marshals Makes it no sense to expose More of our men to the same.	11
Using arms of thine varied Use there none to waste thy time Looks like none but <i>Brahmastra</i> Could take care of this vanar.	12
For the dharma of the land Won't let rulers fight the foes Having men to fill that role Constrained am I to send thee.	13
Takes as one the battlefield Killer instinct he should have.	14
Ravan's son then Indrajit Rose to greet his revered dad.	15
Praised by all there to one man Felt then Ravan's son enthused.	16
On his errand Indrajit Seemed like tidal wave on move.	17
Got he onto his chariot Drawn by roaring lions all four.	18
With no further loss of time Reached straight Indrajit target.	19
From his aura knew vanar It was none but Indrajit And that he had fight on hand.	20
Posited himself Indrajit To take the vanar in his stride.	21
With the dust the lions did kick Filled was entire space in skies.	22
So to watch how Vayu's son Take on one who subdued them With their fingers crossed in awe Watched all gods there from high skies.	23
Sight at that of Indrajit Itched then vanar to engage Him in single combat who Done in Indra Lord of gods.	24
Tested Indrajit his bow Sound it made like thunderbolt.	25

In time Hanuman found himself Engaged at war of his life.	26
As a ploy to stall his foe Fought him Hanuman from the skies.	27
To make Hanuman his target Sent Ravan's son such arrows Wings which had to cruise in air.	28
Swift as Hanuman in escape Arrows all those got past him.	29
Sparred with some more Indrajit Managed Hanuman to thwart them.	30
As though to tease Indrajit Neared as Hanuman ever so close Shot then Ravan's son arrows With such aim to hit bull's-eye But swift as Hanuman in mid-air Kept her ever thus out of range.	31
Sight all this made exciting To those who came watch them both.	32
Hanuman then was all at sea How to conquer Ravan's son, Latter too seemed have no clue How to tackle foe his strange.	33
Worried all looked Indrajit For his failure to bring down Foe of Lanka with his skills.	34
Realized Indrajit at length Hard it was to slay Hanuman.	35
So he thought it fit to use <i>Brahmastra</i> to stun Hanuman.	36
Invoked Indrajit Brahma Powers he arrow of his sharp To stun Hanuman out of wits.	37
With the power of <i>Brahmastra</i> Lay then Hanuman unconscious.	38
Hanuman by the blessings of Brahma his own grandfather In time regained consciousness.	39
Having realized Ravan's son Tied him with the <i>Brahmastra</i> Recalled Hanuman boon he got From Brahma to safeguard him.	40
How were Indrajit to know Made me Brahma exempt from Mantra invoked in his name?	41
Aware got he unshackled From the grip of <i>Brahmastra</i> Thought he fit to lay low then Out of respect for the Lord Brahma who gave birth to his Father Vayu rules who skies.	42

Feared not Hanuman Indrajit Blessed as he was by Brahma.	43
Taken he would be captive All too well then Hanuman knew.	44
Feigned as Hanuman in coma Sent men Ravan's son to him.	45
Chose as he to turn captive Lost no time then Ravan's men To tie his frame then tip to toe.	46
Wanting then to meet Ravan Hanuman bore the insults all Thrown at him by Lankans then.	47
Soon as Lankans tied vanar With ropes made of strong coir Eased out its force <i>Brahmastra</i> .	48
Realized Indrajit in time Foolishness it was to use Ropes to augment <i>Brahmastra</i> .	49
At loss was thus Indrajit How to tackle Hanuman then Got who freed from <i>Brahmastra</i> .	50
Pricked as Lankans all the way Kept mum Hanuman in the hope Led he would be to Ravan.	51
Let thus Hanuman to take him Though he could have freed himself.	52
In time to the Lankan court Brought was Hanuman tied in ropes.	53
Took a hard look Ravan then At that vanar who looked strong.	54
In whispers then Ravan's court Wondered at the developments.	55
Angered were all those nobles Slew that he their kith and kin, Soon as they saw Hanuman thus Brayed all they for blood of his.	56
At the sight of Ravan's court The like of which he never saw Wondered Hanuman for his part.	57
Ravan as he saw Hanuman Pushed 'n prodded by his guards Seemed too nonplussed as it were.	58
Espied as he Ravan then Had who aura of but God Stunned no end was Hanuman then.	59
Lost as Ravan his cool soon Wanted he to go to roots, Bid he thus his men enquire How come Hanuman did trespass.	60

Council as then questioned him  
Declared Hanuman that he came  
Sent by vanar Lord Sugreev  
On an errand of import. 61

### **Canto 49 - Ravan's *Darbar***

Stared as Ravan in dismay  
Looked at him in awe Hanuman. 1

Studded as it with rare diamonds  
Had king Ravan crown of crowns. 2

Garments Ravan wore were silk  
Ornaments on him all were gold. 3

Frills to its his dress scented  
Smeared with ash was his forehead. 4

Eyes of his so wide and sharp  
Turned they red by his rage then. 5

Heads he sported ten in all  
Seemed they all but as if one. 6

Wore as myriad chains of gems  
Dangled which on his bare chest,  
Made they rays of mid-day sun  
Peeping out of thick dark clouds. 7

Epaulets he wore seemed to crown  
Hands his both so strong and long. 8

Sat thus Ravan on his throne  
Had that for seat smooth carpet. 9

Posited as he on high throne  
Fanned him damsels for comfort. 10

With their advice to render  
On call were his secretaries. 11

In the midst of those gathered  
Seemed he island in high seas. 12

Ravan in his *darbar* seem  
As though Indra held his court. 13

Stood then Hanuman gaping at  
Ravan at his splendid best. 14

Though the pain of confinement  
Made him feel thus out of sorts  
Sight of Ravan made Hanuman  
Stare at him in wonderment. 15

Bowled over by Ravan's charm  
Thought over then Hanuman thus: 16

Can there be a king on earth  
Better who can the Ravan Great? 17

Were he not to foul dharma  
Is he not the one to rule  
In his right the heaven as well. 18

But that he is perverted  
World all made to pay the price. 19

Were Ravan to set his mind  
To destroy earth and heaven itself  
Power he seems to have for that. 20

## **Canto 50 - Cuse of Loss**

Seeing Hanuman unshaken  
Smitten was Ravan by doubts then. 1

Wondered Ravan if bull god  
Cursed him when he shook Kailash  
Came in disguise to harm thus. 2

Or could he be that Banasur  
Came in form of this vanar? 3

Clueless as was Ravan then  
Prahastha he then addressed thus: 4

Wish I Prahastha thee find out  
Wherefore came this simian fiend,  
What was at his back of mind  
Spoiled when he our garden? 5

Trespass why did he Lanka  
Made him what to give us fight? 6

Assured Prahastha then vanar  
Harm him none would in Lanka. 7

Promised he then safe passage  
To trespasser there thus lay trapped. 8

Have thou come to spy on us  
Sent by gods from heaven itself? 9

Clear it's all from thy valour  
That thou art no mean vanar. 10

Mince no words 'n bare the truth  
That we could thee free forthwith. 11

If thou try to sidetrack us  
Know that will be at thy risk. 12

Hanuman in turn told Ravan  
That his trip had none to do  
With gods all that Lankans scorned. 13

Am I from the vanar ranks  
Came to see thee king Ravan. 14

Spoiled I know thy garden  
That thy guards would usher me  
To thy court O Lankan king. 15

Came as thy guards to kill me  
Slain them just to save my life. 16

Stunned as Indrajit me then  
With the aid of *Brahmastra*  
Blessed as I was by Brahma  
Came I soon out of its spell. 17

On my own I came to thee  
None as ever would contain me. 18

Know me as the one sent by  
Rama to make truce with thee. 19

## Canto 51 - Advice to Deliver

Unnerved continued Hanuman With Ravan who scared all gods.	1
Wishes Sugreev thou all well With the message that follows.	2
Help as it would thee all now Heed thee advice of my Lord.	3
Dasarath was a godly king Fame he earned for rule his fair.	4
Son his eldest Lord Ram So to honour his dad's word Gave up lawful right on crown.	5
For the help his wife the third Rendered him in some battle Gave word Dasarath to her then Honour bound he would be to Fulfill wishes three of hers, Came when time to crown Rama Sought as she crown for her son Went Ram with his spouse Seetha In tow with his brother Lakshman To Dandak woods on exile then.	6
Janaka's daughter that worthy Woman that wed first Dasarath's son Kidnapped was she from those woods.	7
With his sibling Lord Rama Went on searching for Seetha.	8
Came he soon to Kishkindha Made he pact with Sugreeva.	9
Vow as per his Lord Rama Slew the sibling of Sugreev Vali who stole wife of his.	10
Vali's valour world all knows Felled him but Ram at one go.	11
Got as Sugreev Vanar Crown Besides hand of Vali's wife Apart from his stolen one So to keep the word he gave To Lord Ram to find Seetha Sent he vanars in their scores Covering earth and heaven as well.	12
Find thou in the vanar ranks Valorous all in their thousands Conquer who could on their own Worlds all three there at one go.	13
It's me Hanuman, Vayu' son Flew the sea of hundred leagues To reach Lanka in search of Seetha kidnapped wife of Ram.	15
Scanned I Lanka's width 'n breadth Found I Seetha in the end.	16

