Love Dogs

One night a man was crying, *Allah! Allah!*

His lips grew sweet with the praising, until a cynic said, "So! I have heard you calling out, but have you ever gotten any response?"

The man had no answer to that. He quit praying and fell into a confused sleep.

He dreamed he saw Khidr, the guide of souls, in a thick, green foliage.

"Why did you stop praising?" "Because I've never heard anything back."

"This longing you express is the return message."

The grief you cry out from draws you toward union.

Your pure sadness that wants help is the secret cup.

Listen to the moan of a dog for its master. That whining is the connection.

There are love dogs no one knows the names of.

Give your life to be one of them.

- Rumi