

**Layla and Majnun**

**(نون جم و ى لى ل)**

Or

**Virginal love songs of Layla bint Mahdi ibn Sa'd**

*Aghani Hubb Adhra' Layla bint Mahdi ibn Sa'd*

**(دعس نب ىدهم تنب ى لى ل نم ى رذع بح ة ى ن غأ)**

By

**Layla bint Mahdi ibn Sa'd**

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**Translated by**

**Shath bint Madhakkarah Al-Mahabbah**

**Poem by**

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## TRANSLATORS FORWARD

**LAYLA BINT MAHDI IBN SA'D** songs have survived the ages by the slimmest of chance if it were not for the pervert poet **KOHL'IN AL-DEEN** her songs would have been lost to posterity. According to legend **KOHL'IN AL-DEEN** was traveling in the desert when he heard the singing of a girl climbing a sand dune he saw a girl writing in sand as she sang while perverting on her he took down what she wrote. These song recently discovered in a Bedouin tent in Saudi Arabia are a revelation in regard to the tale of “**Layla and Majnun**”<sup>1</sup> for they shed light on the tragedy from **LAYLA BINT MAHDI IBN SA'D** side Traditionally mystics generally saw the story from the side of Majnun Mystics contrived many stories about Majnun to illustrate technical mystical concepts such as *fanaa* (annihilation), *divānagi* (love-madness), *self-sacrifice*, etc Now these song infact show that Layla was herself mystically driven in her love **and turn out to be extraordinary beautiful songs of her “love-madness” and preserved solely due to a reprobate poet**

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<sup>1</sup> *Majnun Layla* (Arabic: *مجنون ليلى* *Majnun Layla*, "Possessed by madness for Layla") also referred to as (Persian: *ليلى و مجنون* *Leyli o Majnun*, "The Madman and Layla" in Persian) is a love story originating from classic Arabic Literature, later adopted and popularized by the Persian poet [Nizami Ganjavi](#). It is the third of his five long narrative poems, *Khamsa* (the Quintet).

Qays (Majnun) falls in love with Layla bint Mahdi ibn Sa'd (better known as Layla Aamiriya) from the same tribe which lived (in fact, still lives in central Saudi Arabia) during their childhood but after reaching adulthood Leyla's father forbids any contact. Majnun becomes obsessed with her, sees and evaluates everything in terms of Leyla; hence his *sobriquet* *Majnun* (مجنون, lit. "possessed"). The epithet given to the semi-historical character Qays ibn al-Mulawwah of the Banu 'Amir tribe. Majnun soon began composing poems about his love for her, mentioning her name often. His unself-conscious efforts to woo the girl caused some locals to call him Majnun (madman). When he asked for her hand in marriage, her father refused as it would be a scandal for Layla to marry someone considered mentally unbalanced. Soon after, Layla was married to another man. When Majnun heard of her marriage, he fled the tribe camp and began wandering the surrounding desert. His family eventually gave up hope for his return and left food for him in the wilderness. He could sometimes be seen reciting poetry to himself or writing in the sand with a stick.

Layla believed to have moved to present-day Iraq or a place northern Arabia with her husband, where she became ill and eventually died. In some versions, Layla dies of heartbreak from not being able to see her would-be lover. Majnun was later found dead in the wilderness in 688 AD, near an unknown woman's grave

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Layla\\_and\\_Majnun](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Layla_and_Majnun)

## **PREFACE**

**Ah the joy of love-madness**  
**Love alters our state of being**  
**Alters our seeing**  
**Alters our feelings**  
**Love makes the senses reeling**  
**Creates a healing**  
**Creates sublime meanings**  
**Ah the joy of love-madness**

*with my hand in sand I write my words*  
*they say I am with love-madness<sup>2</sup> hee hee*  
*with love madness when all I love is he*  
*but crazy<sup>3</sup> with love thou love I see*  
*bubbles of light descend from the sky bursting*  
*around me the splattered colors fly pools of light*  
*litter the ground shimmering jewels of light around*  
*cases of light speckling the sand rainbowed colored*  
*hues glimmering to my view*  
*with my hand in sand I write my words*