O well learned king Ravan Is it fair for thee confine Wife of another in thy land?	17
It's no dharma for the king Breaks he rules of humankind.	18
Bodes it ill for all thy folk That thee annoy Ram and his Sibling who could destroy all And sundry as well at their will.	19
For thine unfairness to Ram In snaring loving spouse of his Sure to rue thy citizens all.	20
Send back Seetha to her man Pray heed advice of this mine Given in keeping thy interest.	21
Fail thou heed my Lord's advice Found as I now in thy land Seetha faithful wife of Ram Rest of it is left to him How to book thee for thy foul.	22
Being such a learned king Wonder how thou fail to know Seetha would prove thee costly.	23
Pays it to know Rama's wife Is not the one to get seduced By the vile of devil itself.	24
May thou live for ever so long Boon thou got from God Himself Fail if thee to mend thy ways Sure thou soon would come to grief.	25
Know the rider that God put For thee to keep death at bay Is on hand to see thy end.	26
In battles all with gods and such Boon hath it that come thou clean.	27
It's thy fate that failed thee true To seek no harm from men and us, It's thus Ram and we vanars Bring would thy end in combat.	28
Lay not as knives two in sheath So's the case with good and bad.	29
Blessed as gods thee for good deeds Punish they would now for foul acts.	30
How thou fail to see writing On the wall when Seetha's man Could slay Vali thy equal!	31
Rama if were to give nod For that matter I would now Sink thy Lanka in the seas.	32

Tied are my hands for Rama Vowed he would slay well in time Hands with his own who that dared Kidnap his dear spouse Seetha.	33
Spare would Rama not even Indra were to harm his cause, What would come of folk like thee Were they to cross swords with him?	34
Know Seetha thou here confine Would cause curtains to come down On the Lankan stage of thine.	35
She's like the hangman's rope Brought by thyself to Lanka On thine own to hang thyself.	36
With her power of chariness Burn as well she might thy land.	37
Why drag down them all of them Hordes of wives and thy siblings.	38
O Ravan the Lankan king Heed thee advice of Sugreev.	39
Know Ram is no mere mortal Power hath he to destroy all Exists whatever in three worlds And bring life back onto earth.	40
In all races of worlds all None there equals him as man.	41
Makes it's no joke to join Battle with the god in him.	42
That thou hurt the god on earth Hope there none for thee in life.	43
In their bid to save thy life All three worlds if ever combine Yet Ram would make bite thee dust.	44
Destined if were one to die At the hands of Seetha's man Gods themselves know wash their hands.	45
Treating Hanuman's words ranting Lost his cool then Lankan king.	46

## **Canto 52 -Placates the Sibling**

In rage Ravan then ordered Hanuman be to put to death.	1
Stood up Vibhishan in dismay The sibling fair of Lankan king.	2
To stall the folly of the court Pleaded Vibhishan with Ravan.	3
To set Ravan in right frame Praised his sibling him to skies.	4
Heed me learned king Ravan Fair it's none to kill Hanuman.	5



Kill if we one on errand Don't all we earn infamy?	6
Remind none thee O learned It's not how the king should act.	7
Swayed if thou by thine anger What would come of thy learning?	8
Thus O Ravan unrivalled Better be prudent in thy act.	9
Words at these of his sibling Hissed in anger then Ravan.	10
The way he acted mala fide It's no ill to kill Hanuman.	11
Would not let go Vibhishan Ravan on the path that's wrong.	12
Won't thee realize O learned It's no dharma to kill one Brings that missive from rivals?	13
Brief it's not mine to plead for Life of one who harmed us all But to keep up thy fair name Deal thou with him as ordained.	14
Severe a limb or lash him well That's the way to deal with him.	15
It's not wise to act in haste Calm down so my great sibling.	16
Is there any better than thee Knows who dharma in theory Nuances as well in practice?	17
Valour with thine unrivalled Conquer did thou all three worlds.	18
High such being thy position Why let act such lower that?	19
Uphold honour of Lanka Not by killing this vanar But by slaying Ram who sent Him to act in foul manner.	20
How this vanar on errand Could have acted on his own Without the goading of his Lord?	21
Were he to be freed by thee Fetch he would then his masters Itching to land on our shores For thee to see the end of them.	22
Falls if Rama at thy feet Bites as and when he the dust It's then but gods would realize How thou made all cowards of them.	23
With thy penchant to conquer Were thee to slay this vanar now Would thou lose the chance of life To slay that Ram 'n Lakshman too	

For they fail to come to know Made thou captive Seetha thus.	24
To slay vanar hordes are all Itching are our men at arms, Slay if thee but one vanar Won't thou deprive them their chance?	25
So to let our foes to know To face us death is no less scared Force we may all foes to show Backs of theirs in battlefield.	26
Takes it no more than a score Of our men to settle all scores With Ram 'n Lakshman if they dare Ever to set foot on our shores.	27
Averred as thus his own sibling Changed his mind then king Ravan To kill Hanuman lay there tied.	28

### **Canto 53 - Tail on Fire**

Sibling as his stood so firm Spoke then Ravan changing tune.	1
Spare as we may life of him Let him not go scot-free now.	2
Pride as vanars at their tails Set his tail on fire that hurts.	3
Goes as he back with burnt tail Makes a scene to folk back home.	4
Burns as his tail like a log Take this vanar round boulevards.	5
Having led him out of court Set the palace guards all there Rags to tie on Hanuman's tail.	6
Worked as guards on tail his long Turned it Hanuman like tree trunk.	7
Pouring oil then on rags Set they tail of his on fire.	8
Gathered in time Lankans all To see Hanuman's tail on fire.	9
Though he could have freed himself Bore that Hanuman thus in thought.	10
Escape that I this ordeal It's not for me such big deal.	11
Isn't it the trouble they give Fraction of the hurt I caused?	12
Can't I on my own tackle All these Ravan's men at arms?	13
Bear I should well this ordeal For the sake of my Lord Ram.	14

Roamed I though the town at night  
 Failed I would have to grasp well  
 The ins and outs of its layout. 15

Now that they would take me round  
 Through their streets in broad daylight  
 Chance I would have to assess  
 Strengths and weakness of the foe. 16

Falling as well in his trap  
 Led him Ravan's men in chains  
 Through the streets of Lanka then. 17

Gloating over their success  
 Made they Hanuman their trophy. 18

Unmindful of burning tail  
 Scanned all Hanuman as he moved. 19

Saw he dumps of ammos large  
 Found he bunkers there well manned. 20

Buildings he found camouflaged  
 Tunnels which had underground. 21

As they taunted him a spy  
 Smiled to himself then Hanuman. 22

So to see his tail on fire  
 Came out Lankans then in droves. 23

Carried some then to Seetha  
 Tale of vanar's burning tail. 24

For so long all in undertones  
 He's the one with whom thee spake. 25

Hurt was Seetha by that news  
 Prayed she Agni to spare him. 26

Submit she did to Fire God  
 That he might save Hanuman then. 27

Deem if thou me true to Ram  
 Spare then Hanuman from thy heat. 28

Goodwill of gods if I earned  
 For my goodness to mankind  
 Be kind now to this Hanuman. 29

If Ram feels that I do yearn  
 For the embrace of his warmth  
 Pray go cool on Hanuman now. 30

Feel if thee that Lord Sugreev  
 Could help Rama take me out  
 From the darkness of Lanka  
 Pray thee comfort give Hanuman. 31

Lost no time then God of Fire  
 From his heat to spare Hanuman. 32

Blew then Vayu his father  
 Icy breeze to cool Hanuman. 33

Wondered Hanuman how it was  
 Rags though on his tail on fire  
 Yet he felt no heat as such. 34

Tail as mine as thus burning None I feel the pain for that!	35
For the soothing feel I have Lay the reason somewhere else.	36
For the sake of Rama's cause Didn't Mainaka offer seat For me to rest on his peak? Likewise Agni should've thought Fits it Rama's cause like glove Were he to leave me unscathed.	37
Might I as well owe all this To the kindness of Lord Rama And his faithful spouse Seetha.	38
Or else Agni being friend Of my father Vayu wind Would have spared me this ordeal.	39
Knowing am on Ram's errand Gave as affront folks all these So to keep up his prestige And to make them well realize That they played all but with fire Won't I pay them in same coin?	40
Houdini made as he then Went he roaring up in skies.	41
With his burning tail and all Landed then on Lankan gates.	42
Assumed simian form Hanuman Slipped he through the chains on him.	43
Grew he then back into giant Looked he all the while for mace.	44
Picked he latch of that huge gate Slew he all the guards he faced.	45
Having none to restrain him With his burning tail Hanuman Shone he like the mid-day sun.	46

## **Canto 54 - Arson to Hurt**

Having had his way thus far Thought of future course Hanuman.	1
Why not I give them in kind For what they did all to my tail?	2
Much is left to hurt the foe Caused I might have some damage.	3
Why not I torch Ravan's town With the help of tail mine That they set on fire themselves?	4
For the favour of Agni Make I Lanka his fodder.	5
Hovered as he in mid-air Surveyed Ravan's land he thus.	6

