

## Why Wine Is Forbidden

When the Prophet's ray of intelligence  
struck a dim-witted man he was with,  
the man got very happy, and talkative.

Soon, he began unmannerly raving.  
This is the problem with a selflessness  
that comes quickly,  
as with wine.

If the wine drinker  
has a deep gentleness in him,  
he will show that,  
when drunk.

But if he has hidden anger and arrogance,  
those appear,  
and since most people do,  
wine is forbidden to everyone.

- Rumi