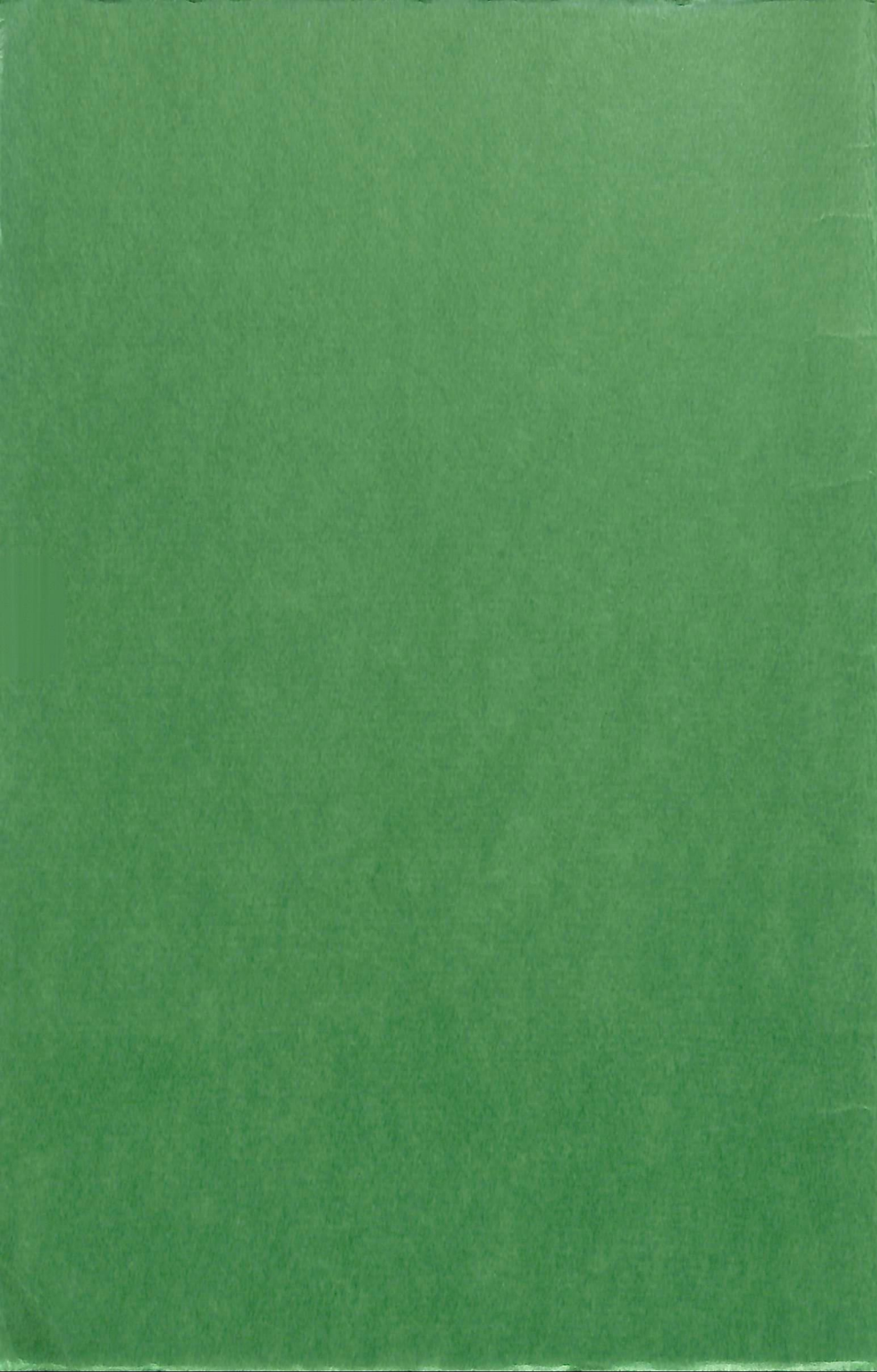


Ring Dove's Call
Maud Kennedy



R I N G D O V E ' S C A L L

by

Maud Kennedy

1974

To dearest Mehra
- and Mani

In His Love

Hand

1974

1-701154

JULY 10th

Stay with God for a day,
Meher BABA is the Way.
He touched our hearts
Even the hardest heart begins to pray.
Our Beloved is God
And He came to stay,
That we might see HIM
And know that God is real.

BABA's holy presence is
like a perfume in the air
now - a heavenly perfume.

SONG OF THE SEA

O, BABA Beloved, you are music enough for me -
Silently singing and longing is Thy gift to me.
'O my Love, my Love, my Love,'
Is the everlasting song of the sea.
You speak to me through countless forms,
But alas, I am not worthy of Thee!

