

My Heart, My Traveller

My heart, my fellow traveller
It has been decreed again
That you and I be exiled,
go calling out in every street,
turn to every town.
To search for a clue
of a messenger from our Beloved.
To ask every stranger
the way back to our home.

In this town of unfamiliar folk
we drudge the day into the night
Talk to this stranger at times,
to that one at others.

How can I convey to you, my friend
how horrible is a night of loneliness *
It would suffice to me
if there were just some count
I would gladly welcome death
if it were to come but once.

Translation by Hamid Rahim Sheikh