Love & Marriage in Late Medieval London

Love & Marriage in Late Medieval London: 1995-05-01 Depositions (or testimony) in marriage cases brought before fifteenth-century English church courts reveal the attitudes and feelings of medieval people towards the marital bond.

Love, Marriage, and Family Ties in the Later Middle Ages (England) International Medieval Congress (2001 Leeds 2003) This volume addresses the current fashion for research on the family and domesticity in the past. It draws together work from various disciplines - historical, art-historical and literary - with their very different source materials and from a broad geographical area, including some countries - such as Croatia and Poland - which are not usually considered in standard text books on the medieval family. This volume considers the various affective relationships within and around the family and the manner in which those relationships were regulated and ritualized in more public arenas. Despite their disparate approaches and geographical spread, these essays share many thematic concerns; the ideologies which structured gender roles, inheritance rights, incest law and the ethics of domestic violence, for example, are all considered here. This collection originates from the Leeds IMC in 2001 when the special strand was entitled Domus and Familia and attracted huge participation. This book aims to reflect that richness and variety whilst contributing to an expanding area of historical enquiry.

Speaking in the Medieval World: Jean E. Godsall-Myers 2003-01-01 This collection of essays treats medieval language use in its sociolinguistic context. Essays on texts include the following: Bishop's speech in French, German, and Spanish.

Chaucer and the Cultures of Love and Marriage-Cathy Hume 2012 The book contains substantial new readings of Chaucer’s poems, offering a fresh perspective on some of the major controversies in Chaucer scholarship.

Affections of the Mind-Emma Lipton 2007 The book argues that a politicized negotiation of issues of authority in the institution of marriage can be found in late medieval England, where an emergent middle class of society used a sacramental model of marriage to exploit contradictions within medieval theology and social hierarchy. Emma Lipton traces the unprecedented popularity of marriage as a literary topic and the tensions between different models of marriage in the literature of the late fourteenth and fifteenth centuries by analyzing such texts as Chaucer's Franklin's Tale, The Book of Margery Kempe, and the N-Town plays. Affections of the Mind focuses on marriage as a fluid and contested category rather than one with a fixed meaning, and argues that the late medieval literature of sacramental marriage subverted aristocratic and clerical traditions of love and marriage in order to promote the values of the lay middle strata of society. This book will be of value to a broad range of scholars in medieval studies. “Emma Lipton has written one of those rare books that make one rethink an entire set of distinctions—between public and private spheres, between communal and individual identities, between secular and religious ideals, between authorized devotional and subversive practices. From her opening scene framing medieval institutions in terms of modern debates on gay marriage to her thoughtful and readable analyses of how literary works complicate our assumptions about both past and present, she presents arguments that will be of interest to historians, sociologists, theologians and anyone researching the histories of marriage, family, gender, and sexuality.” —John M. Ganim, University of California, Riverside “Emma Lipton offers a look at sacramental marriage as it was employed by late medieval writers to explore questions of authority pertinent to the middle strata of society. This is an important and timely topic. Each chapter has something new to say about the text it explores. It should be of great interest to other medievalists, provoking a re-thinking of certain texts and strategies.” —Lynn Staley, Harrington and Shirley Drake Professor of the Humanities and Medieval & Renaissance Studies, Colgate University “Emma Lipton’s well-balanced and illuminating study addresses the surprisingly neglected political consequences of sacramental marriage as manifested in the literature of late medieval England. In unpredictable readings of a range of well-chosen texts from Chaucer’s Franklin’s Tale to the autobiography of Margery Kempe to the lesser studied Tristram and Isolde, she shows how sacramental marriage intertwined with the forbidden love of the lay middle classes.” —McSheffrey notes that medieval Londoners saw them as variously attributable to female seduction or to male lustfulness, as irrelevant or deeply damaging to society and to the body politic, as economically productive or wasteful of resources. Yet, like marriage, sexual relationships were also subject to control and influence from parents, relatives, neighbors, civic officials, parish priests, and ecclesiastical judges. Although by medieval canon law a marriage was irrevocable from the moment a man and a woman exchanged vows of consent before two witnesses, in practice marriage was usually a socially complicated process involving many people. McSheffrey looks more broadly at sex, governance, and civic morality to show how medieval patriarchy extended a far wider reach than a father's governance over his biological offspring. By focusing on a particular time and place, she not only elucidates the culture of England’s metropolitan center but also contributes generally to our understanding of the social mechanisms through which premodern European people negotiated their lives.