Landed then on some dwelling Jumped he then from one another.	7
Chose he Prahastha's own palace With its sprawling compound then And made he bonfire of all there.	8
Next in line was Mahaparsva's Mansion that met similar fate.	9
Not to content even then Burnt he dwellings of nobles.	10
Leaned he then on that palace Owned by one who subdued him.	11
Set he fire then one by one Houses of the following.	12
Jambumali's 'n Sumali's Rasmiketha's 'n Suryasathru's Damstra's 'n so Duraatma's	13
Romasa's 'n Ghora's as well Mattali's besides Yuddhonmatha's Karala's and Pisaachas's too.	14
Kumbha's as well Nikumbha's Yagnasatru's 'n Brahmasatru's Not to speak of Kumbhakarna's.	15
But spared Hanuman that dwelling Lived where Vibhishan who pleaded Case his then in Ravan's Court.	16
Razed as fire in those places Turned all therein to ashes.	17
Went he then to that courtyard Where lived Lankan king Ravan.	18
Set he Ravan's fort on fire With the fading flame on tail.	19
Spread as fire in Ravan's court Thundered Hanuman even more.	20
As if to aid his son's cause Unleashed Vayu his frenzy.	21
Goaded thus by Hanuman's dad Spread tongues Agni far and wide.	22
In that towering inferno Came all dwellings crashing down.	23
Looked then Lanka that lost soul Thrown down from the heaven itself.	24
Lost their wits all then Lankans Felt they Fire God turned vanar.	25
Filled all streets were with Lankans Rent were skies there with their cries.	26
Jumped all over compound walls Mansions as theirs came crashing.	27
From the debris of dwellings Flowed then molten gold in streams.	28

Turned to ashes demonic frames Turned grey landscape of Lanka.	29
In myriad shades of crimson red Sprouted tongues of fire to skies.	30
Burning Lanka seemed as if Tripura of yore Shankar burnt.	31
To bring Lanka to its knees Moved then Hanuman to outskirts.	32
With still burning tail of his Set fire Hanuman there dwellings.	33
Raged as fire in those buildings Heard all bursting sounds from them.	34
Smoke that embers emitted then Rose in columns to high skies.	35
Wondered all those who survived Came if death in Hanuman's form.	36
Brahma's it was wrath felt some Set what Hanuman to smash them.	37
Took some Hanuman for Vishnu's Avatar to end Ravan's reign.	38
It's in no time fire got spread To nearby jungles all so deep.	39
Trapped as such in jungle fire Died wildlife of forests there.	40
Rent was air with cries of all Lost who then their kith and kin.	41
With the havoc that he caused Lanka seemed an accursed land.	42
Climbed up Chitrakoot Hanuman Surveyed Ravan's land ravaged.	43
Felt glad Hanuman that Lanka Lost its edge to fight Lord Ram.	44
Tail as his was still on fire Looked he still the rising sun.	45
Having done his job Hanuman Prayed he in all reverence Ram.	46
Gods all for his one-man show Showered then praises on Hanuman.	47
Amidst the ruins of Lanka then Stood like victor there Hanuman.	48
Felt on second thought gods all there What they discerned was but dream, For how could Hanuman on his own Raze all Lanka at one go!	49
At the sight of Lanka thus Rubbed all angels then their eyes, At the havoc Hanuman caused Worlds all trembled then dismayed.	50

Sages at that in their scores  
As well angels there gathered  
Not to speak of Yakshas then  
Thought it augured well for world. 51

## **Canto 55 -What of Seetha?**

Died as embers in Lanka  
So to quench his burning tail  
Went upto beach then Hanuman. 1

Cooled as he tail by seashore  
Felt then Hanuman thus in qualms. 2

Have I gone wrong by burning  
Lanka to the last dwelling? 3

Was it all wrong on my part  
Lost I bearing in my wrath? 4

Of all what that afflicts man  
Anger takes the pride of place. 5

Drives to extremes man anger  
Thought in his 'n deed as well. 6

Whoever can nip his anger  
In the bud is man seasoned. 7

Reckoned as I not her welfare  
On whom Rama stakes his life  
*Raison d'etre* of Odyssey mine  
Doubt there none it's foolhardy. 8

Now that Lanka is on fire  
Wouldn't have Seetha lost her life? 9

What for came I to Lanka  
Is it to kill Rama's wife? 10

While the going was so good  
How come lost I my bearing! 11

Spared as fury of Fire God  
Not a square inch of Lanka  
Where was space for her to hide? 12

Were Seetha to perish in fire  
How am I to show my face  
To Ram who entrusted this job. 13

Why not I now end my life  
Why to go to Ram with guilt. 14

How am I go back to them  
How to look all them in face? 15

How I subscribed to world-view  
That vanars wouldn't get focused! 16

To let him in spite all go wrong. 17  
Makes man passion imperfect

Hear if they that Seetha died  
Ram 'n Lakshman won't live more. 18

At the death of their siblings  
Bharat 'n Satrughn follow suit. 19

Reign if ends of Ikshvaakus Orphaned would be world at large.	20
For the foolish act of mine Won't I turn the accursed soul?	21
As sunk Hanuman in sorrow Omens he sighted all too good.	22
Felt he raging flames of fire Won't match power of Rama's wife.	23
Won't her aura keep at bay Flames of raging fire from her.	24
Won't the Fire God himself know Touch he cannot Rama's spouse?	25
How can ever be Rama's wife Destined to burn like some sack?	26
As well Agni spared my tail Would he ever touch Seetha then?	27
Mainak as did offer help To sustain cause of Lord Rama Wouldn't then Agni follow suit?	28
Won't her love for Rama make <i>Lakshman rekha</i> for Fire God?	29
Wavered as thus Hanuman then Heard he angels speak in awe.	30
Gods too never dared to dream Ever would Ravan get subdued, With Lanka thus now on fire Lankans have no place to hide.	31
What did Hanuman to Ravan Was like taming lion on heat In its own den with bare arms.	32
Turned though Lanka to ashes Wonder what made tongues of fire Leave out Rama's spouse unscathed!	33
Having heard all those angles Spoke of her escape from fire Heaved a sigh of relief he then.	34
That Seetha was left unharmed Made then Hanuman jump for joy.	35
On the spur then felt Hanuman Should go back to Rama's spouse So that he could take her leave.	36

## **Canto 56 -Havoc of a Take-off**

Finding Seetha in fine shape To her Hanuman prostrated.	1
As bade Hanuman her goodbye Spoke in fondness Rama's spouse.	2
Wish I now thee in some nook Take some rest for day or two.	3



Well, O Hanuman thy advent  
Made my sorrows turn their backs. 4

Bring as and when thou my Ram  
Know am not sure whether I live. 5

Leave as thee to fetch Rama  
Wonder whether I stand agony  
Replace that would joy thou gave. 6

Can ever Ram 'n Lakshman cross  
Sea this vast to reach Lanka  
With the vanar force that's large? 7

In spite of thy words so bold  
Find I linger doubts these mine. 8

Apart Garud 'n Vayu, thou  
Who else could cross sea this vast? 9

Tell me how thou would address  
Problem this that confronts Ram. 10

If thee take me back I know  
Spares the bother for my man  
To cross this sea with force of his,  
But then Rama wouldn't have it  
Since it's not the proper way  
For him to reclaim his Seetha. 11

It's but proper for Lord Ram  
That he takes me on his own. 12

Measure of Ravan as thou got  
Guide my Ram to subdue him. 13

Impressed as he by her words  
Addressed Hanuman her concerns. 14

Vast is bear and vanar force  
To help thy man sure rescue thee  
Lord Sugreev mine hath at hand. 15

Know our army is so vast  
Once it lands on Lankan shores  
Fills it to the last square inch. 16

Ram 'n Lakshman with arrows  
Could kill Lankans to last man. 17

Once they thus end Ravan's reign  
Takes thee back Ram to thy town. 18

Having endured ordeals long  
Time thou embrace hope from now. 19

Having Ravan seen thus dead  
Walk thee would free to thy man. 20

Know the day is not far off  
Lands when Ram on Lankan shores. 21

Having said thus Hanuman took  
Leave of Rama's spouse Seetha. 22

That Hanuman had come and gone  
Seemed that all like dream for her. 23

That he did make Lankans rue  
Portend well for things to come. 24

Assured that he Ravan's end Made Seetha pray Ram no end.	25
For his take-off to go back Arishta mountain climbed Hanuman.	26
Passing clouds made Arishta look Like the shy bride that was veiled.	27
Caressed by those sun rays thus Seemed it woke up then from sleep.	28
Water falls of rivers on that Sounded they like Vedic chants.	29
Seemed all trees of Arishta then Like raised arms of ascetics there Engaged in prayers in scores.	30
Orchestra of magic flutes Breeze made Arishta's bamboos turn.	31
Covered by snow from tip to toe Seemed Arishta then blissful soul.	32
Peaks sky high 'n caves all deep Made Arishta seem cover all worlds.	33
Flowers varied of myriad trees Gave that touch of bridal ware.	34
Beasts in woods all in their scores Sauntered in groves that were thick.	35
Home it made all Gandharvas Home away home for all of them.	36
Herbs it all had so myriad Made they medicines that varied.	37
Set as Hanuman his huge foot Rocks all got to pebbles reduced.	38
In his bid to sail across Grew he further frame his large.	39
Sighted Hanuman sea across Crossed that he to reach Lanka.	40
On his return trip to home Veteran like he then took-off.	41
With the pressure it came to bear Sank then Arishta deep in ground.	42
Pressed as Arishta to its core Caved in with groan ocean bed.	43
Lost as Arishta its bearing Trees then there got uprooted.	44
With their fate as thus got sealed Roared lions all there in distress.	45
Flew as Gandharv women all there Slipped their <i>pallus</i> off their breasts.	46
Serpents there lay furlongs long Curled in pits of square foot then.	47
Angels all then came to rest On its lovely peak foremost, With that havoc of take-off	

