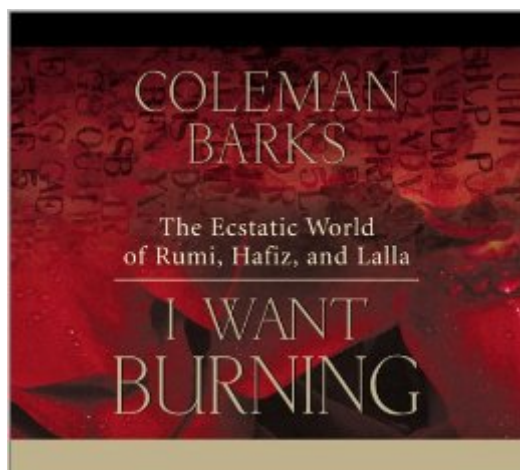


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I Want Burning: The Ecstatic World Of Rumi, Hafiz, And Lalla



Synopsis

Ecstatic Sufi Poetry Comes Alive To fully experience the ecstatic poetry of the Middle and Near East, you must hear it as originally intended: stirred ablaze by inspired music and rhythms before a live audience. On I Want Burning, Coleman Barks fuses his passionate scholarship with a deep feeling for the poetry of Rumi, Hafiz (a 14th-century Sufi mystic, called "one of the jewels in the necklace of Persian poetry"), and Lalla (an exquisite Kashmiri female poet of the 14th century). Includes more than 50 translations of this rare and moving work, accompanied by vocals, Peruvian flute, harmonium, and other instruments.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If you are an admirer of the poetry of Rumi and the translations Coleman Barks, you will love this CD collection. In addition to Rumi, there are selections from two additional poets, Hafiz and Lalla, both of which compliment the selections from Rumi. Some of the readings are accompanied by music. Mr. Barks reads his translations in a relaxed and jovial manner, which displays his genuine affection for the works read. This recording was made before a live audience and therefore lacks the polish of a studio recording, but makes up for it with the charm of being live and alive. There is no text of the poetry with the CD and the only liner notes are a brief bio of Coleman Barks. If you are unfamiliar with the poetry of Rumi, this CD would be a good place to start. Rumi's poetry reflects his unabashed love for God, but without the hindrance of doctrinal constraints; it is spiritual without being religious.

Coleman Barks captures the spirit of Rumi, Hafiz, and Lalla. I enjoy the Spiritual Essence revealed in his reading so much, that I have 3 copies of this, and have sent it to several friends. I have a copy for the car, the house, and the garden. Coleman has said he Becomes what Rumi has written when he recites this wonderful poetry. Yes, and it is apparent. A shiver runs the spine at the Recognition revealed in these readings.

Delicious. Uplifting. Reaffirming. Intoxicating. Necessary. (In other words: Get it, sit down, listen!)

Coleman Barks has captured the essence of Rumi with his captivating, mysterious southern voice giving the entire cd a mystical quality unmatched by anyone I have heard reading poetry. Anyone who wants to drink from the fountain of Rumi and find something different each time you pour a cup of timeless words, then you must have this.

Coleman Barks may be a brilliant translator, but this CD was a disappointment, mostly because of the slipshod music production. Something more rehearsed, with better sounds and creative energy would have been nice. The mood of the text is completely contradicted by the cheesy music. And for anyone that says, "well, I bet you couldn't do better." Try me. (I'm a music producer and Rumi enthusiast, and I have half a mind to see just what I can do. Give me a call Mr. Barks - www.mindspeak.com)

The title says it all. This is the opposite of cool, aloofness. This is broken open ecstasy. This elegant poetry, written centuries ago, is still fresh, evocative, poignant. The images of dancing under the night sky, of a breath on the face of your beloved, of a trail of tiny footprints evidencing the spiritual journey will stay with you. Coleman Barks' explanations add layers of depth and the musical accompaniment, heightens the urgency. At times, you can feel the universe moving around you.

This cd was a gift from a friend whose tastes I respect. I was looking forward to listening in the evenings after lights out. I can only think that while she's read Rumi's poems, she's never heard Coleman Banks read them. First, Bank's words in his translation were often stilted. For example in one line he used "indicated" (a rather stiff term poetically speaking) instead of "show." But worst of all, his delivery was choppy and wooden...with a country twang to boot. It was painful to listen to.

One of Coleman Bark's first Rumi (and Lala and Hafiz) CDs and still one of his best. The quality of

spirit and love captured in this live performance takes me to that feeling of love and longing every time I listen.

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