The Routledge Companion to Romantic Love-Ann Brooks 2021-11-30 The Routledge Companion to Romantic Love is a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary reference work essential for students and researchers interested in the field of love, romance and popular romance fiction. This first-of-its-kind volume illustrates the broad and interdisciplinary nature of love studies. International contributors, including leaders in their field, reflect a range of perspectives from cultural studies, history, literature, popular romance studies, American studies, sociology and gender studies. Comprising over 30 chapters by a team of international contributors the Companion is divided into 12 parts: Love, romance and historical and social change Love and feminist discourses Love and popular romance fiction Love, gender and sexuality Romancing Australia South and Southeast Asian romance communities Nation, place and identity in US popular romance novels Romantic love and national identity in Chinese and Taiwanese discourses of love Muslim and Middle Eastern romances Discourses of romance fiction and technologies of power Writing love and romance Legal and theological fiction and sexual politics This is an important and unique collection aimed at researchers and students across cultural studies, women and gender studies, literature studies and sociology.

The Visual Object of Desire in Late Medieval England-Sarah Stanbury 2007 The Visual Object of Desire in Late Medieval England: England's largest city in the second half of the fifteenth century. Marriage was a religious union—one of the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church and imbued with deep spiritual significance—but the marital unit of husband and wife was also the fundamental domestic, social, political, and economic unit of medieval society. As such, marriage created political alliances at all levels, from the arena of international politics to local neighborhoods. Sexual relationships outside marriage were even more complicated. McSheffrey notes that medieval Londoners saw them as variously attributable to female seduction or to male lustfulness, as irrelevant or deeply damaging to society and to the body politic, as economically productive or wasteful of resources. Yet, like marriage, sexual relationships were also subject to control and influence from parents, relatives, neighbors, civic officials, parish priests, and ecclesiastical judges. Although by medieval canon law a marriage was irrevocable from the moment a man and a woman exchanged vows of consent before two witnesses, in practice marriage was usually a socially complicated process involving many people. McSheffrey looks more broadly at sex, governance, and civic morality to show how medieval patriarchy extended a far wider reach than a father's governance over his biological offspring. By focusing on a particular time and place, she not only elucidates the culture of England’s metropolitan center but also contributes generally to our understanding of the social mechanisms through which premodern European people negotiated their lives.

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The Visual Object of Desire in Late Medieval England-Sarah Stanbury 2008 Little remains of the rich visual culture of late medieval English piety. The century and a half leading up to the Reformation had seen an unparalleled growth of devotional arts, as chapels, parish churches, and cathedrals came to be filled with images in stone, wood, alabaster, glass, embroidery, and paint of newly personalized saints, angels, and the Holy Family. But modern histories of devotional imagery have focused almost exclusively on texts in English. In contrast, this book opens up an area of investigation that has frequently been neglected: the visual arts of late medieval England. This collection of essays treats medieval language use in its sociolinguistic context. Essays on texts include the following: Bishop's speech in French, German, and Spanish. For Chaucer, Nicholas Love, and Margery Kempe, the image debate provides an urgent language for exploring the demands of a material devotional culture—though these writers by no means agree on the ethics of those demands. The chronicler Henry Knighton invoked a statue of St. Katherine to illustrate a lurid story about image-breaking Lollards. Later John Capgrave wrote a long Katherine legend that comments, through the drama of a saint in action, on the powers and uses of religious images. As Stanbury contends, England in the late Middle Ages was keenly attuned to and
troubled by its "culture of the spectacle," whether this spectacle took the form of a newly made queen in Chaucer's Clerk's Tale or of the animate Christ in Norwich Cathedral's Despenser Relate. In picturing images and icons, these texts were responding to reformist controversies as well as to the social and economic demands of things themselves, the provocative objects that made up the fabric of ritual life.

