Gershom Scholem
Zadoff, Noam

Published by Brandeis University Press

Zadoff, Noam.
Gershom Scholem: From Berlin to Jerusalem and Back.
Project MUSE. muse.jhu.edu/book/66698.

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For the writer, language is a placenta.
Language is not only a sweet and glorious conquest, but legitimization, a home.

**Norman Manea,**

"Nomadic Language"

If authority be required, let us appeal to Plutarch, the prince of ancient biographers. . . . “Nor is it always in the most distinguished achievements that men’s virtues or vices may be best discerned; but very often an action of small note, a short saying, or a jest, shall distinguish a person’s real character more than the greatest sieges, or the most important battles.” To this may be added the sentiments of the very man whose life I am about to exhibit.

**James Boswell,**

*The Life of Samuel Johnson*