In the *Elāhi-nāma* by Farid al-Din ‘Attār
(12th century)

Oh elusive presence where are you
If you are not with me then where are you
My eyes are illuminated by you
My heart is also acquainted by you
Come and invite my eyes and heart
Otherwise draw a sword and take my life
From all the beauty and gifts of the universe
I see naught but half a life
Why not lose what remains with you
As without you I do not need a hundred lives
You took my heart or else with you present I’d be limitless
In your absences nothing but dissipation is my lot
I would not for a moment hesitate to love you
As I’d never take my heart away from the soul
I set the pain of your love in my soul
I cast out this mind engulfed with you toward the wilderness
As without your presence I have neither heart nor religion remain
Why have you left me wandering like this?

الا اي غائب حاضر كماني
به پيش من نه آخر كماني
do جسم روشناني از تو دارد
دلم نيز آشناني از تو دارد
بيا و جسم و دل را ميهمان كن
وگرنه اين غير وقصد جان كن
بندت از نعمت ملك جهاني
نمييهم كون جز نيم جاني
چرا اين نيم جان در تو نيازيم
كه ت مر من ز صد جان بر نيازيم
دل بردي وگر بودي هزارم
نبودي جز فشاندن بر تو كرم
ز تو یک لحظه دل زان برگرهم
كه من هرگز دل ازجا برگرهم
غم عشق تو درجان ميهم من
سر از تو در بيبان ميهم من
چو بي رويت نه دل مات و نه دينم
چرا سرگنده ميداري چينم
Without your face I am mute like the face of a dinar
Your love has led me to solitude facing the wall
I have not seen anyone comparable to you
I have not seen a cypress tree like you
If you arrive, I’ll be free once more
And if not, I will go wherever I am
I take a light with every finger
And look for you in every desert and garden
If you appear in front of me, like the brilliant light of a candle
Otherwise consider me an extinguished light

Rabia Balkhi