Yet we remain your wayward children,
You slip through our hands like silver sand -
A handful of sand by the sea.
Surely we are the pebbles on the strand,
Washed by the ocean, that is HE.

THE TRAIL

Empty the mind
And then we find
HE alone is real.
HE knows, He cares,
HE is kind.

He made the Way for you,
He walked the road for you,
He met stones and storms,
Deserts and rain He encountered;
But He left a trail.
All else may fail
But Love is kind.

Where is the need of self-assertion?
Empty, empty, empty
Meaningless words,
Until HE came.
He gives us Life -
It is as He willed
Two thousand years ago;
He said, "I will come again."
He is the promise fulfilled.

GOLDEN PHEASANTS STRAYING

You satin-headed birds, golden hued
With long tails trailing, ruddy breasts.
Birds of another world -
How came you here to grace my garden?
Ah, He called you by His alchemy!
You move with quiet dignity,
Well off the ground, slow stepping.
Proudly disdainful
Of all this haste and noise.
Not even the wind can ruffle
Your feathers smoothe silk
And velvet, brighter than the brightest
Man contrives.
Orange and black in the collar,
Dragon green on the wing,
I feel your presence telling me,
"Silence is the thing."

CYPRESS TREE

BABA Himself is so great
And we are weak and small
Yet we are here to fulfil.
The lilies and roses smile,
And the leaves shake in the breeze;
The garden cypress is tall -
All Nature obeys His will.
He knows the beautiful aching heart
Wrap yourself up in His shawl.

SOUND

The sound of silence is your voice;
it is a soundless sound.
O beloved Voice,
You sing to us each day,
please here us when we pray!

O God within
Keep welling up!
O pain and sin,
depart from us.

Each pure intent, each gentle thought
of loving friend, each generous act
brings Light and peace -
Unite in Love today.

WORDS OF AN OLD WOMAN

Young man your words are not true
You are playing with words -
Tearing up, breaking down ideas, denying,
defying,

Pretending you know -
Tearing away shams
You can also trample on Truth.
Truth you love and Truth you seek.
You long for it.
Your heart is one ache.
Beware lest your young heart break.
Cleverness and words are brittle,
Only thin ice to skate on.
No, there is something deeper than that.
Young man, your words are not you.

Yes, God is in everything,
Experience is real,
Beauty and Truth are warm and green;
You will learn to feel.
Suffering is our teacher,
So do not mock.
Be humble, speechless, patient.
Cheer one sad heart today
And rise above your words.
Each man is a centre
From which the spokes of Light can shine.
Young man, words are not you.

TIME OF ROSES

For us
Living and hoping,
Loving and praying,
close to the earth;
Growing and sharing,
His smile is the answer.
Each day a poem
With the Beloved.
Such is the dream
Ever renewing.

Raining sun - love
Springing dew-drops
And drenching rain.
The roots are nourished
and petals fall.
New buds unfolding
velvet dark.
Cutting hay and carting it,
How we work each day!
Digging and planting;
Suddenly we stop -
Is HE here again?

At His feet we pile roses;
Tears begin to flow.
Only He could know
the heart's pain,
the loving touch,
the sheer gain of surrender.
Only He could renew,
re-form this nothingness
of world delusion.

THE COTTAGE

Here I find peace and rest,
The place I love the best.
Here I am not alone,
But live in His sweet company.

The friends who visit me
Are loving, gay and free,
They bring His Love with them.
The bravest company!

We, who have nothing to fear,
We have our Master near,
We laugh at what we lose
And gain a gracious company.

But often silence wraps the house
In her mantle of blue
And time passes lightly
The long day through.

THE RING DOVES

Dearest hope and all-one-Love,
Lovelier than ever hope,
Like the ring-doves above,
Flying around in pairs,
They make a plaintive cry
And land on a tree or
On my house-top aerial;
And their holy spirit
Is from India - all pervading,
Most gentle and sweet to hear.

It is a greeting-persuading,
saying -
"Do not listen to harsh sounds fading,
Only listen to ME.
See, I have come!
You are ME, I am you!"

WHITE JASMINE

Pure and bright,
Giving light,
The Master's flower.

From the East
A perfumed air,
A holy shower.

In noon-day light
White petals open
in the sacred hour.

Watching over Earth's confusion,
The Flower of creation
is Meher BABA.

The holy WORD of God
None can escape,
His name is Meher BABA!

From East to West
Is moving
A sacred flame.

A flame of Light,
A purging sword,
A grey bird calling.

All these and more
Shall shake us,
Until we are awake.

All these shall shake
The hardened mind
Until it breaks.

Until the Love begins to flow
Towards the Light
As flowers grow.

HIS NAME

When He who was expected came,
so quietly, mysteriously born;
Not knowing who He was amongst us
Until the sign was given;
The flowering GOD with lotus brow
Merwan was His name.

