

يا من لعبت به الشمول (موشح قديم)

"You whom the Wine's Aroma has played with" – Ya Man La`ibat bihi ash-Shamulu

The muwashshah is a form of love poetry which emerged in the cultural Golden Age of Islamic Spain (711-1492 C.E.). One of the traditional settings of the poem is a drinking scene in which the cup-bearer is likened to the Beloved. Many of the poems are written so that they can also be read as mystical poems treating divine love in which the wine and its effects are metaphors for the ecstasy the mystic feels in the love of God and the beauty of the Beloved a symbol for the Beauty of God and His creation.

يا من لعبت به الشمولُ ما أَلْطَفَ هذه الشمايل  
نشوان يهزه دلالُ كالغصنِ مع النسيم مايل  
لا يُمكنه الكلامُ لكن قد حَمَلَ طرفه رسايل  
ما أَطْيَبَ وقتنا واهنى والعاذل غائبٌ وغافل

Ya man la`ibat bihi sh-shamulu ma al-tafa hadhihi sh-shamayil  
Nashwan yahuzzuhu dallalun kal-ghusni ma`a n-nasimi mayil  
La yumkinuhu l-kalamu lakin qad hammala tarafuhu rasayil  
Ma atyaba waqtana w-ahna wa l-azilu ghaybun wa-ghafil

O you whom the wine's aroma has played with  
Exulted with all this flirtation  
He cannot speak and yet  
How sweet is our time together and how joyful

How charming are your features!  
Like a willow-branch swaying in the breeze  
His limbs are loaded with messages  
The jealous watcher is absent and unaware.

YA MAN LA'IBAT BIHI SHAMULU (Muwashshah)

Maqam: Rast  
Iqa' : Waltz; Darij

I.

YA MAN LA'IBAT BIHI SHAMULU  
The intoxicating breeze played with you

MA AL-TAFA HADIHI SHAMAYIL (2x)  
How gentle are these qualities

YA LAW, YALA LA LAW, YALA LA LAW, YALA LALLI  
MA AL-TAFA HADIHI SHAMAYIL

II.

NASHWAN YA HUZZUHU DALLALUN  
He's moved to ecstasy by the pampering

KAL GHOUSNI MA'A IN-NASIM (IDMAYIL (2x)  
Like a branch swinging in the breeze

YA LAW, YALA LA LAW, YALA LA LAW, YALA LALLI  
KAL GHOUSNI MA'A IN-NASIM (IDMAYIL

III.

LA YUMKINUHU -L-KALAMU LAKIN  
He cannot speak, but

QAD HOMMILA TARFAHU RASAYIL  
He's been carrying messages

YA LAW, YALA LA LAW, YALA LA LAW, YALA LALLI  
QAD HOMMILA TARFAHU RASAYIL

IV.

MA 'ATYABA WAQTANA W-AHNA  
How sweet and content is our time together

WA'ALZILU GHA'BUN WA GHAFIL (2X)  
The one who envied us, absent and unaware

YA LAW, YALA LA LAW, YALA LA LAW, YALA LALLI  
WA'ALZILU GHA'BUN WA GHAFIL