Took flight all of them in fright.	48
In time only seen was tip Of that Arishta of great girth.	49
Left no trace of its glory At length that peach of mountains.	50
Unmindful of that havoc Had a smooth sail back Hanuman.	51

## **Canto 57 - Flight sans Hassles**

Airborne as he so he seemed Like a mountain with huge wings.	1
Nagas all from stratosphere Saw him then in his flight route.	2
Stars all in their resplendence Saw him as he passed them by.	3
Hanuman got a feeling then Was he there in another world.	4
Moved as he thus in high skies Seemed he swallowed clouds all there.	5
Picked as up he speed in flight Seemed as if skies shrunk in size.	6
Formed then rainbow in mid-air Looked that like a welcome arch.	7
Clouds as darkened in mid-course Played he hide 'n seek like moon.	8
As and when he came in view In his vest he shone like moon.	9
Acquired as if Garuda's grace With such ease then Hanuman flew.	10
Ether then carried worlds over Words those Hanuman spoke to self About the valorous deeds his Done by grace of Lord Rama.	11
Approached when he Mainaka Touched him Hanuman in reverence.	12
Sighted as he Indra's hill Roared then like a lion Hanuman.	13
Induced by the roars of his Thundered all the clouds in skies.	14
Sighted as he home shore soon Waved his tail in triumph Hanuman.	15
Sounded as he his comeback Seemed all worlds then shook to roots.	16
With such chaos in the skies Guessed his peers all his approach.	17
Waited they with bated breath For Hanuman to come then in sight.	18

Soared their spirits as with his roars Reached they shores to see him land.	19
Urge of theirs to see Hanuman Made them all jump up and down.	20
Jambavan it was then addressed All the vanars there gathered.	21
Doubt there none that our Hanuman Is well on his way back home.	22
Neared as Hanuman southern shore Raised sea mean level in welcome.	23
For the sight of Hanuman then Climbed all vanars then treetops.	24
Jumped for joy as those vanars Fell all leaves from their branches.	25
Heard they roar of their hero Raised that decibels all over.	26
Sighted as all Hanuman soon Raised they hands in salute then.	27
Folks as his lay awestruck then He on Mahendra's peak landed.	28
Jumped he down to rejoin All those vanars whom he left.	29
In their joy then vanars all Ran to mob their own hero.	30
Finding him in pink of health Sigh of relief heaved they all.	31
Looked at him all in reverence Fetched they rare fruits all for him.	32
Sounding welcome for Hanuman Gave their throats then vanars all.	33
To elders all and Prince Angad For his part then bowed Hanuman.	34
Knew as he their eagerness To hear the story in detail, As though to save all for Ram Gave he brief as 'Seen Seetha'.	35
Having embraced Prince Angad Squatted Hanuman there on lawn.	36
Goaded by the vanars then Told he how he found Seetha.	37
In her lament for her man Found I famished her to bone.	38
That he himself saw Seetha Cheered the vanars there gathered.	39
Roared as vanars with one throat Shocked were birds all in their flight.	40
Raised as vanars tails their long Looked like ladders they to skies.	41
Pachyderm like as sat Hanuman In their joy they hugged him all.	42

Bringing order then Angad Addressed Hanuman thus in praise.	43
None can equal thee on earth Flew who over sea this twice.	44
Swore as all of us to die Had thee failed to find Seetha It's thy valour saved our lives.	45
It's thy reverence to Sri Ram Made thee as the chosen one To discern Seetha there yonder.	46
News of Seetha in his wait Sure to gladden Rama's heart.	47
Clapped all vanars to one man At what all Angad just then said.	48
Kept they silence of pin drop So that Hanuman could go on.	49
So to let him unfold then With their hearts in mouths they sat.	50
So to catch his every word Sat next Angad to Hanuman.	51
With the vanars there thus sat Seemed the place then royal court.	52

## **Canto 58 - Odyssey in a Nutshell**

Where to start and what to tell Felt like Buridan's ass Hanuman.	1
For their part then all his folk Sat there tight to catch his words.	2
As though to help him in script Addressed Jambavan Hanuman thus:	3
Tell O Hanuman where and how Found thee Seetha Rama's spouse.	4
Tell us how thou zeroed on Rama's spouse in wilderness.	5
Brief us now of odyssey thine So that we can plan ourselves.	6
At the request of his peer Spoke then Hanuman in loud tone.	7
Of course thee all bear witness That I flew off from these shores.	8
Came across I in mid-seas Mountain that was made of gold.	9
Sky high grew it in no time Blocked it my way all the way.	10
To the errand on my hand Saw it as I then hindrance.	11
Lashed it as I with my tail Went it crashing down on knees.	12

Assumed form it then human  
 And in warmth thus spoke to me:  
 For my friendship with thy dad  
 Thou should take me as thy kin. 13

Am king of mountains Mainaka  
 Dwell in seas these underneath. 14

Mountains all in times of yore  
 Had we wings to circle worlds  
 Afraid of our crash landing  
 Complained all to Lord Indra. 15

Chose as Indra to clip wings  
 Of the mountains there are all  
 It's thy father but who saved  
 Wings of mine from being clipped. 16

Bound am I to extend help  
 To thee now on this errand  
 With the intent to serve Ram  
 That he reclaims his lost spouse. 17

Offered though he me to take  
 Rest on golden peak of his  
 Wanting not to waste my time  
 Wished I none of that for me. 18

Having grasped my urgency  
 Pressed he none more Mainaka. 19

Bid as I him adieu then  
 Slipped he back then to sea bed. 20

Resumed then I unhindered  
 Journey mine that seemed so long. 21

Came across I then Surasa  
 Mother of serpents of all seas. 22

Oh how she made clear her intent  
 That she would make meal of me! 23

Not to rub on her wrong side  
 Pleaded my case with her thus: 24

Lived with Seetha 'n Lakshman  
 For long Ram in Dandak woods. 25

Snared as Ravan fair Seetha  
 Sent me her man to find out. 26

For thy being his subject  
 Dharma it's thine aid his cause. 27

As and when I find Seetha  
 Convey I would to that Ram  
 And come back to thee forthwith  
 So that thou me have for meal. 28

But she would have none of it  
 And said none can escape her. 29

Mouth as she hers wide open  
 Gained I size to thwart her move. 30

Pulled as she jaws her so wide  
 To thwart her then I turned tiny. 31

So to beat the boon she got  
 That none can ever detour her  
 Went in and I came out swift  
 Brought as she her jaws to close. 32

In spite of the fact I tricked  
 Yet she wished me all the best. 33

Bade as she me then adieu  
 So all creatures of the seas. 34

Hardly had I flew a league  
 Felt as if was slowing down. 35

Surveyed as I all over  
 Found no hindrance in my route. 36

In awe then I continued  
 Straining every nerve of mine. 37

To get to the roots of problem  
 As saw I down from high skies  
 Found a fiend at my shadow. 38

Though she saw the giant of me  
 Yet she challenged me that fiend. 39

Said the fiend then all in glee  
 Glad I've found a giant in thee  
 Sure thou make full meal for me. 40

Like I did with that Surasa  
 Grew up in size all the more. 41

Rose as it to swallow me  
 Made I myself then puny. 42

Deftly then I entered her  
 Came out swiftly with her heart. 43

With her heart thus in my hand  
 Fell its corpse on high seas then. 44

From the talk of Siddhas then  
 Witnessed who all that from skies  
 Simhik was the fiend I slain 45

Killed as I the fiend that weird  
 Came to know that pulls its prey  
 Clutching at but their shadows. 46

Sank at length as sun in seas  
 Set then I foot on those shores. 47

As I reached the Lankan gates  
 Found there a fiend to confront. 48

Having tongues of fire for hair  
 Tried that fiend to slay me straight. 49

Needed as I no more than  
 Fist of mine to pin her down  
 Spoke that terrified fiend to me. 50

O great vanar thou may know  
 Me as Lanka's main deity  
 That thee could well beat me true  
 All else here would bite the dust. 51

In spite of the guards all there Covered I Lanka all that night Yet I found not Seetha there.	52
Searched I Ravan's palace then Came a cropper there even.	53
Sauntered as I in and out Found I to my wonder there Garden with all golden walls.	54
Entered then I in great hope Garden that was out of world.	55
In the midst of that garden Found a dame I there squatted.	56
Unkempt all her pitch dark hair Wide-eyed she was of middle age.	57
Downcast was she by demeanour On guard there were women garish.	58
Taunted her all in their turns Looked she like a trapped creature.	59
Ceased she not to pray her man Cared she none fore self-upkeep.	60
Cursing Ravan in between Wished she then to end her life.	61
By the virtue of her soul And the beauty of her self Felt I she could be Seetha.	62
Heard I tinkles of anklets Sensed I women were nearby there.	63
Hiding myself on high branch Waited for those women to come.	64
Sighted then I Ravan there With his queens 'n keeps in tow.	65
Seetha who sat in sorrow Changed her posture to cover more.	66
Neared as Ravan her in lust Covered all the more then Seetha.	67
In his bid to gain her love Fell then Ravan at her feet.	68
Snubbed by Seetha even then Gave her Ravan two more months For her to choose from him or death.	69
At that Seetha seethed in rage Spoke she to him with disdain.	70
How thou fail to know Ravan Spouse am I of godly Ram?	71
Snared as crooked way by thee Don't I know how coward are thou?	72
What if thou are Lankan king Measure thou none to Ram's valet.	73