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<sup>2</sup> Here Layla bint Mahdi ibn Sa'd uses a technical mystical term), *divānagi* (love-madness) this term has been associated by mystics with Majnun Mystics contrived many stories about Majnun to illustrate technical mystical concepts such as [fanaa](#) (annihilation), *divānagi* (love-madness), [self-sacrifice](#), etc but here and in her poem/songs it is clear that Layla bint Mahdi ibn Sa'd is in "love-madness"

<sup>3 3</sup> Here Layla bint Mahdi ibn Sa'd seems purposely ambiguous as she seems to use the Arabic word Majnun نون جم, lit. "possessed" which in the context of her song could refer to the person Majnun or to her crazy love-madness state *ie crazy*,

*my love thy love is the truth<sup>4</sup>  
 thou has entered my mind my heart  
 while thou art gone we shall never part  
 in all the worlds my sight is fixed on thee  
 oh love thy glance thy look thy kiss I miss  
 in all the world it is only thou I see  
 in thy love I find refuge in thee  
 oh love my love is hotter than the desert wind  
 longing for thee my tears flow  
 filling cups to ease the thirst of all the thirsty  
 longing*

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<sup>4</sup> Layla bint Mahdi ibn Sa'd uses the word *al-Haqq* "the Truth" which is one of the [Ninety Nine Names of Allah](#)

*crazy calling*

*I clap my hands*

*crazy singing*

*twirl and swing around*

*dancing twixt the bubbling light*

*hair flowing out swishing the bursting bubbles*

*bright*

*crazy thy face in each bubble I see*

*swish twirl swirl hee hee*

*calling crazy*

*I clap my hands*

*singing crazy*

*give thy lips that I can kiss*

*stare into my eyes to give me bliss*  
*press thy breast against my breasts that I can hear*  
*the palpitating of thy heart*  
*send shudders through my veins with the flutter of*  
*thy eye-lids*  
*oh oh*  
*the never ending fires of my desires*  
*which all my tears canst put out*  
*my heated flesh scorches the hot desert wind*  
*as the fire to the wood my desires consume me o'er thee*  
*with moans of love I shout*  
*with the pain of love I shout*  
*crazy with love for thee I long for thee alone*



