

Books Do Furnish A Mind, Part II

by Ibn Warraq (May 2015)

“Someday I will go to London and revisit all the places where I housed at the time of my greatest poverty. I have not seen them for a quarter of a century or so...I see the winding way by which I went from Oxford Street, at the foot of Tottenham Court Road, to Leicester Square [*i.e.* along Charing Cross Road]... Dozens of my books were purchased with money which ought to have been spent upon what are called the necessaries of life. Many a time I have stood before a stall, or bookseller’s window, torn by conflict of intellectual desire and bodily need. At the very hour of dinner, when my stomach clamoured for food, I have been stopped by sight of a volume so longcoveted, and marked at so advantageous a price, that I could not let it go; yet to buy it meant pangs of famine. [more>>>](#)