



The Blissful Longing of Rumi

By Jalal Ad-din Rumi

Mt. San Antonio College. Paperback. Condition: New. 88 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.2in. I first came upon the magnificent Divani Shamsi Tabriz at the now defunct Bodhi Tree bookstore on Melrose Avenue in West Hollywood. I was seventeen years old and I used to haunt that bookstore like a ghost who overstayed his welcome, primarily because they allowed its patrons to sit comfortably and read whatever was on their shelves for offer. I have a very fond memory of reading Rumi's deeply moving poems to his deceased mentor and friend, Shams of Tabriz. I eventually bought the paperback edition of the book and read it daily for years. Even today nearly five decades later my eyes moisten whenever I read anew the infinite longing that Rumi had for his beloved teacher, particularly when he could plaintively write, Loves fingers tear up, root and stem, Every house where sunbeams fall from love. When my heart saw loves sea, of a sudden it left me and leaped in, crying, Find me. The face of Shamsi Din, Tabriz's glory, is the sun In whose track the cloud-like hearts are moving. Reynold A. Nicholson has done us all in the English speaking world...

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