

Ode #3090 by Jalaluddin Rumi

(translation by Coleman Barks)

*Forget the world, and so
command the world.*

*Be a lamp, or a lifeboat, or a ladder
help someone's soul to heal
Walk out of your house like a shepherd.*

*Stay in the spiritual fire.
Let it cook you.*

*Be a well-baked loaf
and lord of the table.*

*Come and be served
to your brothers.*

*You have been a source of pain.
Now you'll be the delight.*

*You have been an unsafe house.
Now you'll be the One
who sees into the Invisible.*

*I said this, and a Voice came to my ear,
"if you become this, you will be That!"*

Then Silence,....and now more Silence.

A mouth is not for talking.

A mouth is for tasting this Sweetness.