

Small Books and Pleasant Histories

**Popular Fiction and its Readership
in Seventeenth-Century England**



Margaret Spufford

Smalls And Pleasant Histories

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Smalls And Pleasant Histories:

Small Books and Pleasant Histories Margaret Spufford, 1985-10-03 Dr Spufford's book examines the profits made by these publishers the scale of their operations and the way the small books were distributed throughout the country It also examines their content and compares the English chapbooks with their French counterparts

The Cambridge History of Early Modern English Literature David Loewenstein, Janel M. Mueller, 2002 This 2003 book is a full scale history of early modern English literature offering perspectives on English literature produced in Britain between the Reformation and the Restoration While providing the general coverage and specific information expected of a major history its twenty six chapters address recent methodological and interpretive developments in English literary studies The book has five sections Modes and Means of Literary Production Circulation and Reception The Tudor Era from the Reformation to Elizabeth I The Era of Elizabeth and James VI The Earlier Stuart Era and The Civil War and Commonwealth Era While England is the principal focus literary production in Scotland Ireland and Wales is treated as are other subjects less frequently examined in previous histories including women's writings and the literature of the English Reformation and Revolution This history is an essential resource for specialists and students

Shakespeare's Wife Germaine Greer, 2009-02-24 A New York Times Book Review Notable Book of the Year A polemical ground breaking study of Elizabethan England that reclaims Ann Hathaway's rightful place in history Little is known about the wife of the world's most famous playwright a great deal none of it complimentary has been assumed The omission of her name from Shakespeare's will has been interpreted as evidence that she was nothing more than an unfortunate mistake from which Shakespeare did well to distance himself Yet Shakespeare is above all the poet of marriage Before him there were few comedies or tragedies about wooing or wedding And yet he explored the sacrament in all its aspects spiritual psychological sexual sociological and was the creator of some of the most tenacious and intelligent heroines in English literature Is it possible therefore that Ann who has been mocked and vilified by scholars for centuries was the inspiration Until now there has been no serious critical scholarship devoted to the life and career of the farmer's daughter who married England's greatest poet Part biography part history Shakespeare's Wife is a fascinating reconstruction of Ann's life and an illuminating look at the daily lives of Elizabethan women from their working routines to the rituals of courtship and the minutiae of married life In this thoroughly researched and controversial book Greer steps off the well trodden paths of orthodoxy asks new questions and begins to right the wrongs done to Ann Shakespeare

Reading Popular Romance in Early Modern England Lori Humphrey Newcomb, 2002 This volume examines the proliferation of popular romances their vilification by elite writers and the ultimate opposition of popular and literary fiction Using Robert Greene's Pandosto 1585 an Elizabethan prose romance that inspired Shakespeare's late play The Winter's Tale as a case study Newcomb demonstrates that versions of the two texts repeatedly converge resisting simple high low division Because Shakespeare's works are considered timeless literary achievements critics have distanced his plays from their romance

sources a separation that until now has gone largely unquestioned Newcomb challenges this assumption providing a fascinating account of an early best seller's incarnations over 250 years of literary history [Cheap Print and Street Literature of the Long Eighteenth Century](#) David Atkinson, Steve Roud, 2023-09-04 This deeply researched collection offers a comprehensive introduction to the eighteenth century trade in street literature ballads chapbooks and popular prints in England and Scotland Offering detailed studies of a selection of the printers types of publication and places of publication that constituted the cheap and popular print trade during the period these essays delve into ballads slip songs story books pictures and more to push back against neat divisions between low and high culture or popular and high literature The breadth and depth of the contributions give a much fuller and more nuanced picture of what was being widely published and read during this period than has previously been available It will be of great value to scholars and students of eighteenth century popular culture and literature print history and the book trade ballad and folk studies children's literature and social history