Money, Morality, and Culture in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe-Juliann M. Vitullo 2010 One of the first volumes to explore the intersection of economics, morality, and culture, this collection analyzes the role of the developing monetary economy in Western Europe from the twelfth to the seventeenth century. The contributors—scholars from the fields of history, literature, art history and musicology—explore how money infiltrated every aspect of everyday life, modified notions of social identity, and encouraged debates about ethical uses of wealth.


Women and Gender in Medieval Europe-Margaret C. Schaus 2006-09-20 From women's medicine and the writings of Christine de Pizan to the lives of market and tradeswomen and the idealization of virginity, gender and social status dictated all aspects of women's lives during the middle ages. A cross-disciplinary resource, Women and Gender in Medieval Europe examines the daily reality of medieval women from all walks of life in Europe between 450 CE and 1500 CE, i.e., from the fall of the Roman Empire to the discovery of the Americas. Moving beyond biographies of famous noble women of the middle ages, the scope of this important reference work is vast and provides a comprehensive understanding of medieval women's lives and experiences. Masculinity is also addressed to provide important context for understanding women's roles. Entries that reach across time and space encompass over 4,500 words in length thoroughly explore topics in the following areas: Art and Architecture - Countries, Realms, and Regions - Daily Life - Documentary Sources - Economics - Education and Learning - Gender and Sexuality - Historiography - Law - Literature - Medicine and Science - Music and Dance - Persons - Philosophy - Politics - Political Figures - Religion and Theology - Religious Figures - Social Organization and Status Written by renowned international scholars, Women and Gender in Medieval Europe is the latest in the Routledge Encyclopedias of the Middle Ages. Easily accessible in an A-to-Z format, students, researchers, and scholars will find this outstanding reference work to be an invaluable resource on women in Medieval Europe.

Love and Marriage in Late Medieval London-Shannon McSheffrey 1995 Depositions (or testimony) in marriage cases brought before fifteenth-century English church courts reveal the attitudes and feelings of medieval people towards the marital bond. By using primary sources and original evidence, the author shows how marriage and relationships were organized during the Middle Ages. The book covers the legal contexts of marriage and divorce, and provides a detailed account of the procedures and practices used in medieval marriage courts. It also examines the social, cultural, and economic factors that influenced marriage decisions at the time.

Romance and the Gentry in Late Medieval England-Aaron P. Brown 2017 Ranges from 250 words to 4,500 words in length thoroughly explore topics in the following areas: Art and Architecture - Countries, Realms, and Regions - Daily Life - Documentary Sources - Economics - Education and Learning - Gender and Sexuality - Historiography - Law - Literature - Medicine and Science - Music and Dance - Persons - Philosophy - Politics - Political Figures - Religion and Theology - Religious Figures - Social Organization and Status Written by renowned international scholars, Women and Gender in Medieval Europe is the latest in the Routledge Encyclopedias of the Middle Ages. Easily accessible in an A-to-Z format, students, researchers, and scholars will find this outstanding reference work to be an invaluable resource on women in Medieval Europe.

Practicing Piety in Medieval Ashkenaz-Elisheva Baumgarten 2014-10-01 In the urban communities of medieval Germany and northern France, the laity also observed many religious rituals as part of their everyday life. In Practicing Piety in Medieval Ashkenaz, Elisheva Baumgarten asks how Jews, especially those who were not learned, expressed their belonging to a minority community and how their convictions and deeds were made apparent to both their Jewish peers and the Christian majority. Practicing Piety in Medieval Ashkenaz provides a social history of religious practice in context, particularly with regard to the ways Jews and Christians, separately and jointly, treated their male and female members. Medieval Jewish texts were written by a learned elite who lacked titles of nobility. To make this case, Romance and the Gentry in Late Medieval England examines surviving manuscripts, survey recentwork by historians on the gentry, and provides analyses of the literary texts, all of which, together, shows this genre speaking to this social class.

