

So the merchant gave him an hundred pieces of gold for the horse—which was truly a great price, but he paid it without murmuring for he knew that he could again sell for a greater to the king of Egypt.

Of the gold pieces there was one of strange device, and this Ben Hased gave to his eldest-born, that she might hang it upon her necklace. The maid was beautiful to look upon, and Ben Hased felt for her a great tenderness, which was a thing quite by itself and apart from the pride which filled his breast when he looked upon his mighty sons. The name of this maid was Zarah, which signifies the Dawn; and truly she was fair and pure as the first beams of the new day, ere yet mortals have sullied it with sin.

It came to pass—Ben Hased saw it all once more because of the wonderful amulet which he held in his hand—that one day a stranger came to the encampment alone. He was sick and exhausted because of the hardness of his journey, and he begged of Ben Hased that he might sojourn for a space with his tribe till he should recover himself. And Ben Hased made him welcome, as was ever his custom, and the stranger tarried many days; the women also ministered unto him, for he was both comely and young.

And when he was recovered, he came to Ben