

Keikeiyi

Another interpretation

*What surprises in the end is not that
the queen was seduced by the gossip of
a servant--though she must have been taught that
everyone wants to play chess with a queen--
but that she who sped head unbowed into
the teeming rot and blood stench of battle
to tend her wounded husband, she fell so
quickly to her boudoir floor, dishevelled
her hair, poised tears on the kohled bowstrings of
her eyes, that a once noble queen abased
herself with summoned hysterical wiles to
entreat Dasharath' entering feet.*

Mina Kumar

