

*How does a part of the word leave the world?  
How can wetness leave water?*

*Don't try to put out a fire  
by throwing on more fire!  
Don't wash a wound with blood!*

*No matter how fast you run,  
your shadow more than keeps up.  
Sometimes, it's in front.*

*Only full, overhead sun  
diminishes your shadow.*

*But that shadow has been serving you!  
What hurts you, bless you.  
Darkness is your candle.  
Your boundaries are your quest.*

*I can explain this, but it would break  
the glass cover on your heart,  
and there's no fixing that.*

*You must have shadow and light source both.  
Listen, and lay your head under the tree of awe.*

*When from that tree, feathers and wings sprout  
on you, be quieter than a dove.  
Don't open your mouth for even a cooooooo.*

*When a frog slips into the water, the snake  
cannot get it. Then the frog climbs back out  
and croaks, and the snake moves toward him again.*

*Even if the frog learned to hiss, still the snake  
would hear through the hiss the information  
he needed, the frog voice underneath.*

*But if the frog could be completely silent,  
then the snake would go back to sleeping,  
and the frog could reach the barley.*

*The soul lives there in the silent breath.*

*And the grain of barley is such that,  
when you put it in the ground,  
it grows.*

*Are these enough words,*

*Or shall I squeeze more juice from this?  
Who am I, my friend?*

Jalaluddin Rumi (Dari Poet)