

Landay

Extremists of many faiths
turn women into wraiths.

Marriage equality has come a long way.
Many now can celebrate and be gay.

How do I love you? Let me count the ways.
It depends on how much your employer pays.

Landay

1. Couplets. Seem to rhyme and not rhyme.
2. Laments, jokes and frustrations written by women in Afghanistan.
3. They are written anonymously.
4. Some examples from Afghanistan:

Your eyes aren't eyes. They're bees
I can find no cure for their sting.

I'll kiss you in the pomegranate garden. Hush!
People will think there's a goat in the underbrush.

May God destroy the Taliban and end their wars.
They've made Afghan women into widows and whores.

How much simpler can love be?
Let's get engaged. Text me.

When sisters sit together, they always praise their brothers.
When brothers sit together, they sell their sisters to others.

Examples from "The Secret Lives of Afghanistan's Female Poets" by Lance Richardson