Women's Power in Late Medieval Romance-Anne Noelle Vines 2011 A reading of how women's power is asserted and demonstrated in the popular medieval genre of romance. Practicing Piety in Medieval Ashkenaz-Elisheva Baumgarten 2014-10-01 In the urban communities of medieval Germany and northern France, the half-lived, observances, and practices of Jews allowed them to create and define their communities on their own terms as well as in relation to the surrounding Christian society. Although medieval Jewish texts were written by a learned elite, the laity also observed many religious rituals as part of their everyday life. In Practicing Piety in Medieval Ashkenaz, Elisheva Baumgarten asks how Jews, especially those who were not learned, expressed their belonging to a minority community and how their convictions and deeds were made apparent to both their Jewish peers and the Christian majority. Practicing Piety in Medieval Ashkenaz provides a social history of religious practice in context, particularly with regard to the ways Jews and Christians, separately and jointly, treated their male and female members. Medieval Jewish texts were written by a learned elite who lacked titles of nobility. To make this case, Romance and the Gentry in Late Medieval England examines surviving manuscripts, survey recentwork by historians on the gentry, and provides analyses of the literary texts, all of which, together, shows this genre speaking to this social class.

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texts by Hildegard of Bingen, Marie de France and Margery Kempe, the medieval conduct poet known as Die Winsbeckin, the Devout Books of Sisters composed in convents in South-West Germany, but also quasi-historical documents such as the memoirs of Helene Kottaner or Anna Weckerin’s cookery book, demonstrate that far more women were in the public gaze than had hitherto been assumed and that they possessed the self-confidence to establish their positions with their intellectual and their literary achievements. 

Daughters of London-Kathryn Kelsey Staples 2011-03-18 From an examination of medieval London’s Hustings wills, Daughters of London offers a new framework for considering urban women’s experiences as daughters. The wills reveal daughters equipped with economic opportunities through bequests of real estate and movable property.

Women, Identities and Communities in Early Modern Europe-Stephanie Tarbin 2016-12-05 Addressing a key challenge facing feminist scholars today, this volume explores the tensions between shared gender identity and the myriad social differences structuring women’s lives. By examining historical experiences of early modern women, the authors of these essays consider the possibilities for commonalities and the forces dividing women. They analyse individual and collective identities of early modern women, tracing the web of power relations emerging from women’s social interactions and contemporary understandings of femininity. Essays range from the late medieval period to the eighteenth century, study women in England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, and Sweden, and locate women in a variety of social environments, from household, neighbourhood and parish, to city, court and nation. Despite differing local contexts, the volume highlights continuities in women’s experiences and the gendering of power relations across the early modern world. Recognizing the critical power of gender to structure identities and experiences, this collection engages deeply with the complexity of women’s lives. In paying attention to the contexts in which women identified with other women, or were seen by others to identify, contributors add new depth to our understanding of early modern women’s senses of exclusion and belonging.

Romance and Love in Late Medieval and Early Modern Iceland-Kirsten Wolf 2008 Islandica LIVThe world of romance, whether secular or sacred, is often fraught with difficulties. Lovers are parted and have to struggle to be reunited, monsters or evil stepmothers have to be defeated, and the strength of one's devotion to God or the Virgin Mary has to be demonstrated. Scholars of medieval romance themselves often encounter a thicket of theoretical or philological thorns to wade through, but as all lovers of a good romance know, the protagonist is always rewarded for his or her kindness, wit, hard work, and perseverance—from Romance and Love in Late Medieval and Early Modern Iceland Marianne Kalinke, who retired from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in May 2006, made profound contributions in Old Norse-Icelandic literature through her distinguished career of teaching and writing. She is perhaps best known for her bridal-quest romance in Medieval Iceland, also in the Islandica series. This volume reveals new evidence for the evolution of the theme of Old Norse-Icelandic romance and love. Several chapters examine the impact of the love between man and woman with special focus on the ways in which the Sagas of Icelanders differ from courtly romances; tragic and comic elements of Icelandic tales of love; and the differing societal roles of women and men. Other chapters explore the intersection of folklore, mythology, and romance; the role of dwarfs in fourteenth-century Icelandic romances; and the characteristics that distinguish heroic epics from romances. Aspects of love as expressed through religion are highlighted in chapters on sacred and hagiographic texts. For more about the Islandica series, visit http://cip.cornell.edu/islandica.

