



## Celebrating Spiritual Experience

*by Patty Slote*

July is a big month here at TMC. We celebrate our guru's birthday ... immerse ourselves in spiritual practice at the retreat ... and revel in the diverse and talented community of practitioners who gather from near and far. What better way to celebrate our rich inner and outer life than with poetry? This month we offer a special treat—poems by one of our own.

One of our long-time members, a resident of the Portland ashram, wrote a book of very fine spiritual poetry (reminiscent of Kabir or Rumi) called "Light Raga" for Swamiji's birthday several years ago. We published it in a limited edition, and we do not promote it in any commercial venues at the author's request. As a result, this extraordinarily sweet and fine collection has existed largely under the radar.

Here's a sample of the nearly two dozen poems that make up the collection:

If a master takes up residence  
in your heart,  
you can not surround him with  
walls.  
Even if you were a universe  
filled with bright stars,  
he might sigh and feel cramped.  
So once his tent goes up  
and the flags start to wave,  
crack the vessel of your life.

This month we are honored to feature "Light Raga" in the TMC Store at the retreat. (If you are not coming to the retreat, no problem, you can order by phone.) To get your copy at the low price of \$5, just come to the lobby, stop by the TMC Store during the retreat and look for the special display, or call the Rudra Press office.



Rudra Press is the publishing division of The Movement Center. We produce print and digital books by the teachers in the Movement Center lineage, texts on the philosophy of Kashmir Shaivism, and a range of video and audio products. We also carry practice support items through our online store.

[Visit the online store.](#)

PHONE: 503-236-0475

EMAIL: [rudrapress@icloud.com](mailto:rudrapress@icloud.com)