Slighted as by Rama's wife Burned in anger Ravan then.	74
Having thus lost his bearing Moved Ravan to throttle her.	75
Stopped him in his tracks his queen With these words that pleased him well.	76
Measure as thou to Lord Indra Makes she no patch ever on me.	77
Why run after Seetha then With me at thy side for fun?	78
Won't thou have in thy harem Women ever eager to please thee?	79
Having massaged ego his Led she back him to harem.	80
Turned guards all then too hostile To Rama's spouse who snubbed Ravan.	81
Though they scolded her loudly Paid them deaf ear then Seetha.	82
Seeing Seetha unmoved thus Ran some then to brief Ravan.	83
Rest of them in exhaustion Fell asleep all one by one.	84
In spite of that sans respite Wept then Seetha for her man.	85
Woke up in trance Trijata then From their ranks to address them.	86
Dream I had that bodes all ill To Lanka 'n our Lord as well Of course owing to this dame.	87
Better we make up with her now So that she would save our lives.	88
For the suffering women like her Dreams such as those portend well.	89
Better we seek now her mercy So that we could come out clean.	90
Having heard what Trijata said Assured Rama's spouse them help.	91
Seeing her in such a plight Felt I wretched for her sake.	92
Contrived I then to be heard By her as I praised her man.	93
Having heard me tell her tale Moved as she then spoke to me.	94
O little vanar who art thou Who did send thee to Lanka?	95
Got as thee so close to Ram Tell me how thou met my Lord?	96

Then I said to soothe her thus: Made Lord Rama friend my Lord Sugreev king of vanar world.	97
Hanuman am I sent by Ram In search of thee in Ravan's land.	98
Gave me Rama to show thee Ring this he wears ever on him.	99
At thy beck and call am now Bid me to take thee to Ram?	100
Such was Seetha's perspective Thought it would be fit for Ram If he were to slay Ravan And then take her back with him.	101
Wanted then I from Seetha Something dear to both of them So that I could show that Rama.	102
Thus she gave me this diadem That she said would please her man.	103
Then she told me that episode Wherein a crow turned eager All to savour Seetha's charms That too when she was with Ram!	104
She was not to let me go Wished as I to take her leave.	105
Wanted Seetha I tell Ram Suffering hers for want of him.	106
Bid me she to fetch her man Soon with Lakshman 'n Sugreev.	107
Were thou fail to bring Rama And the rest in just two months Live I not a day longer.	108
Spoke as she in such despair Seized I was with burning rage.	109
Then and there I turned a fiend Ravaged the grove that held her.	110
Cowered all beasts there so varied Woke up in fright Seetha's guards.	111
Seeing me thus in fury Ran they all to tell Ravan.	112
Pictured they then to Ravan Havoc I wrought in garden.	113
Were Ravan to give orders Boasted they would make me pay.	114
In his bid to subdue me Sent Ravan then his <i>kinkars</i> .	115
Eighty thousand strong they were Slew I them all to last man.	116
'Lost Lanka its vast army', Told Ravan his spies on prowl.	117

Chose I then their funeral place Slew its guards with just one stroke.	118
With huge force to capture me Sent then Ravan Prahastha's son.	119
Spared I not then one even Broke their backs with iron latch.	120
With the death of Prahastha's son Dispatched Ravan ministers' sons.	121
One by one to hell all them With that latch I then dispatched.	122
Not the one to give up soon Sent Ravan his five Generals.	123
As I made them bite the dust Chose Ravan to send his son.	124
Akshay though of tender age Astute was he in warfare.	125
Yet I caught him by his legs Flung him thus to Ravan's court.	126
Enraged Ravan by all that Sent his first born to battle.	127
That he subdued Lord Indra Knows him world as Indrajit.	128
All his valour came to naught When it came to me subdue.	129
Realizing I matched him well Stunned me he with <i>Brahmastra</i> .	130
At his behest his flock then Tied me with all sorts of ropes.	131
As they took me to Ravan Fumed at me then he in rage	132
Wanted he to find out then Why thus I played spoilsport.	133
Him I told for Seetha's sake Caused I all that destruction.	134
Moreso made it clear to him Sent I was by Lord Rama.	135
Gave thee counsel I told him Lord Sugreev too for thy good.	136
Sent Sugreev thee his greetings Words these with to caution thee.	137
In my exile I met Ram Vow I took to stand by him.	138
Ram then wanted me to help Him to fight who snared Seetha.	139
Thereby had I that barter Whereby he would slay Vali Stole who my wife unfairly.	140
To his vow to kill Vali Made Ram Lakshman bear witness.	141

With that single arrow Ram Brought an end to Vali's reign.	142
Made as he me vanar king Owe him I to stand by him.	143
'Send back Seetha to Lord Ram' Advice this mine to thee now Come would Hanuman to deliver.	144
That thou know the vanar force Could well conquer all three worlds Hope thee heed this advice mine.	145
Slighted as he by these words Lost his cool then Lankan king.	146
Gave he go by to dharma Ordered I be put to death.	147
Spoke then sibling of Ravan Revere all there as Vibhishan.	148
Goes thy diktat O my Lord Not with grain of thy dharma.	149
In the annals of state craft Sent are men to mend fences Ill behoves the recipient king Kills if he the one thus sent.	150
Punish if we must this vanar Sever we could a limb or two.	151
At that Ravan gave orders Tail mine be then set on fire.	152
Having hit my tail with sticks Tied it they with jute and all.	153
Poured they tons of oil then Set they thus my tail on fire.	154
So to slight me all the way Taken was I round the streets.	155
That they could make fun of me Led I was then to main square.	156
Vanar then I turned tiny Slipped out of the ropes they tied.	157
Grew I then to touch the skies Slew them all there at one go.	158
Set I fire to buildings all There in Lanka one by one.	159
Burnt as Lanka to the core Worried I was for Seetha.	160
Took I Seetha's death for sure Sank in sorrow to my knees.	161
Cried then as I unceasing Heard I Yakshas talk in skies.	162
From their talk I learnt for sure Came no harm to Rama's spouse.	163

Felt it's all but grace of hers Gave that respite to my tail.	164
Reached I then the Lankan beach Quenched there well my burning tail.	165
Went I straight to Seetha then Took her leave to fly back home.	166
Took-off then I from Lanka To head home to see thee all.	167
There in high skies I flew past Sun with trillion stars 'n moon.	168
With the blessings of Rama And the wishes of our folk Bring I could thee good tidings.	169
In brief that's all what happened Much is left for us to do.	170

### **Canto 59 - Pep Talk to Peers**

Having told the main story Fillips these then gave Hanuman.	1
Heartened that I found Seetha Glued I then to Rama's thought.	2
Lays who store on spouse like her Woman there none so ever like her.	3
Ravan is no common man For he survived Seetha's ire.	4
Can turn Seetha to ashes With her looks the gods even Should they come ever coveting her, But Ravan who laid on her Hands his as he kidnapped her Came out unscathed from her wrath.	5
How I wish that I could have Brought her back to meet her man.	6
On my own then I could have Killed all Lankans with Ravan.	7
Land as we all in Lanka What would Ravan's fate be then?	8
For me to slay all of them Could have taken day or two, So to bring them to their knees Need we but an hour at most.	9
But then Ravan's eldest son By no means a pushover, Dared he as well subdued too None the less than Lord Indra, Shy as gods all from him thus Hails him world as Indrajit.	10
How I wish to fly back now So to make him bite the dust.	11

With thy blessings on my own Conquer could I all three worlds.	12
Were Jambavan to confronts him Where would Ravan hide his head?	13
Won't our Angad on his own Give a run to demons there all.	14
We've Neel 'n Panasa too Need but fists to smash mountains.	15
None there ever in angels too Match who might well Manduni.	16
What to speak of Dwividu then Comes when it to fighting foes.	17
These two of the Aswin clan Ever eager to fight such wars.	18
Come not to grief they in wars Blessed are thus by Lord Brahma.	19
Partook both they nectar then Subdued when they angels all.	20
Having them at our forefront For us on the Lankan shores Figure it would make but picnic.	21
Fire as I set to Lanka Prayed all Lankans to Lord Ram.	22
Ram 'n Lakshman I extolled Besides vanar Lord Sugreev.	23
Wondered as they who I was Gave them that I'm Vayu's son.	24
Reached to her bid adieu Found Seetha in great distress.	25
Amidst the guards who circled her Seemed she full moon sunk in clouds.	26
Confined as thus by Ravan Lost she none the sight of Ram.	27
Thinks she none of another man Breathes she air that sounds Rama.	28
Wore she <i>saree</i> same old one That which she had on her then Snared when Ravan so long back.	29
Plaited she seems not her hair Ever since she was thus confined.	30
Wont it's her to chant Rama Threaten her as and when her guards.	31
Pester ever as her captors Rama's wife is tired of life.	32
Felt all glad as Seetha learned Her man made our Lord his friend.	33
Doomed as Ravan by her curse Bound to get killed by her man.	34
Slim as Seetha by nature	

