



Love's Ripening: Rumi on the Heart's Journey

Rumi , Kabir Edmund Helminski (Translation) , Ahmad Rezwani (Translation)

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*Although alone, the lover is never lonely,
Forever hidden with the Beloved.*

Love is the meaning of our existence, the raw material of transformation, the glorious way of access to Divine intimacy. This teaching infuses the lyric verse of Rumi (1207–1273), the greatest of the Sufi poets. The poems in this collection, taken from among the master's many volumes of work, focus on one of his greatest themes: how love grows and matures for those on the spiritual path. Kabir Helminski and Ahmad Rezwani have crafted a translation that remains faithful to the original Persian while giving eloquent expression to the joy of Rumi's astonishing encounter with the Divine. As our love moves on to ever more refined and exalted objects, Rumi declares, the distinction between lover and Beloved becomes irrelevant—and wonderfully so:

*There is no Love greater than Love with no object,
For then you, yourself, have become Love itself.*

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From Reader Review Love's Ripening: Rumi on the Heart's Journey for online ebook

Zalome says

amazing descriptions of god and true pure love. beautiful.

Diana T says

Rumi is Love. Everything is ecstatic love and one would never even guess that he's talking about a sacred spiritual journey and the connection to the Divine!
It's pure bliss!

Shilo says

I went into this expecting something magical and beautiful, but that is not what I found. I am not sure if it is a bad translation, if I just didn't like this particular set of poems but would enjoy his others, or if I don't like Rumi at all. Though that seems unlikely because I've seen quotes of his online that I loved. For whatever reason, I had to force myself to read this, line by line, poem by poem. At times it was almost painful to have to do so. I will try again, with a different book and a different translator, but this specific book did nothing for me.

Jon Tupper says

This edition of Jalludin Rumi's thought and love is something I rely on. His mysticism moves me away from the world of black and white on the one hand and the world of ever increasing speed of supposed information transfer and communication which I find can be confusing and disheartening. Rumi appeals to me because I can imagine a long ago much different culture and feel the values pouring through time.

Amelia says

I would have liked this a lot more if it had been less religious.

MizzSandie says

My 2 main problems with this was

- 1) it was too religious

2) it got sort of repetitive

1:

The thing is that organized religion tends to stir this aversion in me. This might seem odd, as I am a believer myself, not an atheist, but there seems to be a world of difference between the God/Goddes/Power/Source (I have many names for it) that I believe in, and the God(s) of traditional religions like Christianity, Judaism and Islam (that I know of).

I just dont believe in a god who hands out rewards and punishments, who differentiates, who demands obedience, who is/feels superior and who can be cruel. I just dont. Which is why ~~most~~ some of these poems just put me off. It's just too much of a celebration of a God, who doesnt seem all that likeable or relateable to me. I think of the human life as being in collaboration with God, not as direteced and judged by a mighty, superior god, as these poems are pointing at.

That said, here and there, there are some points and lines that I tought were wellput and beautiful and that I could relate to. They were mostly about the human life, though.

2:

If you have read a handful of these poems, you have more or less read them all. Seriously, I couldnt really distinguish one from another, they were all more or less about the same thing, said in very similar ways. It got old really fast.

And the metaphors for the jubilation Rumi was trying to portray always reverted to **wine** and **drunkeness** .

Besides making me wonder if Rumi was an alchoholic or something, it was just tiring, boring and made me lose some of the respect for him. If you only got one metaphor for something, how good of a writer are you? Seriously, try a different metaphor, ok? We get it. Love flows like wine and you get drunk on it. Now, depict it in a different way or move on to a different topic.

I know I am.

Violet Valerie says

Wonderfully insightful and soulful. Filled with metaphors of love that only life itself can manifest as pure truths.

Michelle Peters says

Will come back to these poems time and time again...

Dylan says

Just not my cup of tea. It was a gift from someone, so not something I would have normally picked up

otherwise.

Dan says

If you love Rumi already, this is an excellent translation. If sometimes you are overwhelmed by the high-minded spirituality of Rumi, this book will show you the earthly beauty of his poetry. Beautifully poignant and eternally relevant to the world of now and to the world of becoming.

Jbondandrews says

Another beautiful book!

Marina says

Really moving and thought provoking. I appreciate the simplicity and total lack of arrogance, which I don't often feel in poetry. I felt carried away by the words, and that's just in translation. Would recommend! Also, I could stand to read it a few more times to really absorb the meaning and feeling of the later poems.

One nice quote in particular:

If you yearn for holy felicity,
shed your arrogance
and become a seeker of hearts.

Seema says

Total bliss, beautiful translations!

Abbi Dion says

Find a way to your innermost secret.
Let no other perception distract you.

You, yourself, possess the elixir,
so rub it into your skin,

and by this alchemy
your inner enemies will become friends.

And as you are made beautiful,

the Beautiful One will become your own,
the intimate of your once lonely spirit.

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