



# Sufic Madness

Farzana Moon

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Madness**



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*Avint Press*

## Sufic Madness

Ah, my soul ablaze with the Fire of Love  
Longing to be united with the Beloved  
Cutting the veil of Separation with the blade of agony  
A beautiful death, Beloved me, rapt and consumed

Though joy was kneaded  
In rising bread of sorrow  
I ate it with greed

Through armor of light  
Burnt a candle for last breath  
Into the womb of wax

## Mystical Presence

I know You are with me  
Beloved  
When the scent of Your Presence  
Overwhelms me  
A nameless fragrance  
Sweet and intoxicating  
Dare I name it  
The incense of breath  
From the very heart of  
Champa, Chambeli  
Rat-ki-Rani  
Swooning, I inhale  
Thirsting for more  
Could death be sweeter  
Than this bliss-rapture  
Don't leave me  
Beloved!

## Beloved with Beloved

Pilgrimage  
In the temple of my soul  
Is a yearly ritual  
Like the rite of hajj  
Going around Kaaba  
Kissing the Black Stone  
Not knowing who I am  
Nor feeling  
Wither I drift  
'T is left behind  
East, west  
North and south  
All barriers dissolve  
Only cosmic energy  
Glittering, expanding, guiding  
Unity in multiplicity  
Bride with the bridegroom  
Beloved with Beloved  
G-d with God  
Alas, then  
The material dust rises  
To blind vision  
Muse  
The spiritual god  
Whipping me to awareness  
Pain, desire, longing  
Lost and earthbound, 'T  
The jungle of time  
Scalding, everlastingly  
Time eternal  
Waiting  
To embrace unity  
In pilgrimage lost

## Divine Gift of Ecstasy

In Remembrance  
I got lost  
Inside the valleys of dhikr  
Each word a flame  
Each memory a brand of fire  
Stabbing, enveloping  
Only Khidr, the comforting Guide  
Licking away pain and torment  
Of Separation  
Five gates leading nowhere  
Beloved far and Absent  
Heart longing to embrace  
The Unseen, the Unforgettable  
Spiritual hungers  
Thirsts inviolate  
This journey into wilderness  
Suddenly, a spark  
The spiraling of music  
Light cutting through veils  
A glorious revelation  
At the feet of my Beloved  
I melt into nothingness  
Pure bliss, rapture supreme  
No dhikr, no Khidr  
Sweet voice of silence  
Divine Gift of ecstasy

## Soma of Union

A cluster of leaves  
Inside my heart  
Stirred by the breeze  
Of the Paradise  
Sing and dance  
Inebriated  
By the wine of Love  
Beloved gazing  
At this madness  
Laughs  
Come closer  
You Angels  
Drink  
The soma of Union  
Voice of Silence  
The root of Wisdom  
Such Music Divine  
Soul remembering  
God  
The minstrel  
Inside me

## Torch of Life

Ishtar rising from her throne of youth  
Landed on the altars of beauty  
Erected by the Phoenicians  
Holding the Torch of Life  
Lovers slumbering in delicious sleep  
And night-songs lulled by silence  
Moved her to tears of joy  
Further down the valley  
A lonely brook  
Lit by the lamp of the Moon  
Cradled one poet  
Deep within the seat of a slippery rock  
Rapt, bewildered eyes  
Seeking reeds  
The canopy of stars above  
Reflected in the still, glassy waters  
A ripple of sadness in the wind  
Embracing death  
As the true bridegroom  
Leaving behind a cry  
Most heart-rending  
The Torch of Life  
Slipped from Ishtar's hands  
Reeds shivering  
Cold, white stars  
Dewdrops of agony  
The dawn of another dream-life  
Poet in oblivion  
Gazing still  
Into the eyes of the reeds  
Blind and stricken

## Temple of Time

Inside the temple of time  
I pray for surcease  
Windstorms knock and groan  
Storm-clouds lower  
Their banners of tears  
Yet within my sanctuary  
All are hush and quiet  
Not a whiff of breeze  
To sway my solitude  
Only me and my Muse  
At the shrine of Silence  
Suddenly I sob  
The Light is gone  
Darkness pervades  
My lone prayers chilled  
Stare into the face of laughing death  
There is no escape from life  
In those dark eyes  
Illumined by Time  
No end, no beginning  
Only a circle of Illusion  
Going round and round  
The dizzying speed of Cosmic Mind

## Fairytales

From the dark embrace of Eros  
Psyche went mad, wandering  
Into profounder blackness still  
How gods take vengeance  
And goddess' weave  
The mantles of fates  
Night air of cold night  
Sings such tales  
Of love and grief  
Of lovers lost  
And of loves united  
One gold thread  
In every heart  
Spools and un-spools  
The legends most illusive  
And yet the canker of desire  
With the rust of passion  
Has sprinkled my gold  
With black soot  
Fairytales and Muse-magic  
Cutting, tearing  
The rivers of Mystery  
In heart agonized