The Ties that Bind-Katherine L. French 2016-02-17 This collection of essays, whose title echoes that of her most well-known work, celebrates the career of Barbara A. Hanawalt, emerita George III Professor of British Studies at The Ohio State University. The volume’s contents -- ranging from politics to family histories, from intimate portraits to extensive prosopographies -- are authored by both former students and career-long colleagues and friends, and reflect the wide range of topics on which Professor Hanawalt has written as well as her varied methodological approaches and disciplinary interests. The essays also mirror the variety of sources Professor Hanawalt has utilized in her work; public documents of the law courts and chancery; private deeds, charters, and wills; works of both religious and secular literature. The collection not only illustrates and reinforces the influence of Barbara Hanawalt’s work on modern-day medieval studies, it is also a testament to her inspiring friendship and guidance during a career that has now spanned more than three decades.

Nurture and Neglect: Childhood in Sixteenth-Century Northern England-Loretta A. Dolan 2016-10-04 Nurture and Neglect: Childhood in Sixteenth-Century Northern England addresses a number of anomalies in the existing historiography surrounding the experience of children in urban and rural communities in sixteenth-century northern England. In contrast to much recent scholarship that has focused on affective parent-child relationships, this study directly engages with the question of what sixteenth-century society actually constituted as nurture and neglect. Whilst many modern historians consider affection and love essential for nurture, contemporary ideas of good nurture were consistently framed in terms designed to instil obedience and deference to authority in the child, with the best environment in which to do this being the authoritative, patriarchal household. Using ecclesiastical and secular legal records to form its basis, hitherto an untapped resource for children’s voices, this book tackles important omissions in the historiography, including the regional imbalance, which has largely ignored the north of England and generalised about the experiences of the whole of the country using only sources from the south, and the adult-centred nature of the debate in which historians have typically portrayed the child as having little or no say in their own care and upbringing. Nurture and Neglect will be of particular interest to scholars studying the history of childhood and the social history of England in the sixteenth-century.

Versions of Virginity in Late Medieval England-Sarah Salih 2001 Medieval virginity theory explored through study of martyrs, nuns and Margery Kempe. The Broadview Anthology of British Literature: Volume 1: The Medieval Period - Second Edition-Joseph Black 2009-08-21 In all six of its volumes The Broadview Anthology of British Literature presents British literature in a truly distinctive light. Fully grounded in sound literary and historical scholarship, the anthology takes a fresh approach to many canonical authors, and includes a wide selection of work by lesser-known writers. The anthology also provides wide-ranging coverage of the worldwide connections of British literature, and it pays attention throughout to issues of race, gender, class, and sexual orientation. It includes comprehensive introductions to each period, providing in each case an overview of the historical and cultural as well as the literary background. It features accessible and engaging headnotes for all authors, extensive explanatory annotations throughout, and an unparalleled number of illustrations and contextual materials, offering additional perspectives both on individual texts and on larger social and cultural developments. Innovative, authoritative, and comprehensive, The Broadview Anthology of British Literature embodies a consistently fresh approach to the study of literature and literary history. The second edition of volume one of The Broadview Anthology of British Literature includes considerably more of Langland’s Piers the Plowman than appears in the first edition, and includes for the first time the work of John Gower. Also new to the bound book component of the anthology is the York Crucifixion Play, and additional work by Chaucer. With this volume as with the others, material continues to be added on an ongoing basis to the website component of the anthology.