Got she slimmer in despair. 35  
Left it's now to us vanars  
How to see her out of woods. 36

## **Canto 60 - Angad on Rebound**

Spoke thus Angad Vali's son:  
Found as Hanuman Seetha now  
Why not we fetch her to Ram? 1  
How it feels if we tell him  
Found though we failed to fetch her. 2  
Know we all could fly across  
Ocean this vast to reach there  
And slay Ravan and his men. 3  
Then we could bring Seetha back  
And make Rama meet his spouse. 4  
Slain as Hanuman Ravan's men  
What is left for us to do  
Than lead Seetha back to Ram? 5  
Why to bother folk back home  
For what we could do on our own? 6  
When he expects her the least  
Won't it be a pleasant surprise  
That we fetch her to him thus. 7  
Having heard thus Angad speak  
Said then Jambavan in response: 8  
Sent we were to find Seetha  
Not to take her back with us. 9  
Exceed if we Rama's brief  
Might we earn his ire as well. 10  
Better we mind all Rama's vow  
That he would slay with his hands  
The one who dared to snare his wife. 11  
Should we go by route thee show  
Won't we make him fail his word? 12  
Sounds it prudent that we might  
Go back to Ram with her news. 13  
Move thine surely save bother  
For the rest of folks back home  
But know Ram would like it not. 14

## **Canto 61 - Eying the Madhuvan**

At that Angad retracted  
Agreed he to fall in line. 1  
Thought it fit then vanar folk  
To let Hanuman lead them back. 2  
Moved as they like cloud in skies  
Played the sun then hide and seek. 3

Kept all vanars their eyes on Hanuman at the head of them.	4
Felt all they were indebted For him having saved their lives.	5
Buoyed were all by the thought That Ram would be pleased with them, Proud all felt that they could help Lord Rama who helped their Lord.	6
In that mood they saw Madhuvan Garden like which nowhere there Full of honeycombs on huge trees.	7
Garden that was Sugreev's own Dared none ever to step in there.	8
Aided by all well-built guards Dadhimukh, Sugreev's own uncle Guarded that place round the clock.	9
Tempted as were vanars all Licked their fingers all of them.	10
Pleaded all with Prince Angad To let them have a glassful each Of honey in plenty in Madhuvan.	11
Nod as he got from elders Gave nod Angad to vanars.	12
Swarmed then simians all over Honey they savoured to last drop.	13
Left they not a fruit or root Fill to the hilt had all of them.	14
In their mirth then those simians Danced they all till legs them failed.	15
Sang some then in sonorous tunes Blabbered others as in small groups.	16
Pranks they played of every sort Spared they none of one another.	17
Leapt as some from tree to tree Others did jump from branch to branch.	18
Lost they all then their bearings Poked some of them their noses.	19
Turned they naughty all in end Spread they all then far and wide.	20
Wretched as made they garden rare Warned then Dadhimukh all of them.	21
Heeded but they not his words Made that Dadhimukh think over.	22
Took he then them all to task And that spoiled their party.	23
Swarmed all vanars then Dadhimukh As would bees when stirred from comb And that frightened Dadhimukh then.	24



With their nails all long and sharp  
Scratched as some the garden chief  
Dug their teeth strong others in him. 25

## **Canto 62 - Orgy in the Garden**

At length on the same coin  
Paid as Dadhimukh trespassers  
Went then Hanuman to save them. 1

Sending Dadhimukh then packing  
Goaded Hanuman them for more. 2

With that go by from Hanuman  
Beseeched Angad then his flock  
That they could have more of fun. 3

Vanars at that hailed Hanuman  
As well Angad their young prince. 4

Having got the license thus  
Indulged they in wild orgies. 5

Cared they two hoots for the guards  
And chased them out of that garden. 6

Having had their fill in time  
Vanars then had their siesta. 7

To take the vanars then to task  
Guards all regrouped in their scores. 8

Drove but vanars all of them  
Back to their post in no time. 9

Fought then vanars mock battles  
Honeycombs with those they emptied. 10

Vanars some were high by then  
Made they beds of leaves to sleep. 11

Faltered they all in their steps  
Tried as some to walk a while. 12

Stumbled as some in mid-course  
Stepped them over rest of them. 13

Inhaled as though laughing gas  
Went on laughing some of them. 14

Twice shy being bitten for once  
Staid put guards all in their posts. 15

Yet vanars all itched for fight  
And threw them all in mid-air. 16

Injured as they fell on ground  
Limped all in pain to Dadhimukh. 17

Annoyed as he with vanars  
Addressed thus the chief of guards. 18

Time it's not to lose our hearts  
Better we regroup 'n fight them. 19

Bucked up as all by his words  
Back they went to trespassers. 20

Uprooting a tree Dadhimukh  
Signalled he the fight on hand. 21

Lined up guards all then in files Marched on rampant vanars there.	22
Followed suit as some their chief Lifted boulders others there large.	23
Angad's vanars there scattered Turned they sitting ducks all then.	24
So to save his men Angad Took on Dadhimukh on his own.	25
Half drunk by then as Angad Gave no quarter to Dadhimukh And hit him hard with fist his strong.	26
Fell on floor as then Dadhimukh Who was none but his grandad Ceased not Angad to hurt him.	27
Beaten thus by his grandson Lost his consciousness Dadhimukh.	28
Woke up Dadhimukh thereafter Guards he led back to barracks.	29
Lost no time the Guards-in-Chief Addressed his men thus aggrieved.	30
Serves no purpose to fight back Appraise we might vanar Lord Of the havoc wrought by these To the Madhuvan loves he most.	31
Be it Angad for such foul He's not the one to spare.	32
Got this garden vanar Lord As a bequeath from his dad Who in turn got from his dad.	33
Treats as Madhuvan as his child Sure this carnage would outrage Sugreev our Lord no end now.	34
Count on me to tell Sugreev That they be all put to death.	35
Having spoken thus Dadhimukh Flew to Sugreev with his flock.	36
In no time did Dadhimukh sight Lord his Sugreev with his folks.	37
Having with his aids landed Headed Dadhimukh to his Lord.	38
Saw then Sugreev his uncle Approach him with dull demeanour.	39
Led then by the boss of theirs Guards of Madhuvan saluted Vanar Lord all one by one.	40

### **Canto 63 - Sugreev's Reading**

Fell as Dadhimukh at his feet Spoketh vanar Lord perplexed.	1
--	---

What's thy fault that makes thee fall At the feet of thy nephew?	2
Fright thine makes me worried man Harmed might've been my Madhuvan.	3
Ardour thus by Sugreev showed Moved then Dadhimukh to speak thus:	4
Though all knew it out of bounds Trespassed vanars some Madhuvan.	5
Ignored they all my warnings Ate they every fruit and root.	6
Swarmed as by all bees out there Yet they squeezed out honey in tons.	7
Having got drunk to the hilt Mocked they my guards who cautioned.	8
Guards as there did try to stop Beat them to pulp those vanars.	9
Makes me sad that Prince Angad Aided as well abetted them.	10
Lay as wounded men of mine Flung some vanars them sky high.	11
In thy reign O Lord Sugreev That's how folk thine slew our guards.	12
Having sensed then some import Enquired Lakshman then Sugreev What could have gone awry them.	13
What's the matter vanar Lord Why thy folk all look depressed?	14
Having by then smelt the rat Appraised Sugreev Lakshman thus:	15
Complains Dadhimukh my uncle That Prince Angad and his flock Ravaged Madhuvan to its roots As well slew its guards in scores.	16
If not for the happy end To the errand on their hand Would have Angad ever condoned Deeds those vandal of vanars?	17
Strong as Dadhimukh 'n his folks Failed to stop them all in tracks Would mean spirits of Angad's flock Could have soared to skies all high.	18
Feel I Angad and party Having by then found Seetha Would have indulged in orgies.	19
It's but Hanuman who could have Found out Seetha in spite of Hurdles all there to reach her.	20
Fails he never to deliver Backed by Jambavan 'n Angad Leads when Hanuman from the front.	21

Turned as joyous by the news Brought by Hanuman from Seetha Lost they could have their bearing.	22
Had not Hanuman sighted her Dare how they would ever enter Madhuvan after mine own heart?	23
It's but their joy that gave cause For their pranks all with those guards.	24
It's this grasp of their action Made that Dadhimukh rush to us.	25
Feel I certain from all this Found was Rama's spouse Seetha.	26
If not Angad would not have Let his flock thus play havoc With the Madhuvan of our clan.	27
With the way Lord Sugreev spoke Pleased no end was Lakshman then.	28
Happy was Ram at the turn Of the tide in Seetha's search.	29
Turned then Sugreev to Dadhimukh Thanked him for the news he brought.	30
Dispatched Sugreev his uncle So he sends back Angad's flock.	31
No less eager all of us To hear where Hanuman found Seetha.	32
Made the joyous look of Ram Joyous Lakshman and Sugreev.	33