## Flights of Fancy

I can dance on the sunbeams  
Such feelings, alas  
Are rare and numbered  
Only when Muse smiles  
And eyes of the stars laugh  
Loving warmth  
And edicts of hope  
Into the very desert of my soul  
A subtle chill lingers  
With the promise of the tempests  
Then emptiness  
Listening to the silence within  
Where stark, loathsome wounds  
And sand-parched vistas  
Whirl and expand  
Sucking chaos  
Confusion of the ages past  
One throb inside me cries  
The wound of separation

## Harp of the Goddesses

Through your eyes  
I see heavens  
Not blue as the vast oceans  
But glowing with warmth and sunlight  
The molten gold of the spring  
The flowers in tapestry of colors  
And daffodils  
Along the dreamy paths  
Intoxicated with joy  
Gazing at the palace of gold  
A jeweled throne on the terrace  
Radiant with a canopy of stars  
Singing hymns to the Muse  
A shining moon in the distance  
On the strings of its own white harp  
Striking the night air  
With a tune most lovely  
A lovelorn song by the goddesses  
Awaiting the Muse of all gods  
The Perfect One  
Whose eyes are the Suns  
Inside the pools of all Desire

## Many a Ghosts

Inside the fortress of my body  
My soul stays prisoner  
Longing for liberty  
The freedom to soar  
But the doors are locked  
And windows blackened  
With the soot of Time  
All guards blasted by age  
Yet protecting the weak flesh  
Many a ghosts of the past  
Striving to break open  
Through the slit of rest and darkness  
Have been slain by the feeble guardians  
Soul sleeping  
Dreaming Dreams  
Pleading with Muse  
To break the barriers of separation  
How thoughts with anguished calm  
Touch the sails of freedom  
Inside the Eden of Desire  
The tablets of fate have yet to defend themselves  
Against the furnace of my contemplation

## Basra of the Sufis

Rabia's city of Basra  
Always the shrine of Love  
Has fallen  
Into the cauldron of violence  
Blood flowing deep  
Profounder than grief  
Down the volcanic rivulets of earth  
The lava of bereavement  
Brittle and congealed  
Rabia aghast and weeping  
Pleading with the Sufis  
Searching the blood-streaked sands  
For Love, Glory and Peace  
Of times lost and forgotten  
The paragon of eighth century  
She was the Mistress of the Sufis  
Now ravished by wars  
Her wisdom bruised and bleeding  
Wounds scarlet in Age and Timelessness  
Singing the song of the Prophet  
*'If you Love God  
Sanctify your Love  
By loving God's creatures First'*

## Galaxies Singing

Stand outside the little gates  
Of your perception  
And watch the world expand  
All Perfection  
Embracing even the tiny  
Grain of sand  
Love flowing quicksilver  
Into the hearts of All  
From One Source Divine  
Galaxies Singing  
The star-dance of orbits  
Encircling suns and moons  
Heavenly Light  
And Joyous Earth  
Mating most wondrously  
For the accolade of Unity  
Awed! We limited ones  
Now bathed  
Into an ocean of Purity  
Stark, boundless  
Dazzling  
One song, one voice  
Spilling  
The nectar of wisdom  
LOVE

## Truth and Beloved

Wearing the noose of learning  
I surf alone  
Over the shallow waters of Truth  
Icy windows and glass doors  
All frozen solid  
Admit not  
Even a sliver of Light  
White, forlorn mists  
Drifting and frolicking  
The noose tightens  
Snapping and crackling  
The abyss of knowledge  
Deeper and profounder yet  
Muse wearing ice-jewels  
With a glittering wand  
Beckons me  
White peace  
Truth and Beloved  
One virgin sheet of Light  
Glass doors shattered  
Icy windows melting  
In silent deeps  
One foundering revelation  
Strikes a bolt of lightning  
No Muse, no Truth, no Beloved  
Shuddering loneliness  
The guillotine of Bliss

## The Lotus of Reckoning

Sailing down the nine doors of my soul  
I entered the lotus of reckoning  
A jewel in its bosom  
Shining with a glare from the snowy peaks  
Through the eye of a needle  
Reflecting an altar most noble  
Pearls luminescent like the moons  
And rubies with the fire of sunsets  
One gleaming sheet of jewels  
Over the tomb most pure  
Gods and goddesses couchant  
Against the thrones of gold  
Sipping the ambrosia of Bliss  
In goblets jeweled  
Oh, sight most accursed  
Why did you pluck the gem most precious  
The size of a sparkling Sun  
The amber brilliance in the eyes of Muse  
Plunging all in darkness  
The Sun in my heart  
With the fury of a volcano  
Consuming all  
My pain, my passion, my madness  
The thrones of Light and jewels gone  
White, shining torment  
And yet  
A bliss most supreme  
Shining white Silence

