

Poems read at the Mystic Poets Workshop
July 17, 2021
Facilitated by Merle Levin
For recorded version please go to www.merlelevin.com

Jalal ad-Din Muhammad Rumi 1207 – 1273 Born in Afghanistan, died in Turkey.

1. “Your task is not to seek for love, but merely to seek and find all the barriers within yourself that you have built against it.”
2. “The minute I heard my first love story,
I started looking for you, not knowing
how blind that was.
Lovers don’t finally meet somewhere.
They’re in each other all along.”
3. “I want to see you.
Know your voice. Recognize you when you
first come ’round the corner. Sense your scent when I come
into a room you’ve just left. Know the lift of your heel,
the glide of your foot. Become familiar with the way
you purse your lips
then let them part,
just the slightest bit,
when I lean in to your space
and kiss you. I want to know the joy
of how you whisper
“more”
4. “If I love myself
I love you.
If I love you
I love myself.”
5. “Lovers find secret places
inside this violent world
where they make transactions
with beauty.”

6. "If you are seeking, seek us with joy
For we live in the kingdom of joy.
Do not give your heart to anything else
But to the love of those who are clear joy,
Do not stray into the neighborhood of despair.
For there are hopes: they are real, they exist –
Do not go in the direction of darkness –
I tell you: suns exist."
7. "Love isn't the work of the tender and the gentle;
Love is the work of wrestlers."
8. The one who becomes a servant of lovers
is really a fortunate sovereign.
Don't ask anyone about Love; ask Love about Love.
Love is a cloud that scatters pearls."
9. "Goodbyes are only for those who love with their eyes. Because for those
who love with heart and soul there is no such thing as separation."