

Start a Huge, Foolish Project

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by Jalāl ad-Dīn Muḥammad Rūmī, 13th century Sufi mystic & poet

*These spiritual window-shoppers,
who idly ask, 'How much is that?' Oh, I'm just looking.
They handle a hundred items and put them down,
shadows with no capital.*

*What is spent is love and two eyes wet with weeping.
But these walk into a shop,
and their whole lives pass suddenly in that moment,
in that shop.*

*Where did you go? "Nowhere."
What did you have to eat? "Nothing much."*

*Even if you don't know what you want,
buy something, to be part of the exchanging flow.*

*Start a huge, foolish project,
like Noah.*

*It makes absolutely no difference
what people think of you.*