Street Literature of the Long Nineteenth Century David Atkinson, Steve Roud, 2017-08-21 For centuries street literature was the main cheap reading material of the working classes broadsides chapbooks songsters prints engravings and other forms of print produced specifically to suit their taste and cheap enough for even the poor to buy Starting in the sixteenth century but at its chaotic and flamboyant peak in the nineteenth street literature was on sale everywhere in urban streets and alleyways at country fairs and markets at major sporting events and holiday gatherings and under the gallows at public executions For this very reason it was often despised and denigrated by the educated classes but remained enduringly popular with the ordinary people Anything and everything was grist to the printers mill if it would sell A penny could buy you a celebrity scandal a report of a gruesome murder the last dying speech of a condemned criminal wonder tales riddles and conundrums a moral tale of religious danger and redemption a comic tale of drunken husbands and shrewish wives a temperance tract or an ode to beer a satire on dandies an alphabet or reed a ma daisy reading made easy to teach your children an illustrated chapbook of nursery rhymes or the adventures of Robin Hood and Jack the Giant Killer Street literature long held its own by catering directly for the ordinary people at a price they could afford but by the end of the Victorian era it was in terminal decline and was rapidly being replaced by a host of new printed materials in the shape of cheap newspapers and magazines penny dreadful novels music hall songbooks and so on all aimed squarely at the burgeoning mass market Fascinating today for the unique light it shines on the lives of the ordinary people of the age street literature has long been neglected as a historical resource and this collection of essays is the first general book on the trade for over forty years

The Common Voice Adam Fox, 2025-10-22 In this volume Adam Fox brings together a collection of his essays on aspects of oral scribal and printed communication across early modern Britain These studies explore the relationship between spoken and written transmission the processes and products of information gathering and the creation and consumption of street literature Focussing on various parts of the British Isles between the sixteenth and the eighteenth

centuries they illuminate the nature of popular culture the transition to a more literate society and the engagement with ephemeral texts in the handpress world *Novel horizons* Gerd Bayer,2016-07-15 *Novel horizons* analyses how narrative prose fiction developed during the English Restoration It argues that after 1660 generic changes within dramatic texts occasioned an intense debate within prologues and introductions This discussion about the poetics of a genre was echoed in the paratextual material of prose fictions In the absence of an official poetics that defined prose fiction paratexts fulfilled this function and informed readers about the budding genre This study traces the piecemeal development of these boundaries and describes the generic competence of readers through the analysis of paratexts and prose fictions *Novel horizons* covers the surviving textual material widely focusing on narrative prose fictions published between 1660 and 1710 In addition to tracing the paratextual poetics of Restoration fiction this book also covers the state of the art of fiction writing during the period discussing character development narrative point of view and questions of fictionality and realism **Street Ballads in Nineteenth-Century Britain, Ireland, and North America** David Atkinson,Steve Roud,2016-04-01 In recent years the assumption that traditional songs originated from a primarily oral tradition has been challenged by research into street literature that is the cheap printed broadsides and chapbooks that poured from the presses of jobbing printers from the late sixteenth century until the beginning of the twentieth Not only are some traditional singers known to have learned songs from printed sources but most of the songs were composed by professional writers and reached the populace in printed form *Street Ballads in Nineteenth Century Britain Ireland and North America* engages with the long running debate over the origin of traditional songs by examining street literature s interaction with and influence on oral traditions *Literature and Popular Culture in Early Modern England* Matthew Dimmock,Andrew Hadfield,2009 Now in its third edition Peter Burke s 1978 book *Popular Culture in Early Modern Europe* has for thirty years set the benchmark for cultural historians with its wide ranging and imaginative exploration of early modern European popular culture In order to celebrate this achievement and to explore the ways in which perceptions of popular culture have changed in the intervening years a group of leading scholars are brought together in this new volume to examine Burke s thesis in relation to England Adopting an appropriately interdisciplinary approach the collection offers an unprecedented survey of the field of popular culture in early modern England as it currently stands bringing together scholars at the forefront of developments in an expanding area Concluded by an Afterword by Peter Burke the volume provides a vivid sense of the range and significance of early modern popular culture and the difficulties involved in defining and studying it *History, Gazetteer, and Directory of the County of Derby* Anonymous,2023-06-08 Reprint of the original first published in 1857 The publishing house Anatiposi publishes historical books as reprints Due to their age these books may have missing pages or inferior quality Our aim is to preserve these books and make them available to the public so that they do not get lost *History, gazetteer, and directory of the county of Essex* William White,1863 *History, gazetteer, and directory, of the east and north ridings of Yorkshire* William White,1840

History, Gazetteer and Directory of the County of Derby, with the Town of Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, Comprising a General Survey of the County White, Francis, & Co,1857 History, gazetteer, and directory, of Suffolk William White,1855 *History, gazetteer, and directory of Devonshire* William White,1850 **History, Gazetteer, and Directory of the County of Essex** William White (Publisher in Sheffield.),1863 History of Whiteside County, Illinois, from Its First Settlement to the Present Time Charles Bent,1877 *History, gazetteer, and directory of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight* William White,1859 **Pamphlets. American History** ,1875

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