# Chaucer's Sexual Poetics



Carolyn Dinshaw

## **Chaucers Sexual Poetics**

Siân Echard

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Chaucer's Sexual Poetics Carolyn Dinshaw, 1989 Through an analysis of the poems Chaucers wordes Unto Adam His Owne Scriveyn Troilus and Criseyde the Legend of Good Women the Man of Law s Tale the Wife of Bath s Tale and its Prologue the Clerk's Tale and the Pardoner's Tale Carolyn Dinshaw offers a provocative argument on medieval sexual constructs and Chaucer's role in shaping them Operating under the assumption that people read and write certain ways based upon society s demands Dinshaw examines gender identity and the effects of a patriarchal society. The focal point of Dinshaw's argument is the idea that the literary text can be seen as the female body while any literary activities upon the text are decidedly male Through a series of six provocative essays Dinshaw argues that Chaucer was not only aware that gender is a social construction but that he self consciously worked to oppose the dominance of masculinity that a patriarchal society places on texts by creating works in which gender identity and hierarchy were more fluid Chaucer's Sexual Poetics Carolyn Dinshaw, 2018 Through an analysis of the poems Chaucers wordes Unto Adam His Owne Scriveyn Troilus and Criseyde the Legend of Good Women the Man of Law s Tale the Wife of Bath s Tale and its Prologue the Clerk s Tale and the Pardoner's Tale Carolyn Dinshaw offers a provocative argument on medieval sexual constructs and Chaucer's role in shaping them Operating under the assumption that people read and write certain ways based upon society s demands Dinshaw examines gender identity and the effects of a patriarchal society. The focal point of Dinshaw's argument is the idea that the literary text can be seen as the female body while any literary activities upon the text are decidedly male Through a series of six provocative essays Dinshaw argues that Chaucer was not only aware that gender is a social construction but that he self consciously worked to oppose the dominance of masculinity that a patriarchal society places on texts by creating works in which gender identity and hierarchy were more fluid The Yale Companion to Chaucer Seth Lerer, 2006-01-01 A collection of essays on Chaucer's poetry this guide provides up to date information on the history and textual contexts of Chaucer's work on the ranges of critical interpretation and on the poet s place in English and European literary history **Companion to Gower** Siân Echard, 2004 An introduction to Gower and his work focusing on his sources historical context and literary tradition special attention is paid to Confessio Amantis **Chaucer's Pardoner and Gender Theory NA** NA,2016-04-30 Chaucer's Pardoner and Gender Theory the first book length treatment of the character examines the Pardoner in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales from the perspective of both medieval and twentieth century theories of sex gender and erotic practice Sturges argues for a discontinuous fragmentary reading of this character and his tale that is genuinely both premodern and postmodern Drawing on theorists ranging from St Augustine and Alain de Lille to Judith Butler and Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick Sturges approaches the Pardoner as a representative of the construction of historical and sexual identities in a variety of historically specific discourses and argues that medieval understandings of gender remain sedimented in postmodern discourse Chaucer, Ethics, and Gender Alcuin Blamires, 2006-04-06 Alcuin Blamires

explains how Chaucer shapes human problems in terms of the uneasy mix of moral traditions at the time He looks at the main ethical and gender issues that dominate Chaucer's work Chaucer's Clerk's Tale Judith Bronfman, 2019-09-20 Originally published in 1994 This surveys the origin and development of one of Chaucer's most problematic characters Griselda who through the centuries has challenged the horizon of expectations of many an audience Starting with Boccaccio's Decameron and suggesting in turn its precursors in whole or in part Bronfman goes on to summarize the reigning opinions of Chaucer's heroine and her situation The advance of feminist perspectives on medieval literature had the result that for many the Clerk's Tale has political overtones where the Walter Griselda marriage may serve as a metaphor for among other things the state or right order This study looks at the story from a long view from its sources to the flood of critical interpretations the creative reception of Chaucer's story outlining the many rewritings of Griselda from Chaucer to the twentieth century A special chapter considers the Griselda story as represented in illustrations as well Chaucer's Approach to Gender in the Canterbury Tales Anne Laskaya, 1995 This volume presents a feminist approach to the Canterbury Tales investigating the ways in which the tensions and contradictions found within the broad contours of medieval gender discourse write themselves into Chaucer's text Four discourses of medieval masculinity are examined which simultaneously reinforce and resist one another heroic or chivalric Christian courtly love and emerging humanist models Each chapter attempts to negotiate both contemporary assumptions of gender construction and essentialist readings of gender common to the middle ages throughout the author argues that the Canterbury Tales offer a sophisticated discussion of masculinity and that it strongly indicts some of the prevalent medieval notions of ideal masculinity while still remaining firmly homosocial and homophobic The book concludes that on the question of gender issues the Tales are best studied as male authored texts containing representations and negotiations revealing much about late medieval masculinities Dr ANNE LASKAYA teaches in the English Department at the University of Oregon **The Tempter's Voice** Eric Jager, 2018-07-05 Why was the story of Adam Eve and the Serpent so important to medieval literary culture Eric Jager argues that during the Middle Ages the story of the Fall was incorporated into a comprehensive myth about language Drawing on a wide range of texts Jager shows how patristic and medieval authors used the Fall to confront practical and theoretical problems in many areas of life and thought including education hermeneutics rhetoric feudal politics and gender relations Jager explores the Fall's meaning for clergy and laity nobles and commoners men and women Among the works Jager discusses are texts by Ambrose Augustine the early Christian poet Avitus and scholastic authors Old English biblical epics Middle English spiritual writings French courtesy books and the poetry of Dante and Chaucer Examples from the visual arts are included as well Jager links medieval interpretations of the Fall to underlying cultural anxieties about the ambiguity of the sign the instability of oral tradition the pleasure of the text and the many rhetorical guises of the tempter's voice He also assesses the modern and postmodern legacy of the Fall showing how this myth continues to embody central ideas concerning language The Tempter's Voice will be

essential reading for scholars and students in such fields as medieval studies literary theory gender theory comparative literature cultural history and the history of religion The Cambridge Companion to Chaucer Piero Boitani, Jill Mann, 2003 The Cambridge Companion to Chaucer is an extensively revised version of the first edition which has become a classic in the field This new volume responds to the success of the first edition and to recent debates in Chaucer Studies Important material has been updated and new contributions have been commissioned to take into account recent trends in literary theory as well as in studies of Chaucer's works New chapters cover the literary inheritance traceable in his works to French and Italian sources his style as well as new approaches to his work Other topics covered include the social and literary scene in England in Chaucer's time and comedy pathos and romance in the Canterbury Tales The volume now offers a useful chronology and the bibliography has been entirely updated to provide an indispensable guide for today's student of Chaucer

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