

*Segah Niyaz Illahi*  
The Hymn of Entreaty

~ Sultan Veled

Translated by Refik Algan and Camille Helminski

I cast this body of mine whirling like a moth around the candle of your soul.  
The archives of this heart I cast into the rosy flames of fire.  
When I was a drop, I threw myself into the ocean.  
I can't describe this pain of mine, such a sorrow I have.  
If you love the Master, don't make me speak of it, this grief I have.

Listen to my words, from a different place I will speak.  
What the dervish needs is love for God the Guide.  
Whatever the lover has is sacrificed for the Beloved's sake.  
Sema is a joy, a remedy for the soul, food for the spirit.

O Sufi! Our conversation fills the soul with joy.  
Drink once of the dregs of our wine and see,  
For difficulty it is a remedy;  
to our pre-eternal bond with God it is fidelity.  
Sema is a joy, a remedy for the soul, food for the spirit.

Enter in love; joyfully let us live.  
While reaching the highest heaven, let's see how brave you are.  
O the Presence, the Living One!  
Let's get drunk and play the harp and ney.  
Sema is a pleasure, a remedy for the soul, food for the spirit.

Enter in love. Let's be seekers who are remembered.  
Let's live joyfully, vibrating life!  
Come to Blessed Mevlana, let's be his servant.  
Sema is a joy, a remedy for the soul, food for the spirit.