## **Canto 64 - Return of the Platoon**

At the diktak of his Lord Took leave Dadhimukh of them all.	1
Flew he back then to Madhuvan With his flock to fetch Hanuman.	2
Speeded as he to his Lord Rushed he so back to Madhuvan.	3
In the garden he left them Found he vanars turn sober.	4
Went he straight to Angad then Spoke he thus with folded hands.	5
Pardon my flock and me too For we tried to stop thee all From thy having fun of life.	6
At thy pleasure O Prince Angad Let thy folk have some more fun.	7
Like thy dad in days of yore Sugreev 'n thou make our Lords.	8
Told we Sugreev thy uncle Landed thou all in Madhuvan.	9

Felt he so glad hearing that Found I safe 'n sound all thee.	10
Flared up he not as I told Spoiled all of thee Madhuvan.	11
Now he sent me here to fetch Thee all back to him forthwith.	12
At this Angad told his flock Rama could be in the know.	13
Inclined am to think so Seeing joyous Dadhimukh's face.	14
Now that all of us had fun Why not go back to our Lord.	15
Wish I none have to dictate Like to follow what thee say.	16
Brought as thou us this glory Honour me thou as thy Prince It's no time that's opportune For me to thee dictate terms.	17
Spake as Angad to his flock Made that happy one and all.	18
Spoke they in turn to Angad All of them in one voice, Like thou take us as equals Who else would treat his subjects?	19
Bow as thou to thy subjects Take thee that to top of world.	20
Think as thee of thy uncle We too wish to see our Lord.	21
Lead us all to where thee go None of us would drag his feet.	22
Gave as Angad green signal Rose then his flock to the skies.	23
Angad thus with at the head Flew they flying saucer like.	24
Thus in tow with Hanuman then Pulled his flock all back Angad.	25
Sighting Angad in the skies Spoke then Sugreev to Rama.	26
See our vanars flying back Portends that well for Seetha.	27
Espy speed at which they fly Would they do so had they failed?	28
To me if he were to fail Would ever Angad show his face?	29
Besides fouling my Madhuvan Were he failed to find Seetha How dare Angad come to me?	30

If not that they found Seetha Would have Angad let his flock At the pain of death enter Madhuvan that's so dear to me?	31
Feel I certain Hanuman did Find Seetha in thy waiting.	32
Espouses as he some cause Hanuman is ever dedicated.	33
Whatever he might undertake Known is Angad for his luck. Now that Angad advances Like the one who succeeded That should make us feel easy.	34 35
That our vanars on errand Wrecked my garden in orgies Would but portend that Seetha Was found in the pink of health.	36
Won't they roar in joyous mood What's that but they got it right.	37
Saw vanar Lord in descent Angad's flock in bid to land.	38
In salute to that force his strong Raised then Sugreev tail his straight.	39
Seeing Sugreev in welcome Signalled Angad to his flock Land they might all on the trot.	40
Enthused as were all by then Lost no time to land vanars.	41
Having went to Rama straight 'Seen I Seetha' told Hanuman.	42
Gladdened tidings of the news Hearts of Ram and his sibling.	43
Felt glad Sugreev that Hanuman Caressed was by Lakshman's eyes.	44
Melted loving look of Ram Hanuman to the core of heart.	45

### **Canto 65 -News in Brief**

Followed Angad suit Hanuman Paid he respects to Lord Ram.	1
Such was vanars' state of mind Spoke they out of turn they all.	2
Blabbered they all one by one In bits 'n pieces what they heard.	3
Amused by their hearsay Ram Heard them all for quite sometime.	4
Enquired in time Ram of them What doth Seetha think of him.	5

At that they all passed baton To Hanuman who was in the know.	6
Set to recap then Hanuman Thought of Seetha in reverence And turned southward to face her.	7
Taking seat at Rama's feet Handed him then that diadem Given by Seetha for recall And thus spoke with folded hands.	8
Pressed as I was by my peers Crossed I ocean lay there south In search of Seetha there yonder.	9
Reached I Lanka in no time Land that ruled by vile Ravan.	10
Found I Seetha in distress Jailed as Ravan to digress From her love to thee her Lord.	11
In the hope of her rescue Lingers she on in thy thought.	12
Never having had bad dream Wonder how her life turned sour.	13
In tight rein is Seetha held Day 'n night of vigil to boot Of the devilish guards in scores.	14
Floor she uses for her bed Curses Ravan for her plight.	15
It's that Seetha in lament Found I at length in torment.	16
In time I could impress her That am but thine own agent.	17
How glad was she as I told Hath Lord Sugreev turned thy friend.	18
Steadfast as she in thy thought Prayed thee for long in reverence.	19
Told me she then that story Of the eager crow and thee.	20
Beseechd Seetha then with me To tell her tale of owes to thee.	21
Give this diadem to my Lord When thy Lord is there with him.	22
Tell my Ram that I relive Touch his as he adorned me With this diadem my dad gave To me on our wedding day.	23
It's this one that gives feel As if thee are ever with me.	24
Gave though Ravan two more months To change my mind or face then death Prefer I would to end my life At the end of one more month.	25

In her state of distress Lord  
That's how Seetha spoke to me. 26

Now that I made thee privy  
To the plight of thy Seetha  
Think of ways 'n means to take  
Our force there to bring her back. 27

Felt though Ram then so sad  
Spouse his was in such distress  
Yet he felt glad that Hanuman  
Could show him the way to her. 28

## **Canto 66 - Tears in Torrents**

Moved by Seetha's plight he heard  
Wept Ram holding her diadem. 1

Welling his eyes to then brim  
Brought it memories in torrents. 2

Told he then the import of  
Diadem that to Lord Sugreev. 3

It was gift of her father  
At the time of our wedding. 4

Given it was by nonetheless  
Than Lord Indra to her dad. 5

As I see this diadem now  
Recall I well our wedding  
Graced by parents of us both. 6

Ever I recall that aura  
Gives this diadem to Seetha. 7

For the solace of my soul  
Make it encore O Hanuman  
How my Seetha misses me. 8

My dear sibling O Lakshman  
How this diadem in my hands  
Wrenches my heart to the core. 9

Though gave Seetha thirty days  
Outer limit for me to act  
How can ever I wait that long. 10

To my Seetha whom I love  
Take me forthwith O Hanuman. 11

Delicate being her nature  
What an ordeal it could be  
To be confined thus for long? 12

Won't her moon like face look like  
Full moon shrouded by thick clouds? 13

Tell me what all Seetha said  
Want I hear to her last word. 14

Keen am I to get picture  
Of the pining of my spouse. 15



## Canto 67 - Hanuman's Replay

Moved no end by Rama's plight Spoke with ardour then Hanuman.	1
Narrate I would verbatim Tale she told me to tell thee.	2
Woke up as I ahead of Ram Slept when we both in open Pecked my bosom Kakasur.	3
Bore I pain all in silence. Not to disturb his sleep then.	4
Taking advantage of that Went on hurting me that crow Making fountains of my breasts.	5
Fell as my blood on his chest Woke up Ram to find me bleed.	6
Saw he as me in distress Hissed my man like king cobra.	7
Dare who did to lay his hands On thy breasts that brush my chest!	8
To his dismay he then found Kakasur with blood on hands.	9
Realized Ram that Kakasur Bird of birds was Indra's son.	10
Misdeed that of Indra's son Found then my man hard to bear.	11
Plucked he then a nearby reed And with power of his mantra That he turned to <i>Brahmastra</i> .	12
Let as Ram that <i>Brahmastra</i> To chase Kakasur to death Spewed it tongues of fire at him.	13
So to save his life his dear Turned that crow to one and all Including hid dad Indra.	14
None as came forward to help Came back Kakasur to Ram Sought he pardon for his foul.	15
Inclined though Ram to pardon Yet he couldn't help hurt his eye Since none retracts his mantra.	16
Thanking Ram for his reprieve Left Kakasur with left eye then.	17
Said she thus she fails to grasp How come Rama spares Ravan.	18
Is there someone in all worlds Who would stand up to fight Ram?	19

Concern if hath Lord Rama For me his spouse ever loyal May he come 'n slay Ravan.	20
Am I not like mother to him What made Lakshman thus stay put?	21
Oh my man and his sibling Could kill Ravan on their own, And if they both feel for me Why they fail to rescue me?	22
Seems both of them mistook me For some reason know not what.	23
Seeing Seetha doubt herself Gave I her thus assurance.	24
It's his sorrow for thee know Made that Rama lose his way.	25
Seeing thy man immobilized As well Lakshman lost his wits, Now that I would tell thy tale Both of them would spring to life.	26
Enthused by the news I fetch Land they would soon in Lanka.	27
That would be the beginning of The end of Ravan's reign on earth.	28
For thy Lord to trust my word Give me keepsake he gave thee.	29
Having thought a while Seetha Gave this diadem now thou hold.	30
In my hurry to see thee Bid I adieu to thy spouse.	31
As I started to gain size So that I could cross the seas Spoke then Seetha to me thus.	32
As she took thy name O Lord Broke she down then in despair.	33
Having at length set her tone Chanted thy name like mantra.	34
That thou bestow trust in me Praised my fortune then Seetha.	35
As a seat for her fly back Offered then I her my back.	36
Told I she would be with thee Before she could spell thy name.	37
Said she it's not in her vein Touch to alien male on own.	38
Felt I it's my misfortune Laid as Ravan hand on me Kidnapped as he me then thus.	39
So can't I make on thy back Though thou are a friendly soul.	40

