



Six Middle English Romances

Edited by Maldwyn Mills



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Six Middle English Romances:

Six Middle English romances Maldwyn Mills,1973

Four Middle English Romances Harriet Hudson,2006-11-01

Sir Isumbras Octavian Sir Eglamour of Artois and Sir Tryamour are important works in a major literary development of the fourteenth century the flourishing of Middle English popular romance These four narratives were among the most popular all survive in multiple manuscripts and continued to circulate in prints through the sixteenth century All were composed in the northeast Midlands in the fifty years between 1325 and 1375 and they appear together in several manuscripts The tale the romances tell of exiled queens orphaned children and penitent fathers was one of the most prevalent medieval stories Sometimes called the Constance Eustace legend after two well known pious versions its influence can be seen in numerous romances

Middle English Romance and the Craft of Memory Jamie McKinstry,2015 An examination of the depiction and function of memory in a variety of romances including Troilus and Criseyde and Sir Gawain and the Green Knight

Studies in Medieval English Romances Derek Brewer,1988 Interest in the literary form of romance has greatly increased over the past few years and begins to equal that of tragedy Romance is seen as a potent model of life equal but opposite to tragedy The modern widespread realisation that art its most powerful is not necessarily a direct realistic imitation or mimesis of ordinary life together with the accompanying interest in fantasy folktale and science fiction have all opened out new vistas of literary experience

The Cambridge Companion to Medieval Romance Roberta L. Krueger,2000-06-22 This Companion presents fifteen original and engaging essays by leading scholars on one of the most influential genres of Western literature Chapters describe the origins of early verse romance in twelfth century French and Anglo Norman courts and analyze the evolution of verse and prose romance in France Germany England Italy and Spain throughout the Middle Ages The volume introduces a rich array of traditions and texts and offers fresh perspectives on the manuscript context of romance the relationship of romance to other genres popular romance in urban contexts romance as mirror of familiar and social tensions and the representation of courtly love chivalry other worlds and gender roles Together the essays demonstrate that European romances not only helped to promulgate the ideals of elite societies in formation but also held those values up for questioning An introduction a chronology and a bibliography of texts and translations complete this lively useful overview

Rereading Middle English Romance Murray James Evans,1995 Focusing on features of layout and decoration in manuscripts containing Middle English romances Murray Evans discusses how these details signal generic and structural relationships among texts Using a computer assisted survey to tabulate and quantify features of decoration and presentation in fifteen manuscript collections including the Auchinleck MS and Cambridge University Library MS Ff 2 38 he demonstrates that romances are decorated more generously than other kinds of texts

Magic and the Supernatural in Medieval English Romance Corinne J. Saunders,2010 This study looks at a wide range of medieval English romance texts including the works of Chaucer and Malory from a broad cultural perspective to show that while they employ magic in order to create exotic

escapist worlds they are also grounded in a sense of possibility and reflect a complex web of inherited and current ideas Book Jacket

Medieval English Romance in Context Gail Ashton, 2010-02-11 Medieval Romance in Context is a clear accessible and concise introduction to medieval English verse romantic texts and their wider contexts It begins by introducing key issues and events that impacted on romance writing and its reception such as chivalric ideals the Black Death wars and Englishness as well as key literary issues such as medieval manuscript production and its transmission Close readings of key texts including Sir Gawain and the Green Knight Breton lays and Chaucer's The Man of Law's Tale highlight generic features and issues like family drama space and time and nationhood The final section introduces key critical interpretations from different perspectives including gender and queer theory and post colonialism in medieval studies A chapter on afterlives and adaptations explores reinterpretations of medieval romance and the Arthurian cycles in a range of popular texts and narratives from Doctor Who to Batman Review Reading and Research sections give suggestions for further reading discussion and research Introducing texts contexts and criticism this is a lively and up to date resource for anyone studying Medieval Romance

