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Fashioning Change

THE TROPE OF CLOTHING
IN HIGH- AND LATE-MEDIEVAL ENGLAND

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To Matt and Lucy
Imagine (if possible) a woman dressed in an endless garment, one that is woven of everything the magazine of Fashion says, for this garment without end is proffered through a text which is itself unending.

—Roland Barthes, *The Fashion System*

The mind is a metaphor of the world of objects which is itself but an endless circle of mutually reflecting metaphors.

—Pierre Bourdieu, *Outline of a Theory of Practice*