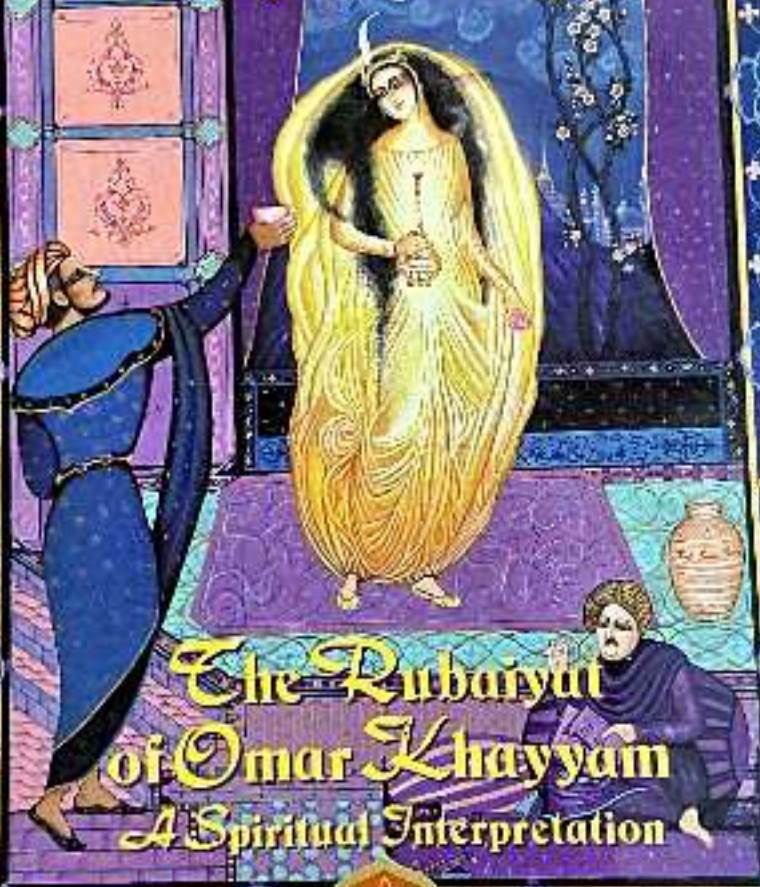


Paramahansa  
Yogananda

# Wine of the Mystic



The Rubaiyat  
of Omar Khayyam  
A Spiritual Interpretation

Self-Realization Fellowship

FOUNDED 1920

Paramahansa Yogananda

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of Omar Khayyam  
A Spiritual Interpretation



by  
Paramahansa Yogananda

*From Edward Fitzgerald's translation of the Rubaiyat*



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**T**he *Rabaisat of Omkar Khayyam* as translated by Edward Fitzgerald has long been one of the most beloved poems in the English language. In an illuminating new interpretation, Paramahansa Yogananda reveals — behind the enigmatic veil of metaphor — the mystical essence of this literary classic.

Commonly thought to be a celebration of wine and other earthly pleasures, these lyrical Persian quatrains find their true voice when read as a hymn to the transcendent love of Spirit. Paramahansa Yogananda, renowned for his *Autobiography of a Yogi* and other writings and widely revered as one of India's great modern-day sages, presents an original and inspiring commentary on this poem, bringing to light the deeper truth and beauty beneath its graceful imagery.

*Profound spiritual truths by some mysterious divine law do not disappear from the earth even after centuries of retumultuounding, as in the case of the Rabaisat. . . . Because of the hidden spiritual foundation of the Rabaisat, it has withstood the passage of time and the ministrations of many mandates, remaining a perpetual fountain of wisdom for truth loving and justice seeking souls. . . .*

*As I searched for the spiritual interpretation of the Rabaisat, it took me into an earlier birth-life of truth. . . . The coding of Khayyam's metaphysical and practical philosophy in these verses reminds me of "The Revelation of St. John the Divine." The Rabaisat may rightly be called "The Revelation of Omkar Khayyam."*

—Paramahansa Yogananda, from the introduction

Paramahansa Yogananda's spiritual interpretation of the *Rabaisat* was originally published serially by Self-Realization Fellowship more than fifty years ago in the magazine now known as *Self-Realization*. An expanded version of that work — with additional material that had not been included in the earlier serialization — appeared in the magazine some years later. This illustrated edition of *Wise of the Atonic* introduces for the first time in book form the complete commentaries of Paramahansa Yogananda on an enduring measure of world literature.

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