Once thou go back to thy folk Pay my respects to them all.	41
Implore upon my Lord Ram Help me come out clean early.	42
Mind thee tell all to my Lord How guards all these distress me.	43
Men of men O Lord Rama That's how Seetha pines for thee.	44

## **Canto 68 - Times of Hope**

Said then Hanuman to Rama Came as thy spouse to trust me Spoke she further thus with me.	1
Stress the need to do needful Speak as thou to my Lord Ram.	2
How I wish thou gone by now Yet I feel thou need some rest Stay so back for one more day.	3
It's thy coming O Hanuman Set the mind of mine at rest.	4
Leave as thee the Lankan shore High 'n dry me that would leave.	5
In contrast to strength thee gave Won't thy absence make it worse.	6
Be that as it may Hanuman Reach to Lanka as thee did Can all vanars cross this sea?	7
To slay Ravan for my sake How my Lord 'n his sibling Can cross over sea this vast?	8
But for Vayu, Garud 'n thou Who else could cross Lankan seas?	9
How to bring all to these shores Thus O Hanuman give a thought.	10
Surely on thy own Hanuman Make can Ravan bite the dust Yet that leaves no role for Ram In the rescue of his spouse.	11
If my Lord doth declare war And downs Ravan in combat That would enhance his prestige And earns me honour in reclaim.	12
Ravan as did snare me then Spirit if thou me from Lanka Won't it go down well with Ram.	13
Proper thus it's for my Lord Comes he here 'n takes me back.	14

Keeping all this in thy mind  
 For my rescue by my man  
 Need there is for thee to come  
 Up with foolproof plan some now. 15

Seeing how she lays in store  
 Honour of her beloved man  
 Spoke I to her in reverence. 16

Goddess like O Rama's spouse  
 Know Sugreev is committed to  
 Help thy man to set thee free. 17

Know we vanars in millions  
 Stake our lives to keep the word  
 Lord our thus gave to thy lord. 18

Choose if vanars to breach earth  
 Is there someone to stop them? 19

Blessed are all of us with skills  
 Roam we may all worlds are there. 20

Falls none ever as short of me  
 Vanars in scores better me true. 21

As I could do what I did  
 What to speak of rest of them? 22

Now it's time thee feel easy  
 Soon we vanars land in droves  
 With thy Lord to set thee free. 23

Discount if thou vanar strength  
 Don't thee know that I could fly  
 Ram 'n Lakshman on my back  
 Shores to these to fight Ravan? 24

Thou well know that thy man with  
 Sibling his would come out trumps. 25

Nevertheless we all vanars  
 To fight the forces of Ravan  
 Would be there on hand to Ram. 26

Land as we on Lankan shores  
 To hear the roars of vanar force  
 Won't it take thee now so long. 27

Slays when Ram the evil Ravan  
 Won't thee hand in hand in time  
 Ascend Ayodhya's throne with him? 28

Having heard my words Seetha  
 Said she would ever live in hope  
 That thee would soon set her free. 29

# Peep into Yuddha Kānda: War on Ravan

## Canto 1 - Embrace of a Gift

Pleased no end was Rama then Hope thus Hanuman could infuse In his forlorn spouse Seetha.	1
Well O Hanuman thy great deeds Would stand out all times to come.	2
With God Vayu 'n Garuda Fly who with ease seas across Make thee living legend now on.	3
Just to set foot in Lanka Dare not angels ever in dreams.	4
Know not I a soul on earth Dared that trespass Ravan's land, Speaks in volumes thy valour Dared as thee 'n came back sound.	5
Comes it when to sheer valour Know thee none can ever equal.	6
Blessed is thy Lord Sugreeva Hath who in ranks Vayu's son Acts who to his Lord's benefit Outside though brief of his Lord.	7
Might we call him just worthy Who that goes by master's brief.	8
Meets no end on he errand Strives who none though well-spoken.	9
Errand on that thou was sent To find my spouse in alien land Ruled by none else but Ravan Left no stone thou ever unturned.	10
Had thee not thus found Seetha Sure it would have been my death Know thus with thy dedication Saved thou life of me for now.	11
For I lost my crown and all For the worse of fate of mine For thy good turn O Hanuman For me to show due gratitude None have I to bestow thee.	12
Like to take thee in my arms So that I could bring my heart Closer now to thine own one Helps as that to convey well Gratitude it bears for thee.	13
Having spoken thus Rama Taken Hanuman moved by then Into warmth of his embrace.	14

## Coronation and After

Led by Vasisht high priest then Ram 'n Seetha reached high throne.	1
One by one then twelve Vasus And those grand seers eight of them Perfused both of them with scents.	2
Then those elders let Brahmans Virgins, nobles and Generals Likewise perfuse them on throne.	3
Soon after were invited Angels all to perfuse Ram Seetha too with heavenly scents.	4
Held Ram's sibling Satrughna Canopy over royal heads While Lord Sugreev deemed it fit To don the role of fan boy then.	5
As a mark of his respect Fanned them Vibhishan from other end.	6
Standing in for Lord Indra Gave them Vayu gold lotus.	7
On his own then Vayu gave Pearl necklace for Ram to wear.	8
Made the singers 'n dancers Sent by Indra from his court Seem it like a heavenly show.	9
Portend well to Ram's lordship Mother earth came up with bounty.	10
Last which would for generations Such farm wealth Ram gave Brahmans.	11
For the sake of their womenfolk Ram gave Brahmans all rare gems.	12
Gave then Ram to Sugreeva Pearl chain that seemed Milky Way.	13
Gave Lord Ram to Prince Angad Epaulets gold with blood red stones.	14
Pearl chain that Ram gave Seetha Looked like moonbeam in blue skies.	15
With the consent of her Lord Gave then Seetha silk garments As well jewels to Hanuman.	16
Pulled out Seetha from her self Necklace that was she fond of.	17
Sensed as Ram her intent true Beseeched he she bestows that Upon the one she loves the most Apart from the spouse of hers.	18
Heartened as she was at that Gave that Seetha to Hanuman.	19
Wore it Hanuman in reverence	

Shone he like the moon on earth.	20
Honoured Rama Dwividu then With Maindun 'n Neel as well With such gifts that touched their hearts.	21
Went on Ram to honour friends Left was none from vanar ranks.	22
Not the one to ignore friends Ram then called for Vibhishan Gave him gifts that pleased him most.	23
Last but not the least on list Was Hanuman who got the best From Lord Ram who valued him.	24
Came as time for guests to part Gave them consent Ram to leave.	25
All the way to Kishkindha Led then flock his Sugreeva.	26
Left for Vibhishan to Lanka To reign in place of Ravan then.	27
Settled as Ram for his long reign Spoke he then to Lakshman thus:	28
Sibling loyal O Lakshman Consent to be my Crown prince.	29
At that Lakshman turned his back Bharath he then pushed to forefront.	30
Yagas ordained by Vedas In his long reign Ram performed.	31
Reign ten millennia his lasted Domain of its spread worlds over.	32
Helped as Lakshman in his reign Giving hands of Ram then touched Horizons wide of all three worlds.	33
Took care Ram of his subjects No poor cousin was ever ignored.	34
In his reign all lived full life None was ruined by Acts of God.	35
Died no infant in his reign Lived no dacoit to name one.	36
Reigned well dharma in his time Gone were faction fights of yore.	37
None was barren in his land In scores bore women there children.	38
Took his name all day and night Revered him all worlds to one man.	39
Climes all then put their best foot Dared not drought to visit his land.	40
Lived all making best of life Shown was door to greed by all.	41
Sense of fairness ruled as minds Were there no mean in his reign.	42

Such was golden rein of Ram 10 K summers it lasted To the world that lapsed itself Turned that distant past in time.	43
Told are life 'n times of Ram In this foremost poetic work Sage Valmiki gave this world.	44
Brings it cheer to who reads it Besides those who hear it read.	45
Women who hear all Ramayan Bear they sons who live for long.	46
Hears who victor Rama's tale Keeps he death at bay for long.	47
Who in reverence hears saga Of Lord Ram in Ramayan Gave to world by Valmiki Comes out unscathed from hardships.	48
Helps man Ramayan come to Grips with anger and distress.	49
To and fro in one's voyage Gives this tale him safe passage.	50
Hear who Rama's tale till end Gods are known to bless them all.	51
Rulers who read Ramayan Come to rule the entire world.	52
Swear who by this ancient work Absolved would be from all sins.	53
Store if set by Rama's tale Turns warrior the tides battle.	54
Reads if one or hears this tale Grace he hath of Lord Rama.	55
In his avatar as Rama Ordained Vishnu that Seshu Makes who heavenly cushion for him Would be with him as Lakshman.	56
One who hears ever this saga Gets a spouse who well pleases.	57
Who in reverence hears this tale Earns he fame that lasts for long.	58
Reads Whoso this <i>adi kavya</i> Wins he heart of Lord Vishnu.	59
Essence of it whoso gets Pleases progenitors 'n angels.	60
Rewrites whoso this saga As told by sage Valmiki Ascend he would heaven in end.	61