Readings in Medieval English Romance Carol M. Meale, 1994 Wide ranging essays engaging with all aspects of medieval romance from textual studies to historical sources

Naming and Namelessness in Medieval Romance Jane Bliss, 2008 A survey of the significance of names or their absence in medieval English French and Anglo Norman romance Naming and namelessness are among the major themes of medieval romance Because the genre is so difficult to define scholars have viewed romance as containing a critical number of themes this book treats naming as a major theme of romance and furthermore examines romance's relationship with contemporary naming theory A new genre it is able to play with naming in a way that previously established genres are not The book begins with a discussion of the medieval background to romance and explores a series of naming patterns found across a broad range of texts It continues with detailed analysis of twenty one romances in English French and Anglo Norman from 1130 to 1500 to show how naming themes are treated differently in each and to demonstrate the importance of name as a generic marker Finally an appendix provides details of each romance's context together with indications for further research JANE BLISS is an independent scholar she gained her PhD from Oxford Brookes University

Landscape in Middle English Romance Andrew M. Richmond, 2021-08-05 Our current ecological crises compel us not only to understand how contemporary media shapes our conceptions of human relationships with the environment but also to examine the historical genealogies of such perspectives Written during the onset of the Little Ice Age in Britain Middle English romances provide a fascinating window into the worldviews of popular vernacular literature and its audiences at the close of the Middle Ages Andrew M Richmond shows how literary conventions of romances shaped and were in turn influenced by contemporary perspectives on the natural world These popular texts also reveal widespread concern regarding the damaging effects of human actions and climate change The natural world was a constant presence in the writing thoughts and lives of the audiences and authors of medieval English

romance and these close readings reveal that our environmental concerns go back further in our history and culture than we think

A Companion to Medieval Poetry Corinne Saunders, 2010-02-12 A Companion to Medieval Poetry presents a series of original essays from leading literary scholars that explore English poetry from the Anglo Saxon period up to the 15th century. Organised into three parts to echo the chronological and stylistic divisions between the Anglo Saxon Middle English and Post Chaucerian periods each section is introduced with contextual essays providing a valuable introduction to the society and culture of the time. Combines a general discussion of genres of medieval poetry with specific consideration of texts and authors including Beowulf Sir Gawain and the Green Knight Chaucer Gower and Langland. Features original essays by eminent scholars including Andy Orchard Carl Schmidt Douglas Gray and Barry Windeatt who present a range of theoretical historical and cultural approaches to reading medieval poetry as well as offering close analysis of individual texts and traditions.

A Companion to Medieval Popular Romance Raluca L. Radulescu, Cory James Rushton, 2009 Popular romance was one of the most wide spread forms of literature in the Middle Ages yet despite its cultural centrality and its fundamental importance for later literary developments the genre has defied precise definition its subject matter ranging from tales of chivalric adventure to saintly women and monsters that become human. The essays in this collection provide contexts definitions and explanations for the genre particularly in an English context. Topics covered include genre and literary classification race and ethnicity gender orality and performance the romance and young readers metre and form printing culture and reception.

Anglicising Romance Rhiannon Purdie, 2008 A reappraisal of the tail rhyme form so strongly associated with medieval English romance. Tail rhyme romance unites a French genre with a continental stanza form so why was it only developed in Middle English literature? This volume seeks to explain why and how the tail rhyme form established itself in medieval English romantic verse.

The Cambridge History of Medieval English Literature David Wallace, 2002-04-25 This was the first full scale history of medieval English literature for nearly a century. Thirty three distinguished contributors offer a collaborative account of literature composed or transmitted in England Wales Ireland and Scotland between the Norman conquest and the death of Henry VIII in 1547. The volume has five sections: After the Norman Conquest Writing in the British Isles Institutional Productions After the Black Death and Before the Reformation. It provides information on a vast range of literary texts and the conditions of their production and reception which will serve both specialists and general readers and also contains a chronology full bibliography and a detailed index. This book offers an extensive and vibrant account of the medieval literatures so drastically reconfigured in Tudor England. It will thus prove essential reading for scholars of the Renaissance as well as medievalists and for historians as well as literary specialists.

