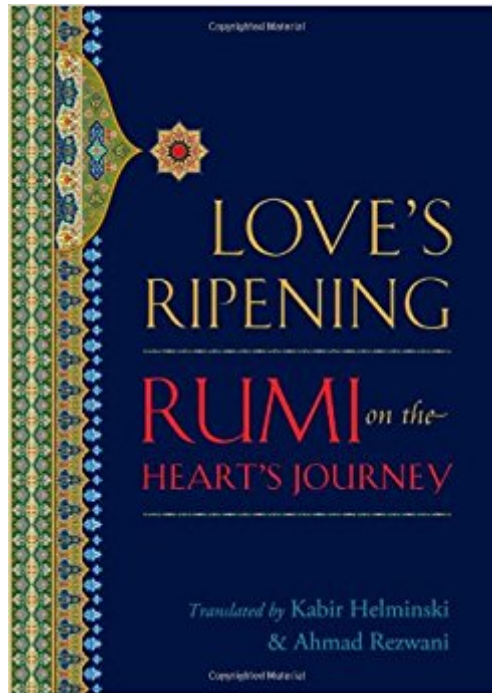


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Love's Ripening: Rumi On The Heart's Journey



Synopsis

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.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Love's Ripening speaks to the soul the way mystical poetry was meant to—as a messenger between the realms of heaven and earth. Rumi's passion for the Divine lives on in the pages of this exquisite book that will no doubt engage each reader in the blissful experience of mystical reflection with the Sacred."—Caroline Myss, author of *Anatomy of the Spirit* and *Entering the Castle*

"Indeed love ripens the soul, and the ripening of the soul leads to the realization of love. This central message of Rumi, that comparable troubadour of love, is reflected with great care, devotion, authenticity, and yes, love in this book. There are now many translations of Rumi's poems in English, of various qualities. And yet, deposit all works in print on this subject, and it is certain that this book will stand out among them, marked as it is with existential participation in the spiritual universe of the supreme master of Persian Sufi poetry."—Seyyed Hossein Nasr, University Professor of Islamic Studies, George Washington University, author of *Man and Nature* and *The*

Garden of Truth

Jalaluddin Rumi (1207 – 1273) was not only a poet, mystic, and the founder of a Sufi order, he was a man of profound insight into the nature of human existence and possibly the greatest mystical poet of any age.

Wonderful book! Rumi reaches beyond, great translation. Thank you.

A great introduction to the poetry and beautifully translated. Bought more books on the tradition after reading this. As a beginner and introduced to the concepts, this was the right dose.

love reading this I found this book in Arizona and have been searching for it every where

Love using his words in my life and writing. So timeless and beautiful. A treasure to have in my library of poetry.

One never tires of the translations or interpretations of the Poetry of God. These two gentlemen are highly regarded in their research of Sufism. Rumi, to my knowledge, is the most prolific Sufi poet. This book is truly beautiful, filled with Love, with images that delight the heart. We are blessed to have this translation. If you like this type of Poetry, you will Love this book. S

Great book!

Thank you

Many collections of Rumi's poetry are not translations by native Farsi speakers. Love's Ripening is the exception to this much to my delight. ANY translation - and this is especially true of poetry - is a tricky thing. As Helminski states in the introduction, "(Rumi's) language is sometimes intimate and sometimes sublime ... (but) These are poems of spiritual states ..." In communicating and sharing these "spiritual states" they have succeeded brilliantly. As much as I enjoyed the poetry, I particularly appreciated the references and notes provided with several of the poems where Rumi makes allusions the Qur'an or to Persian myths, mythical creatures or other cultural/historical references that otherwise would have flown right by me. AND as with any collection of poetry, some resonate

more with an individual than others. I especially liked "The Laughter of Pomegranates" which reads in part (to give some sense of the fluidity of translation),"If you buy a pomegranate buy one whose ripeness has caused it to be cleft open with a seed-revealing smile. Its laughter is a blessing for through its wide-open mouth it shows its heart, like a pearl in the box of Spirit ..." If you are a fan of Rumi, this is certainly a departure from most collections, but worthy of attention.

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