Women and Wealth in Late Medieval Europe-T. Earenfight 2010-03-15 The twelve essays in Women and Wealth in Late Medieval Europe re-examine the vexing issue of women, money, wealth, and power from distinctive perspectives - literature, history, architectural history - using new archival sources. The contributors examine how money and changing attitudes toward wealth affected power relations between women and men of all ranks, especially the patriarchal social forces that constrained the range of women’s economic choices. Employing theories on gender, culture, and power, this volume reveals wealth as both the motive force in gender relations and a precise indicator of other, more subtle, forms of power and influence mediated by gender.

Law, Sex, and Christian Society in Medieval Europe-James A. Brundage 2009-02-15 This monumental study of medieval law and sexual conduct explores the origins and development of the Christian church’s sex laws and systems of belief upon which that law rested. Focusing on the Church’s own legal system of canon law, James A. Brundage offers a comprehensive history of legal doctrines—covering the millennium from A.D. 500 to 1500—concerning a wide variety of sexual law, including marital sex, adultery, homosexuality, concubinage, prostitution, masturbation, and incest. His survey makes strikingly clear how the system of sexual control in a world we have half-forgotten has shaped the world in which we live.
today. The regulation of marriage and divorce as we know it today, together with the outlawing of bigamy and polygamy and the imposition of criminal sanctions on such activities as sodomy, fellatio, cunnilingus, and bestiality, are all based in large measure upon ideas and beliefs about sexual morality that became law in Christian Europe in the Middle Ages. "Brundage’s book is consistently learned, enormously useful, and frequently entertaining. It is the best we have on the relationships between theological norms, legal principles, and sexual practice."—Peter Iver Kaufman, Church History

The Oldest Vocation-Clarissa W. Atkinson 2019-03-15 According to an old story, a woman concealed her sex and ruled as pope for a few years in the ninth century. Pope Joan was not betrayed by a lover or discovered by an enemy; her downfall came when she went into labor during a papal procession through the streets of Rome. From the myth of Joan to the experiences of saints, nuns, and ordinary women, The Oldest Vocation brings to life both the richness and the troubling contradictions of Christian motherhood in medieval Europe. After tracing the roots of medieval ideologies of motherhood in early Christianity, Clarissa W. Atkinson reconstructs the physiological assumptions underlying medieval notions about women’s bodies and reproduction; inherited from Greek science and popularized through the practice of midwifery, these assumptions helped shape common beliefs about what mothers were. She then describes the development of “spiritual motherhood” both as a concept emerging out of monastic ideologies in the early Middle Ages and as a reality in the lives of certain remarkable women. Atkinson explores the theological dimensions of medieval motherhood by discussing the cult of the Virgin Mary in twelfth-century art, story, and religious expression. She also offers a fascinating new perspective on the women saints of the later Middle Ages, many of whom were mothers; their lives and cults forged new relationships between mothers and the Virgin Mary.

Learning to Die in London, 1380-1540-Amy Appleford 2014-10-13 Taking as her focus a body of writings in poetic, didactic, and legal modes that exceeded these expectations, crashing through the ‘glass ceilings’ of their day, are brought together in a fascinating final chapter. Combining a historiographical survey of trends over the last thirty years with more recent scholarship, this is the ideal introductory guide for anyone with an interest in women’s history from the late Medieval period through to the Reformation. Medieval Violence-Hannah Skoda 2013-02-21 Describes and analyses brutality in the later Middle Ages, focusing on a thriving region of Northern France. Explores the impact of, and attitudes towards, violence. Offers fresh ways of thinking about violence in societies, and throws new light on the social life of villages and towns in a transitional period. Women in Medieval Europe 1200-1500-Jennifer Ward 2016-04-14 Women in Medieval Europe explores the key areas of female experience in the later medieval period, from peasant women to Queens. It considers the women of the later Middle Ages in the context of their social relationships during a time of changing opportunities and activities, and so that by 1500 the world of work was becoming increasingly restricted to women. The chapters are arranged thematically to show the varied roles and lives of women in and out of the home, covering topics such as marriage, religion, family and work. For the second edition a new chapter draws together recent work on Jewish and Muslim women, as well as those from other ethnic groups, showing the wide ranging experiences of women from different backgrounds. Particular attention is paid to women at work in the towns, and specifically urban topics such as trade, crafts, healthcare and prostitution. The latest research on women, gender and masculinity has also been incorporated, along with updated further reading recommendations. This fully revised new edition is a comprehensive yet accessible introduction to the topic, perfect for all those studying women in Europe in the later Middle Ages.

