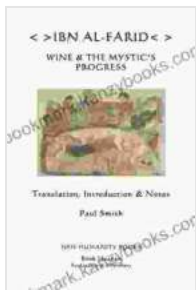


# Ibn Al Farid's Wine: The Mystic Progress in Sufism

In the realm of Sufism, the mystical tradition of Islam, the works of Ibn Al Farid stand as a beacon of poetic expression and spiritual insight. Among his most renowned creations is the "Wine of Mysticism," a collection of poems that invites the reader on a profound journey into the depths of divine love and spiritual awakening.



## IBN AL-FARID: WINE & THE MYSTIC'S PROGRESS

by Jean Stokes

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 519 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 250 pages  
Lending : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported



## The Symbolism of Wine in Sufism

Throughout Sufi literature, wine serves as a potent symbol of divine intoxication, representing the ecstatic state experienced by mystics in their union with the Beloved. Just as wine can transport one to a realm beyond the ordinary senses, so too can the love of God elevate the soul to a higher plane of consciousness.

In Ibn Al Farid's poetry, the wine of mysticism is not a mere metaphor but a tangible reality, a divine elixir that nourishes the soul and guides it on its spiritual path.

## **The Mystic Progress in Ibn Al Farid's Wine**

The "Wine of Mysticism" follows the mystic's journey through various stages of spiritual development, from the initial yearning for God to the ultimate realization of union. Each poem serves as a waypoint along this path, offering insights into the challenges and triumphs that await the seeker.

## **The Yearning for the Beloved**

The journey begins with a deep longing for the divine, a thirst that drives the seeker towards a life of devotion and remembrance. In one of his poems, Ibn Al Farid writes:



***“O my Beloved, grant me Thy wine, For I am weary of separation's pain. My heart yearns for Thy beauty, And my soul thirsts for Thy love.”***

## **The Stages of Intoxication**

As the mystic progresses on their journey, they experience different degrees of intoxication from the wine of divine love. Ibn Al Farid describes these stages as follows:

- The first stage is **drunkenness**, where the seeker becomes overwhelmed by the love of God and loses all sense of self.

- The second stage is **sobriety**, where the mystic regains control over their faculties while still maintaining a state of divine intoxication.
- The third stage is **double drunkenness**, where the mystic experiences a profound and intoxicating experience of both the divine and the mundane worlds.

## The Union with the Beloved

The ultimate goal of the mystic's journey is the union with the Beloved, a state of complete surrender and absorption in divine love. Ibn Al Farid describes this union as:



***“A state beyond description, Where the lover and the Beloved become one. The seeker is lost in the ocean of love, And the Beloved is found within the seeker's heart.”***

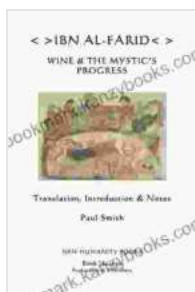
## The Practical Significance of Ibn Al Farid's Poetry

Beyond its literary and spiritual value, Ibn Al Farid's "Wine of Mysticism" also serves as a practical guide for those seeking a deeper connection with the divine. Through its rich symbolism and evocative imagery, the poetry provides:

- **Inspiration and motivation** for seekers on the spiritual path.
- **Insights and guidance** into the challenges and rewards of the mystic's journey.
- **Practices and techniques** for cultivating a closer relationship with God.

Ibn Al Farid's "Wine of Mysticism" is a timeless masterpiece that continues to captivate and inspire seekers of divine truth to this day. Through its rich symbolism, profound insights, and practical guidance, the poetry offers a profound and transformative journey into the depths of spiritual consciousness.

For those seeking a deeper understanding of Sufism, a connection with the divine, or simply a glimpse into the beauty of mystic poetry, Ibn Al Farid's "Wine of Mysticism" is an essential read.



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