



## The Many Wines

by Rumi  
translated by Coleman Barks

God has given us a dark wine so potent that,  
drinking it, we leave the two worlds.

God has put into the form of hashish a power



on to adopt formal rules against alcohol use. But like all major religions, there has always been great variation in beliefs and behaviours among followers of Islam.

### Instructional strategies

1. Distribute copies of the [student handout](#), read *The Many Wines* and discuss it as a class. You might use the following questions:
  - a. What might Rumi include among the “many wines?” Link your answer to specific elements of the text.
  - b. What does Rumi mean by “Be a connoisseur, and taste with caution?” What other advice does he provide?
  - c. In what ways might Rumi’s historical and cultural context impact this poem? How does his perspective



## Links to Curriculum

### First Peoples' principles of learning

- x Learning ultimately supports the well-being of the self, the family, the community, the land, the spirits, and the ancestors
- x Learning is holistic, reflexive, reflective, experiential, and relational (focused on connectedness, on reciprocal relationships, and a sense of place)
- x Learning is embedded in memory, history and story

### English Language Arts 9

#### Big Idea

- x Exploring stories and other texts helps us understand ourselves and make connections to others and the world
- x Questioning what we hear, read and view contributes to our ability to be educated and engaged citizens
- x Texts are socially, culturally, and historically constructed

#### Competencies

- x Apply appropriate strategies to comprehend written, oral and visual texts, guide inquiry, and extend thinking
- x Think critically, creatively and reflectively to explore ideas within, between and beyond texts
- x Recognize and identify the role of personal, social and cultural contexts, values and perspectives in texts
- x Construct meaningful personal connections between self, text and world
- x Respond to text in personal, creative and critical ways
- x Exchange ideas and viewpoints to build shared understanding and extend thinking