

# POETRY

## Three Things to Remember

As long as you're dancing, you can  
break the rules.

Sometimes breaking the rules is just  
extending the rules.

Sometimes there are no rules.

-from "A Thousand Mornings" by Mary Oliver

## The Waterwheel

Stay together, friends.  
Don't scatter and sleep.

Our friendship is made  
of being awake.

The waterwheel accepts water  
and turns and gives it away,  
weeping.

That way it stays in the garden,  
whereas another roundness rolls  
through a dry riverbed looking  
for what it thinks it wants.

Stay here, quivering with each moment  
like a drop of mercury.

-Rumi

# DHARMA

## Buddha's Final Teaching

"Make of yourself a light. Rely upon yourself. Do not depend upon anyone else. Make my teachings your light. Rely upon them. Do not depend on others' teachings."

-Buddha

## Flowers

As the bee collects nectar and departs  
without harming the flower or its color or scent,  
So let the sage live in a village.  
Not the faults of others  
nor their errors of commission or omission,  
but one's own errors and omissions should the sage consider.

Like a beautiful flower, full of color, but without scent,  
are the fine but fruitless words  
of those who do not act accordingly.  
But like a beautiful flower, full of color and full of scent,  
are the fine and fruitful words  
of those who do act accordingly.

As many kinds of garlands,  
can be made from a heap of flowers,  
so many good words may be achieved by a mortal after birth.  
The scent of flowers does not travel against the wind,  
not even that of sandalwood, rose-bay or jasmine,  
but the fragrance of good people  
travels even against the wind.  
A good person pervades everywhere.

-excerpts from Ch. 4 of The Dhammapada