

## 2.10 Ode to a Secretary (1974)

Statistically  
regathered in you  
components each sufficing  
to distinguish and compel.  
Such egregious beauty  
makes me smile – I almost share  
with you the fact of it:  
almost more it's mine than yours,  
this star that I see shine  
in the line of you, the dark of you,  
the move, the whisper calm of you:  
O Khanoum Firoozi!  
Sustain or break this spell in me  
this image mirror'd back in time  
which takes account  
of features shadow'd long ago  
in coin, brooch and cameo.  
So let us share again the smile, and  
let us contemplate the curve of shoulder,  
classic brow, the queenly aspect, secret breast,  
which sum you up, and make you what you are.

Tehran – 1974.