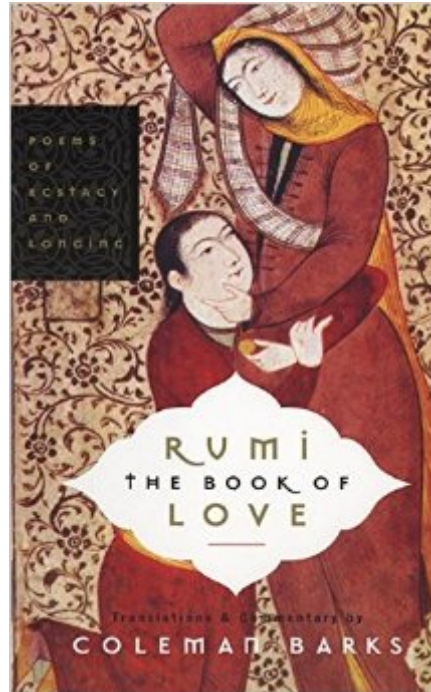


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Rumi: The Book Of Love: Poems Of Ecstasy And Longing



Synopsis

Now in paperback, this is the definitive collection of America's bestselling poet Rumi's finest poems of love and lovers. In Coleman Barks' delightful and wise renderings, these poems will open your heart and soul to the lover inside and out. There are lovers content with longing. I'm not one of them. Rumi is best known for his poems expressing the ecstasies and mysteries of love of all kinds - erotic, divine, friendship - and Coleman Barks collects here the best of those poems, ranging from the wholeness one experiences with a true lover, to the grief of a lover's loss, and all the states in between: from the madness of sudden love to the shifting of a romance to deep friendship - these poems cover all the magnificent regions of the heart.

Book Information

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: HarperOne; Reprint edition (January 18, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060750502

ISBN-13: 978-0060750503

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.6 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (72 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #26,588 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > Middle Eastern #23 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Love Poems #96 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Themes & Styles

Customer Reviews

Rumi needs no praise from me and Barks' translation is beautiful, mysterious, and urgent. I find his introductions to the many sections especially moving. My only problem is that I ordered the book after I bought Barks' "The Essential Rumi," which changed me. This book has many overlaps. I'd have preferred to see more original translations, but as a first introduction, you can do no better.

How can I put into words the absolute wordless dimension this collection of poems creates within me? The commentaries and introduction sections by Coleman Barks are valuable as well beyond words. The reader would gain insights simply by picking it up and thumbing to any page and just read, read! My daughter and I tried this, we would bring up topics and then say "And what does Rumi say?" and I would read whatever the first words were that I saw in front of me. They were

always universally fitting. I loved it, just like I love this book. Wordless, speechless, love-filled - inspired.

I am not exactly sure how to critique poetry; however, I think that Rumi is great! Yes, I just used an exclamation mark. No, I do not use said punctuation often. That is how good Rumi is. Rumi was a Persian Sufi who wrote incredibly deep poems regarding spirituality, faith, religion, and love. The most surprising thing I found among his poetry was his use of individual lines within whole poems. For example, look at his poem: Think that you're gliding out from the face of a cliff like an eagle. Think you're walking like a tiger walks by himself in the forest. You're most handsome when you're after food. Now, rewrite the second line, so that it looks like this: Like an eagle, think you're walking. In this phrase, Rumi captures the beauty and the mystery of the eagle in flight. The eagle does not think it is flying, as in it does not think it is doing anything extraordinary. It is simply moving in time and space in the easiest and most fluid manner it knows how. For humans, we walk. This is the beauty of it; this is the beauty of the New Testament story regarding walking on water. Jesus tells his Peter not to think about the water, just walk; just be. Rumi fills page after page with beautiful and simple ideas of love and of just letting go of everything that holds us back. However, I will let Rumi argue for himself and leave here two of my favorites: THE ALLURE OF LOVE Someone who does not run toward the allure of love walks a road where nothing lives. But this dove here senses the love-hawk floating above and waits and will not be driven or scared to safety. UNTITLED No better love than love with no object, no more satisfying work than work with no purpose. If you could give up tricks and cleverness, that would be the cleverest trick! For more book reviews and suggestions, please visit: [...]

This collection of Rumi's poetry moved me like none of his other work. I have already given copies away several times over. You won't regret it!

Didn't much like "poetry" before this. In fact this is the first book of 'poetry' I've not pelted into the bin. Oh, don't get me wrong, I'm a reader... oh yes. I have (no doubt like you) walls of books, all ordered by how much I ADORED them. And no book ever into the bin - sacrilege! Except poetry. Why? "Oh poetry is just such grandiose swashbuckling twaddle!" Well who knows what I read or if it really was grandiose. What I do know is that I LOVE RUMI. AND I LOVE COLEMAN BARKS (now I know who the hell they both are). I've started a new little book shelf. It's called HIGH VIBRATORY. It ONLY for books that are INSPIRED (of such outstanding beauty that its inarguable

that pure-positive-non-physical-source energy played a role in their emergence). These books are those that I'm going back to, over and over, because of the sheer joy and exhilaration that's swell in my heart as I read them. Rumi The Book Of Love sits prominently on this fabulous new shelf. Go on, buy it, devour it. I defy anyone not to want to marry this book. Or at least position it on a High Vibratory shelf...

This has been my favorite book for years - it can transport the reader straight into the world of soul. rumi is the best and i love these translations. perfect, definately worth having even for people who are not-so-much-into poetry

Having read Rumi gave me the sensation of being enveloped and rocked by all of existence. The discovery of the Self, the recovery of wholeness within a " great whole". When we were born, we were torn from wholeness; in love we have all felt ourselvess returning to original wholeness. That is why his poems create images that have the ability transform us. After reading some of his poems, I was able to reach a sense of reconciliation with the totality of the world; perhaps even with our past, present, and future . We are the theater of embrace of opposites, and the only way to resolve this is through acceptance. It seems important to me that a more whole, and therefore more human form of expression, like his poetry, should become visible in our time. His poetry, is a glimmer of hope, simbolized for me by his infinite wisdom and divine knowledge of "the One" who dwells within him, whose form has no knowable boundaries, who encompasses him on all sides, fathomless as the abysms of the Earth and vast as the sky.

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