



Chaucer's Pardoner and Gender Theory: Bodies of Discourse (The New Middle Ages)

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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.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Many journal articles have been published about the sexuality of the Pardoner in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, but this is the first book-length study of the character. Along with its extensive examination of the Pardoner's sexuality, the book delves into medieval society's perception of and attitudes toward ambiguous gender. In fact, this effort, part of "The New Middle Ages" series, which emphasizes transdisciplinary studies of medieval cultures, focuses more on medieval views of gender than on analyzing Chaucer's work. Most readers would find a selection of journal articles about Chaucer's Pardoner more useful and accessible. Sturges (English, Univ. of New Orleans) has published numerous articles and one book about medieval French literature. Because his vocabulary is very specialized and his literary quotations are not translated, readers must be familiar with Middle English and with gender-studies terminology. Recommended for academic libraries only.

-Shana C. Fair, *Ohio Univ., Zanesville*

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Review

"...the arguments...throughout the book are presented lucidly...the book is never dull." --*College Literature*

About the Author

Robert S. Sturges is Professor of English at the University of New Orleans.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Antonio Haynie:

Now a day people who Living in the era everywhere everything reachable by connect with the internet and the resources inside it can be true or not need people to be aware of each details they get. How individuals to be smart in having any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Looking at a book can help individuals out of this uncertainty Information mainly this Chaucer's Pardoner and Gender Theory: Bodies of Discourse (The New Middle Ages) book as this book offers you rich information and knowledge. Of course the information in this book hundred % guarantees there is no doubt in it you may already know.

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James Alvarez:

Chaucer's Pardoner and Gender Theory: Bodies of Discourse (The New Middle Ages) can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort that will put every word into pleasure arrangement in writing Chaucer's Pardoner and Gender Theory: Bodies of Discourse (The New Middle Ages) however doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource info that maybe you can be considered one of it. This great information may drawn you into fresh stage of crucial contemplating.

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