Death in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Times-Albrecht Classen 2016-04-11 The story of death—this book examines how rural society coped with children left orphaned, and land inherited by children and adolescents considered too young to run their holdings. Using manorial court rolls, accounts and other documents, Miriam Müller looks at the guardians who looked after the children, and the châtelains who took the children to school. This book considers not just rural concepts of childhood and the training and schooling young peasants received, but also the nature of supportive kinship networks, family structures and the roles of lordship, to offer insights into the experience of childhood and adolescence in medieval villages more broadly. Women in Late Medieval and Early Medieval Europe C.500-1200-Helen M. Jewell 2006-09-15 "The period 1200-1550 opened in a time of population expansion but went on to suffer the demographically cataclysmic effects of the plague, beginning with the Black Death of 1347-51. The period dawned with a confident papacy and the Albigensian crusade against heretics and ended with the Catholic church torn apart by the Protestant Reformation. Huge challenges were affecting society in various ways, but they did not always affect men and women in the same ways. Helen M. Jewell provides a lively survey of western European women’s activities and experiences during this timeframe. The core chapters investigate: - the function of women in the countryside and towns - the role of women in the ruling and landholding classes - women within the context of religion. This practical centre of the book is embedded in an analysis of the gender theories inherited from the earlier Middle Ages which continued to underpin laws which restricted women’s activity, an education system which offered them inferior institutional provision, and a church which denied them ministry. Three individuals who vastly exceeded these expectations, crashing through the ‘glass ceilings’ of their day, are brought together in a fascinating final chapter. Combining a historiographical survey of trends over the last thirty years with more recent scholarship, this is an indispensable introduction for anyone with an interest in women’s history from the late Medieval period through to the Reformation. Medieval Violence-Hannah Skoda 2013-02-21 Describes and analyses brutality in the later Middle Ages, focusing on a thriving region of Northern France. Explores experiences of, and attitudes towards, violence. Offers fresh ways of thinking about violence in societies, and throws new light on the social life of villages and towns in a transitional period. Women in Medieval Europe 1200-1500-Jennifer Ward 2016-04-14 Women in Medieval Europe explores the key areas of female experience in the later medieval period, from peasant women to Queens. It considers the women of the later Middle Ages in the context of their social relationships during a time of changing opportunities and activities, and so that by 1500 the world of work was becoming increasingly restricted to women. The chapters are arranged thematically to show the varied roles and lives of women in and out of the home, covering topics such as marriage, religion, family and work. For the second edition a new chapter draws together recent work on Jewish and Muslim women, as well as those from other ethnic groups, showing the wide ranging experiences of women from different backgrounds. Particular attention is paid to women at work in the towns, and specifically urban topics such as trade, crafts, healthcare and prostitution. The latest research on women, gender and masculinity has also been incorporated, along with updated further reading recommendations. This fully revised new edition is a comprehensive yet accessible introduction to the topic, perfect for all those studying women in Europe in the later Middle Ages.

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rested on a proper attitude toward mortality on the part both of the ruled and of their secular and religious rulers. The intricacies of keeping death constantly in mind informed not only the religious prose of the period, but also literary and visual arts. In London’s version of the famous image-text known as the Dance of Death, Thomas Hoccleve’s poetic collection The Series, and the early sixteenth-century prose treatises of Tudor writers Richard Whitford, Thomas Lupset, and Thomas More, death is understood as an explicitly generative force, one capable (if properly managed) of providing vital personal, social, and literary opportunities.
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