*bubbles of light rain down around me splashing in*

*the sand*

*sending shafts of brilliant colored beams streaming*

*to the sky*

*all around colors bright and bubbles fly*

*reds green yellows and blues*

*like salt sprinkle o'er the sand*

*mix and merge into multi-colored hues*

*all around colors the air stain*

*blotches of colors painted on the air float and*

*glimmer as around bubbles of light rain*

*while dancing around my face bubbles of light I chase*

*with "crazy crazy crazy" my refrain*

*all the world is in thy name*

*all my being is infused with thy love*

*when I think I think of thee*

*when I dream I dream of thee*

*when I speak I speak of thee*

*when I see all I see is thee*

*when I hear all I hear is thee*

*all my existence is ecstasy with thee*

*my total being in union with thee*

*oh love the perfume of thy breath is sweeter than the*

*scent of a million roses*

*the sound of thy voice sweeter than the songs of a million*

*bulbuls*

*thy love enfolds like rose petals encase their buds*

*hee hee*

*I chase the floating bubbles of light*

*kissing them in their dazzling flight*

*hee hee*

*on my lips thy sit dazzling like diamond gems*

*rolling o'er down around my puffy lips*

*hee hee*

*sucking in the bubbles of light*

*rolling them in my mouth with delight*

*hee hee*

*out blowing the bubbles of light*

*they spiral around whorls of colors o'er the ground*

*hee hee*

*thou art my whole existence*

*thou art my whole being*

*the universe has its whole being in thee*

*when I smell the roses perfume that perfume is thee*

*when I hear the bulbul sing that sound is thee*

*when I see the world that world is thee*

*the gems sparkle the oasis glitter they are but thee*

*oh beloved thy visage is in everything I see*

*the face of the rose the bee*

*oh beloved union with thee is all I care*

*crashed against thy breast*

*lips meeting lips*

*our eyes into each to stare*

*oh to behold thy face and look into ineffable infinity*

*he hehe*

*the light bubbles litter the sand like the glowing eyes of*

*thee*

*refracting reflecting looking at me*

*o'er the sand they lay*

*o'er the sand with them I play*

*heehee hee*

*million of eyes looking at me*

*into the eyes I look reflecting back me*

*in the simpid colored lights it is I I see*

*hee heehee*

*the bubbles of light I swish with my hand o'er the sand*

*rolling tumbling they watch me*

*million of eyes looking at me*

*oh love I am drunk with thy love*

*I drink thy love all day all night*

*The love of thee lights the love in me*

*Love the intoxicant makes me free*

*Oh love I am drunk on thy face*

*Drunk the beatitude of thy face I see in every place*

*To fill myself with thy incomprehensible love*

*To bath in the unfathomable depths of thy love*

*To burst with incomparable rapture from thy love*

*Love thou art the Mosque of my love*

*With thou I am transported into ineffable infinity*

*Oh love kiss my lips*

*Kiss my lips oh love*

*Drunk in delirium through the adoration of thee*

*Bursting bubbles of light pirouetting bright*

*Undulating twixt them serpent-like*

*Twining my hair around them*

*Clapping hands drum-like*

*Sinuous feet stealthily dance to the beat*

*To and fro*

*One foot two feet swinging around they go*

*My eyes like the bubbles gleam*

*Bubbles eyes all is not what it does seem*

*Melodious my body does swing*

*Quickening the feet with the beat*

*Thrillingly intoxicatingly*

*Bursting bubbles all around*

*Tossing on the waves of sound*

*Oh love give me thy kiss  
 That I can suck in thy perfumed breath  
 Love give me thy kisses that my lips can burn with thy  
 passions sweet*

*Burn me up in thy love oh love  
 Scorch my flesh in thy unquenchable love  
 Hold me tight crush me in thy embrace  
 Pour thy love into me from union with thee  
 In union oh love sweep me up into ecstasies bliss  
 Ravish me take me fill me up with thee  
 Oh lover that I would burst so full of thy love from thee  
 Out pouring in each pore so full with thee  
 The shuddering of my veins with union with thee  
 Oh oh dissolved in infinite ecstasy*



*On hand and knees I count the bubbles of light*

*One two three all around me they flee*

*A million glittering lights an infinity*

*Rolling o'er them they burst incessantly*

*A million glittering lights immeasurably*

*Hee heehee*

*They tickle my nose relentlessly*

*One two three what a beautiful bubblesy*

*All colors whirl within*

*Burst o'er my face my skin*

*Ha ha ha*

*Beautiful bubblesy bubblesy*

*One two three. . .*

*Enter into me in union that our bodies do mesh*

*That drenched in thy love love I am soaked in the flesh*

*Saturate my flesh with thy fertilizing love*

*That thy love swells in me*

*That thy love bursts in me*

*That thy love oozes through me*

*Burn me up in thy passions embrace*

*In union with thee in everything I see thy face*

*Oh love in the depths of thy love I tremble*

*My limbs quack and shudder*

*Fires burst in my veins*

*Thy love catapults me into intolerable bliss*

*My heart quicken*

*Ah*

*Bubbles bursting around me swirl quicken and twirl*

*Up wells the simoom<sup>5</sup> its heated breath kisses me into a*

*swoon*

*Blow blow twirling my hair mixing with bubbles does*

*flow*

*Hee heehee*

*Bubbles me all around we all do go*

*Oh simoon blow my words to my love*

*Erase them from the sand and bear my words above*

*Send my words of love oh wind hotter than thee to he*

*Dancing in the simoon heehee*

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<sup>5</sup> **Simoom** ([Arabic](#): [سوم](#) *samūm*; from the root [س-م-م](#) *s-m-m*, "to poison") is a strong, dry, dust-laden [local wind](#) that blows in the [Sahara](#), [Palestine](#), [Israel](#), [Jordan](#), [Syria](#), and the deserts of [Arabian Peninsula](#). Alternative spellings include [samiel](#), [sameyel](#), [samoon](#), [samun](#), [simoun](#), and [simoon](#). Its temperature may exceed 54°C (129°F) and the humidity may fall below 10%.

The storm moves in [cyclone](#) (circular) form, carrying clouds of dust and sand, and produces on humans and animals a suffocating effect. The name means "poison wind" and is given because the sudden onset of simoom may also cause [heat stroke](#). This is attributed to the fact that the hot wind brings more heat to the body than can be disposed of by the [evaporation](#) of [perspiration](#). <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simoom>

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