Chaucer and his English Contemporaries Tony Davenport, 1998-07-31 Modern ways of presenting Chaucer have often made his work seem normal so that The Canterbury Tales and its much studied General Prologue are seen as archetypes of narrative and prologue. Tony Davenport argues that study of Chaucer's major work alongside contemporary English poems

reveals the odd and extreme aspects of Chaucer's writing as well as the daring and experimental qualities in his work. The focus of the book is on strategies of narrative and discourse but also includes discussion of other much studied Middle English poems.

Romance and Its Contexts in Fifteenth-century England Raluca L. Radulescu, 2013 Although the anonymous pious Middle English romances and Sir Thomas Malory's *Morte Darthur* have rarely been studied in relation to each other they in fact share at least two thematic concerns: vocabularies of suffering and genealogical concerns as this book demonstrates. By examining a broad cultural and political framework stretching from Richard II's deposition to the end of the Wars of the Roses through the prism of piety, politics and penitence the author draws attention to the specific circumstances in which Sir Isumbras, Sir Gowther, Robert of Cisely, Henry Lovelich's *History of the Holy Grail* and Malory's *Morte* were read in fifteenth century England. In the case of the pious romances this implies a study of their reception long after their original composition or translation centuries earlier. In Lovelich's case an examination of metropolitan culture leads to an opening of the discussion to French romance models as well as English chronicle writing.

The English Romance in Time Helen Cooper, 2004-06-17 *The English Romance in Time* is a study of English romance across the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. It explores romance motifs: quests and fairy mistresses, passionate heroines and rudderless boats and missing heirs from the first emergence of the genre in French and Anglo-Norman in the twelfth century down to the early seventeenth. This is a continuous story since the same romances that constituted the largest and most sophisticated body of secular fiction in the Middle Ages went on to enjoy a new and vibrant popularity at all social levels in black letter prints as the pulp fiction of the Tudor age. This embedded culture was reworked for political and Reformation propaganda and for the writing of England as well as providing a generous reservoir of good stories and dramatic plots. The different ways in which the same texts were read over several centuries or the same motifs shifted meaning as understanding and usage altered provide a revealing and sensitive measure of historical and cultural change. The book accordingly looks at those processes of change as well as at how the motifs themselves work to offer a historical semantics of the language of romance conventions. It also looks at how politics and romance intersect the point where romance comes true. The historicizing of the study of literature is belatedly leading to a wider recognition that the early modern world is built on medieval foundations. This book explores both the foundations and the building. Similarly generic theory which previously tended to operate on transhistorical assumptions is now acknowledging that genre interacts crucially with cultural context with changing audiences and ideologies and means of dissemination. The generation into which Spenser and Shakespeare were born was the last to be brought up on a wide range of medieval romances in their original forms and they could therefore exploit their generic codings in new texts aimed at both elite and popular audiences. Romance may since then have lost much of its cultural centrality but the universal appeal of these same stories has continued to fuel later works from Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* to C. S. Lewis and Tolkien.

A Companion to British Literature, Volume 1 Heesok Chang, Robert DeMaria, Jr., Samantha Zacher, 2013-12-13 *A Companion to*

British Literature Medieval Literature 700 1450 **Boundaries in Medieval Romance** Neil Cartlidge, 2008 Medieval romance frequently and perhaps characteristically capitalises on the dramatic and suggestive possibilities implicit in boundaries not only the geographical political and cultural frontiers that medieval romances imagine and imply but also more metaphorical demarcations It is these boundaries as they appear in insular romances circulating in English and French which the essays in this volume address They include the boundary between reality and fictionality boundaries between different literary traditions modes and cultures and boundaries between different kinds of experience or perception especially the altered states associated with sickness magic the supernatural or the divine

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