I burn, I burn, I am ablaze with love. Who can put out the flames in this woman who is on fire?

She whose beloved is God looks pale and weeps tears of blood. She who burns with the fire of separation washes her hands of life.

I have become fuel for you to burn. Love has come and destroyed me with a glimpse of you. My eyes weep but find no refuge. How can he put salt on my wounds?

I have fallen in love with you. I have pledged my soul and body. I am the goat and you are the butcher next to me. Why should you not cut me up and eat me?
OTHER POEMS

S4  SE (س)
Who else should I call out to but the one I love so steadfastly? I get up in the middle of the night and go into the river, crying mournfully like the crane.

S5  JīM (ج)
I have become separate from the world. Falling in love made me useless. With a mustard seed I became an apothecary. Besides, people make me suffer with their taunts.

S6  HE (ه)
In my astonishment there is no peace. I utter loud laments both openly and within. I try my hardest to get a glimpse of him. The sharp pains of love torment my breast.

S7  KHE (خ)
My beauty was lost, once my heart was speared by love. I sigh and cry out. Who but you will come and calm me down?
OTHER POEMS

S8 DĀL ( الدكتور )
They do not stay far from his door for a moment. The fakirs weep greatly from separation. The body is an oven that parches the grains of the heart. Love rubs chilies in the eyes.³

S9 ZĀL ( الزحل )
Do not take delight in this world, so that you will not fear the day of the resurrection. Proceed in the protection of the Prophet, who will have your final account drawn up.

S10 RE ( الر )
No one escapes on the day of the resurrection. The lord of the two worlds reckons up their account. The mighty are lost in confusion. On that day it is the Prophet who secures their deliverance.

S11 ZE ( الز )
We can make a successful profit through abstinence, if we die before our death.⁴ But even when we are dead we should fear him, in case he should arrest and summon the dead.

324

THE THIRTY LETTERS
S12 SIN (س)
There is no place besides the lord. Wherever I look, there is just him and no one else. There is no refuge in any other direction. My guide gets me across.

S13 SHIN (ش)
Shah Inayat is my guide, the one whose passage has lain in my direction. All contention and dispute is finished; now he deceives and torments me.

S14 SUAD (ص)
I am impatient, the goods are laid out in the bazaar. Taking the messenger with him, he said farewell and went to enter the court. There he was met by the fair rider on a tiger. On the way there was a ring, which made his heart confused.

S15 ZUAD (ض)
It is necessary to remember God, whom the Prophet implored. Ninety thousand words were recited and accepted in the divine court. This illusory being was united with the reality of the divine essence. Becoming free, the holy Prophet came there and ate.
S16 TOE (а)
He was desirous of a sight of him, and God the pardoner was gracious. Then God the forgiver granted the holy Prophet a vision of the divine glory. From the unseen there appeared a hand full of light, on which a ring glittered. Bullha, you made the people of Muhammad, so what should this be called?

S17 ZOE (а)
God was not known in outward form. When he granted a vision of himself, he caused confusion. The girlfriends came together and ate the food, of which there was no end. It was he who recognized the ring himself, and he who made himself known. Bullha, the holy Prophet took his leave and pleased his beloved.

S18 ‘AIN (غ)
Listen, gentlemen and friends, I enjoy the love of Inayat. Whoever fails to pray to the holy Prophet will be rejected as false by the divine court. So we must pray for his intercession in the court of the lord. Bullha, do not take pride in the world, which appears just once.
S19  GHAIN (غ)
Your poor slave begs for alms from the court. On the day of judgment, the sound of terror will be heard, and the call will be announced from the court. All creation will be in distress from the glittering light of the sun. 
Bullha, we too must go there, although the journey is not a pleasant one.

S20  FE (ف)
Fakirs are cared for in the divine court, where Muhammad the intercessor stands unconcernedly. “Draw near, draw near, beloved,” is what their love desires. He wears the robe of the Apostle of God, who crowns his head.

S21  QĀF (ق)
The divine pen that writes our fate cannot be erased. The fortune that was granted us cannot be turned back. Except for fate, what use are the plans that all creation makes? Bullha, who can erase what is written on the preserved tablet?
**THE THIRTY LETTERS**

S22 KĀF (ک)
True is the word of the Prophet, the lord at the head of all the prophets. Even the sun and the moon cannot match the holy appearance of the Prophet. Diamonds, pearls, rubies, and jewels do not reach that point. When he sits in the assembly of the Prophet, what does Bullha amount to?

S23 LĀM (ل)
You recited the words *There is no god,* and added the confirmation *but God.* You joined to these the words *Muhammad is the Apostle of God.* This is the gift that was given to Adam.11

S24 MĪM (م)
You made Adam's body like Muhammad's. You said he was to enter paradise. Then it was you who made Satan come there. He came out of there as Adam.
OTHER POEMS

S25 NŪN (۹)
Wretchedly he came as a criminal, expelled from paradise and made to wander the earth. Adam and Eve were made to separate; it was God who effected their separation.

S26 VĀO (۹)
How wonderful! It is he who is Muhammad, he who makes his form Adam, he who is the lord of the first day, he who comes as the intercessor, he who is the judge of the last day, he who announces his command, he who kindly intercedes, he who lets himself be seen.

S27 HE (۹)
Speak softly here, brother, in case someone hears and reports you. The torment of the grave seems great, although someone may grant deliverance. The passage over the Sirat bridge is difficult; that fear is overwhelming. Put your hope in divine favor, Bullha; it is God himself who saves us.
S28 LĀM- (ל)
I cannot see anyone near me. Where shall I direct my cries? No one appears, no matter where I look. To whom shall I describe my state? I have no supporter besides my beloved, and have no other places to go. Seize hold of the door of the holy Prophet, Bullha, for he is the one who will grant deliverance.

S29 -ALIF (א)
You will depart alone from this world, where many come to look. The number of your breaths here is nearly complete. Go quickly, go and enter, Bullha, in case you are too late. Seize the reins of the Apostle of God, wherever you get the chance.

S30 YE (י)
Now at last I have found love. I played around and wasted my previous life. Bullha, the divine being takes my soul as I recite the profession of faith.