

With a long breath

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With a long breath
and unwavering conviction
You became the stone cradle of humanity.
In light of the sun
and the protection of darkness
you beared tirelessly children
Amed¹, Heskif², Ninawa
and Gilgamesh
nurtured them
to flowers of civilization.

Now they want to steal the tongue of Amed
and drown Heskif in your belly
but your old power
and your young fury
feeds the resistance of your children
how long is thy breath,
Tigris River, the cradle of humanity?
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¹ Amed is the old name for Diyarbakir

² Heskif is the old name of Hasankeyf (before Islamization)