## A Puzzle in Time

Pen of Destiny has its own script  
Erasing what we make  
And making what we wish to erase  
The words all writ and scrambled  
A great puzzle in time  
Mounted and sculpted by thoughts  
Dismantled and shattered by actions  
Yes, the pen of Destiny  
Rewriting history  
Concealing the tongues of Truth  
Inside the heaps of parables  
Ah, the parables supreme in my head  
Dancing before my sight  
Like the un-suckled babes  
Shriveled and wailing  
Sucking their toes  
The Greed for Time—and words  
Have made me  
The victim of such horrors  
Visions deformed and reveries beautiful  
Both feeding my soul  
While I embrace one portrait  
Unseen by the gods  
The god of my dreams  
Muse Miracle

## Seeds of Ignorance

On the balcony of my mind  
Grows a creeper wild and glorious  
Each leaf, one jewel of a thought  
Each leaflet the bud of ignorance  
Combed with thistles and briars  
With weeping, pulsating surge  
It keeps on humming the tune of life  
Breathing purity and pollution  
Dancing the dance of death  
Yet each fallen leaf  
Against the storms of vicissitudes  
Feeding the seeds of Ignorance  
Bursts forth into a renewal of Light  
The sustenance to nature's claim  
Deep, bottomless yearnings  
Winding sheets of desires  
Mirrors cracked and wounded  
Protecting one holy reflection  
The creeper-fruit  
Inside the bowers of my Muse  
Beckoning me to taste  
The great bliss  
Some white caves of roaring Silence

## Worlds within Worlds

One thought inside me  
Rises like a dream  
Walking alone  
On a journey strange  
Through the gates of Light  
Into the valleys of Ether  
Quicksilver streams  
And stars strewn over emerald grass  
Shimmering vistas in gold  
And crimson clouds  
Bolts of silver  
Songs blooming with a fragrance  
Sweet and intoxicating  
An ocean of Love  
Lapping after beauteous waves  
Over the earth and the heavens  
The Face of the Beloved  
Luminescent, dazzling  
Veils upon veils of sunshine  
Shuddering and revealing  
Worlds within worlds  
Cosmic splendor  
The Glory of Bliss  
My Perfect All

## Fragrance of Surrender

I thought  
I was living a dream  
When reality knocked  
From deep within  
One dewdrop hiding oceans  
And many a suns reflected  
Through the eyes of a needle  
Something inside me  
Cutting and splitting  
The very essence of Pain  
And Light  
A subtle fragrance  
Bleeding through  
The age-old wine of longings  
Such bliss and oblivion  
Effaced and consumed  
I lay cauterized  
Of all sorrow  
This thorn I'  
Pricking open  
The Rose Glory  
Of awe and Silence  
Heart blinded  
Soul illuminated

## Reeds Unthinking

Journeying through the valleys of the Sleepless  
I came upon one boat adrift  
Above the murky waters of greed and ambition  
Lit by the radiance of the Moon  
Cold stars holding the pulse of Time  
One ripple of a throb down the bottom of this ocean  
And the boat began to sink  
Cries of horror surfacing through waves  
From the lips of the victims terrified  
Savage and heartrending all  
Suddenly the hands of Sleep  
In Great Mercy  
Rocked the boat  
To the shores of tranquility  
Scooping out the burdens  
Of needs and greeds  
And spilling them so gently  
Over the night reeds unthinking  
Floating again, the boat unmoored  
Sailed along under the moonlit sky  
All cries silenced  
All horrors deflated  
In a flash, darkness came tumbling  
One insignificant cloud  
Veiling the moon's own face  
Of light and sadness  
Eyes of the stars, moist and tearful  
Shooting white flames of anguish  
Over the dark night of the Sea  
Cradling the guideless boat  
In one desperate embrace

Against the violence of another dawn  
Dreams shattering in sleep  
Nightmares awakening  
Another day  
Today and tomorrow  
Drugged with desires  
Longing for the valley of Sleep  
A ship loaded with the cargo  
Of sleepless treasures  
Approaching near  
Luminescent and shuddering

## Rose of a Sonnet

A candle in my mind which lights the way  
Is blinded by its own bright glow instead  
It burns, melts and burns again, night and day  
Journey of Illusions pass in my head  
I do! I do see the beauty's vision  
Of virtue, of evil and of torment  
One choice breathes in many a decision  
Follies are more than the time to repent  
If cruel truth, into pain of joy can turn  
The path of a righteousness I will choose  
Thorns bruise not roses, nor wounds our hearts can burn  
In peaceful wilderness, I will carouse  
If mind can exhibit its own domain  
Ecstasy of thoughts I need not explain

## Flying Mysteries

At times  
A thought crosses my mind  
That I, this lowly ant  
Crawling  
On the fabric of this earth  
Survives  
All the bumps  
And waves and ripples  
Such hurricanes  
In rifts and prejudices  
Greed and intolerance  
Bigotry and avarice  
A lightning bug  
Catching  
The drift of my thoughts  
Murmurs  
Look at the stars  
Moon is lowering  
Secrets  
Love is no mystery  
The breath of life  
Without which  
No insect on earth  
Can ever breathe

## About the Author



**Farzana Moon** is a poet, historian and playwright. She composes Sufi poetry; historical, biographical Moghul sagas and plays based on the stories from religion and folklore. Born and educated in Pakistan, she now resides in America as a US citizen.