In every sphere, on every plane
His forerunners went before HIM to prepare
Babajan, Sai Baba, Tajudin, Naryan
and great Upasni Maharaj waited at Sakori -
Then the moment came.

The God-flower opened in His heart -
The pain of knowing who He was
And the bliss - a man apart;
The Christ, the Buddha in one flame
Impersonal, divine, beloved.
The prayers of men were answered
When He who was expected came.
The moon had risen, the SUN itself,
The Light shone all around.
Then step by step His work began
with clear intent and certain tread
His suffering bliss, the Truth found.

Now dear disciples came -
the heroes who could live with Him;
Quick to obey, quick to feel,
ready to lose the world and self
and listen to the WORD of GOD.
He laid His finger on their hearts
With just one glance,
one gesture or command
They recognised their Master
Meher BABA is His Name.

AUTUMN SONG

I

I saw a leaf a-falling
from a willow tree.
It left its gold companions
delighting to be free -
it tossed and it twisted
dancing gleefully.
May I fall to the ground
just as silently.

II

O the gold and the green
and the shade and the sheen
of Autumn!

Deep from the heart
a thought is sown,
and out of it a flower
has grown.

Never a day shall pass
without praise and honour due
to Him who gave us
each blade of grass.

O the gold and the green
and the shade and the sheen
of Autumn!

THE QUIET FRIEND

You are the FRIEND
the never tiring Friend
The never ending, never dwindling Friend.

O Beloved!
You are the childhood Friend,
who was there all along.
The Prince, waiting for us to grow up,
And the Friend who waited for us
at the turn of the road.
At the dangerous cross-roads,
when we hesitated, bewildered,
You were there;
Our only Friend.
When it was dark and
no-one understood - cold,
You were there!

When sun-burst-in-bliss
through heavy clouds dispersing,
then it was through HIM
the joy came.
For is He not the Tree of Life
the very stem and root,
the very sap unseen?
Ah see! Ah see!
Close He is as sap to tree
the QUIET FRIEND!

ALL THE GREAT AVATARS

Came Zoroaster, ruler and priest
blazing the Torch of Truth.
You were the greatest!

Came Prince Rama, the fighter,
perfect King in exile,
and Sita, patient and loving.
You were the greatest!

Came Moses, law-maker,
listening to God on the mountain
and leading his people.
You were the greatest!

Came Krishna, the flute-player,
friend of Arjuna, bringer of
pure innocent merriment
and words of the Gita.
You were the greatest!

Came Gautama Lord Buddha,
the serene incarnation,
desireless and blissful.
You were the greatest!

Came Jesus the Christ, crucified,
healer of men and Beloved Lord.
You were the greatest!

Came Mahomed, ruler of men
and lover of woman,
the Sufi of Sufis.
You were the greatest!

Came Meher BABA, the Compassionate
Father,
Lover beyond description,
The Silent Beloved.
Off all the great Avatars,
You were the greatest!

NOTIONS

Surely we have to
learn not to opinionate,
but more to moderate
our feelings and emotions.
To balance with the light of reason
our hotly disputed notions.
So then we can truly love
and gently feel our way
towards the Real.
"Truth is simple"
and only by the simple
faith and wonder of a child
can we be humble and
so be true enough to feel.

CREATION

Without deep reverence for life
All cleverness is just a game
and seers your conscience into blame,
a game of make-believe
we have some power.
Who can create a perfect form
such as a tiny living flower?
The forms of living beings are akin
One is a tree and one is a flower,
the child an innocent sweet dove
but there is a power within -
Our strength and power hide in gentleness.
We are all one - one soul,
one Light, one glory of creation,
one law of the universe
and that law means Love.

A SONG FOR YOU

He came and He went
but never did He leave us.
He is there in your heart
and He left His heart behind.

It is easy to love Me
for "I AM LOVE" he said.
Just bear this in mind.
He never really left us
for He left His love behind.

Meher BABA, Avatar!
Ever living, ever young,
those who shun Him are blind.
Keep Him close to your heart
for He left His love behind.

STOOPING

And yet You stooped so low
to pick us up and offer us
the crown of happiness -
to make us Yours, Beloved!
And our BELOVED You are now.

O my LORD, my LOVE!
my LORD, my LOVE!-
You are in us all,
You are here.
Yes, You are all we have to
lean upon.

Bringing Joy

Looking at BABA brings peace,
Feeling BABA brings bliss,
Harmony flows around us
And wings us away from care.
When the loaded mind drops its
burden --
Turbid water becomes clear.

See our wants are flying
from us --
He satisfies our deepest need,
He is the ever present moment
Bringing joy -- He said,
"You have nothing to fear."

