

A BOOK LABORATORY BOOK

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**J**alaluddin Rumi was born in 1207 in the city of Balkh, Afghanistan. While he was still young his family was forced to flee the country under the threat of the invading Mongols and they settled in Konya, Turkey.

Jalaluddin's father was a Sufi, a member of the dervish communities of Persia, Turkey, and their neighboring countries. Sufis have been, and in some cases still are, persecuted by fundamentalist practitioners of Islam for their mystical interpretation of the faith. Sufis are the people of the pure heart for whom the Islamic dictum *La ilaha illa 'Llah*—there is no God but God, who is one—is the central doctrine of gnosis and oneness with the divine. Divine unity is the aim of the Sufi, for whom existence is like an unimaginably vast tapestry woven from divine qualities. Each moment God manifests Himself to and in creation. In order to see the truth, a Sufi must see with his inner being, in harmony with divine nature. Through devotion to and selfless remembrance of God, *dhikr Allah*, the Sufi disciple's attention falls away; in turning to God, his heart and soul are transformed by God's divine attributes.

The fire of God's love set aflame Rumi's heart many centuries ago and produced a poet and a lover of humanity like few before or since. In Rumi's poetry, love is the soul of the universe, the interconnective tissue that heals all humans and their links to the divine—it embraces all peoples, all countries, all religions. His poetry unlocks love's most precious secrets and initiates us into the mysteries of our most essential nature. In his poetry, we hear ancient and intimate words, echoes of fragments of our own souls that were lost long ago and are regained through Rumi.

*Enjoy a Gift of Love!*



# J A N U A R Y

*Each form you see has its unseen twin image.*

*If the form is transient, its essence is eternal.*

*If you have known beauty in a face*

*Or wisdom in a word,*

*Let this nourish your heart:*

*What passes is not real.*

(SELECTED POEMS FROM THE DIVAN SHAMSI TABRIZ, XII)

# JANUARY

Monday 6

Tuesday 7

Wednesday 8

Thursday 9

Friday 10

Saturday 11

Sunday 12

JANUARY							FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	

# JANUARY

Monday 13

Tuesday 14

Wednesday 15

Thursday 16

Friday 17

Saturday 18  
FULL MOON

Sunday 19

JANUARY							FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	