

## **Only Breath**

Not Christian or Jew or Muslim, not Hindu,  
Buddhist, sufi, or zen. Not any religion

or cultural system. I am not from the East  
or the West, not out of the ocean or up

from the ground, not natural or ethereal, not  
composed of elements at all. I do not exist,

am not an entity in this world or the next,  
did not descend from Adam and Eve or any

origin story. My place is placeless, a trace  
of the traceless. Neither body or soul.

I belong to the beloved, have seen the two  
worlds as one and that one call to and know,

first, last, outer, inner, only that  
breath breathing human being.

Jelaluddin Rumi