

The Beauty We Love

JALALUD'DIN RUMI

*Today, like every day,
we wake up hollow and frightened.
Don't open the door to the study and begin reading.
Reach for a musical instrument.
Let the beauty we love be what we do.
There are hundreds of ways to kneel and kiss the ground.*

Meditation Sunrise; photo, Philip Richman

Jalalud'din Rumi, the thirteenth-century Sufi Master, is one of the world's most beloved and revered mystical poets. Born in Balkh in modern-day Afghanistan, he wrote in Persian but finally settled in the town of Konya, now in Turkey. After his death, his followers created the renowned Mevlevi Sufi Order, also known as "the Whirling Dervishes". This meditation appears in the lovely anthology, Life Prayers: 365 Prayers, Blessings, and Affirmations to Celebrate the Human Journey, Ed. Elizabeth Roberts and Elias Amidon. (San Francisco: Harper, 1996.) Reprinted with permission of the Editors.