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**The Book of Margery Kempe** Feb 28 2021

**The Book of Margery Kempe** Sep 06 2021 Contains primary source material.

**Margery Kempe** Jan 10 2022 Originally published in 1992, Margery Kempe looks at one of the most appealing mystics and pilgrims of 15th-century England. The book looks at Margery Kempe, and her book *The Book of Margery Kempe*, thought to be the first vernacular autobiography in medieval Britain. Original essays in the book examines Kempe's spirituality, cultural context, and the autobiography itself, *The Book of Margery Kempe*. The essays in the book represent detail literary analysis on Kempe and the critical history of her words.

**Margery Kempe and the Lonely Reader** Feb 17 2020 Since its rediscovery in 1934, the fifteenth-century *Book of Margery Kempe* has become a canonical text for students of medieval Christian mysticism and spirituality. Its author was a fifteenth-century English laywoman who, after the birth of her first child, experienced vivid religious visions and vowed to lead a deeply religious life while remaining part of the secular world. After twenty years, Kempe began to compose with the help of scribes a book of consolation, a type of devotional writing found in late medieval religious culture that taught readers how to find spiritual comfort and how to feel about one's spiritual life. In *Margery Kempe and the Lonely Reader*, Rebecca Krug shows how and why Kempe wrote her *Book*, arguing that in her engagement with written culture she discovered a desire to experience spiritual comfort and to interact with fellow believers who also sought to live lives of intense emotional engagement. An unlikely candidate for authorship in the late medieval period given her gender and lack of formal education, Kempe wrote her *Book* as a revisionary act. Krug shows how the *Book* reinterprets concepts from late medieval devotional writing (comfort, despair, shame, fear, and loneliness) in its search to create a spiritual community that reaches out to and includes Kempe, her friends, family, advisers, and potential readers. Krug offers a fresh analysis of the *Book* as a written work and draws attention to the importance of reading, revision, and collaboration for understanding both Kempe's particular decision to write and the social conditions of late medieval women's authorship.

**Margery Kempe's Dissenting Fictions** Jun 22 2020 *Margery Kempe's Dissenting Fictions*, a contextual and historical study of the *Book*, focuses on Kempe's ability to construct a fiction that exploits the conventions of sacred biography and devotional prose as the means of scrutinizing the very foundations of fifteenth-century English society. Thus, though the *Book* is cast into a communally sanctioned "female" form, Kempe uses the very conventions that tended to define that form to test its outer limits. In producing a text whose apparatus locates it in a communal context, she signals her grasp of the relationship between both gender and genre and genre and public, but her underlying technique works to dissolve the very community she thereby constitutes. In so doing, she creates a work that is open to radically opposed readings. Each of the book's four chapters considers a key aspect of Kempe's fiction: her manipulation of the tropes of authorship; her exploitation of the conventions of sacred biography; her use of the language of gender as a means of exploring the issue of spiritual authority; and her handling of such important contemporary issues as vernacular translation and nationalism. The conclusion addresses the issue of community that is radically opposed to contemporary views of the English body politic. In situating Kempe in relation to contemporary texts and to contemporary issues, such as Lollardy, Lynn Staley provides a radically new way of looking at Kempe herself as an author who was fully aware of the types of constrictions she faced as a woman writer. As the study demonstrates, in Kempe we have the first major prose fiction writer of the Middle Ages. Her *Book* is a tribute to her keen understanding of conventional forms and modes and thus to her ability to reshape traditional materials. It is also a tribute to her understanding of the ways in which she might exploit the conventions and values of a patriarchal society to her own ends. Rather than Margery, the hysteric, Staley insists on Kempe, the controlling author, who, like Chaucer and Langland, creates a fiction that dramatizes the weaknesses of the social and ecclesiastical institutions of her day.

**The Book of Margery Kempe** Oct 19 2022 The autobiography of English mystic Margery Kempe (ca. 1373 to ca. 1440), one of the most fascinating works in literary history, is available for the first time in a modern and lively translation.

**The Book of Margery Kempe** May 02 2021

**The Book of Margery Kempe** Dec 09 2021 "You can boldly take me in the arms of your soul and kiss my mouth, my head, and my feet as sweetly as you want" The story of the eventful and controversial life of Margery Kempe - wife, mother, businesswoman, pilgrim and visionary - is the earliest surviving autobiography in English. Here Kemp recounts in vivid, unembarrassed detail the madness that followed the birth of the first of her fourteen children, the failure of her brewery business, her dramatic call to the spiritual life, her visions and uncontrollable tears, the struggle to convert her husband to a vow of chastity and her pilgrimages to Europe and the Holy Land. Margery Kempe could not read or write, and dictated her remarkable story late in life. It remains an extraordinary record of human faith and a portrait of a medieval woman of unforgettable character and courage. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

**The Oldest Vocation** Apr 20 2020 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 maternity and holiness. *The Oldest Vocation* concludes where most histories of motherhood begin—in early modern Europe, when the family was institutionalized as a center of religious and social organization. Anyone interested in the status of motherhood, or in women's history, the cultural history of the Middle Ages, or the history of religion will want to read this book.

**The Cambridge Companion to Medieval English Literature 1100-1500** Oct 15 2019 A wide-ranging survey of the most important medieval authors and genres, designed for students of English.

**A Companion to The Book of Margery Kempe** May 14 2022 Margery Kempe's *Book* provides rare access to the "marginal voice" of a lay medieval woman, and is now the focus of much critical study. This Companion seeks to complement the existing almost exclusively literary scholarship with work that also draws significantly on historical analysis, and is concerned to contextualise Kempe's *Book* in a number of

different ways, using her work as a way in to the culture and society of medieval northern Europe. Topics include images and pilgrimage; women, work and trade in medieval Norfolk; political culture and heresy; the prophetic tradition; female mystics and the body; women's roles and lifecycle; religious drama and reenactment; autobiography and gender. Contributors JOHN H. ARNOLD, P.H. CULLUM, ISABEL DAVIS, ALLYSON FOSTER, JACQUELINE JENKINS, KATHERINE J. LEWIS, KATE PARKER, KIM M. PHILLIPS, SARAH SALIH, CLAIRE SPONSLER, DIANE WATT, BARRY WINDEATT.

*How To Be a Medieval Woman* May 22 2020 'And then he, completely astonished at her words, left off his lewdness, saying to her as many a man had done before, "Either you are a truly good woman or else a truly wicked woman." ' Brave, outspoken and guaranteed to annoy people wherever she went - including exasperated fellow pilgrims in Jerusalem and her long-suffering husband - Margery Kempe was one of the most vivid and unforgettable voices of the Middle Ages. Whether travelling alone, getting herself arrested or having visions of marrying Jesus, Margery repeatedly defied feminine convention - and also managed to compose the first autobiography in English, despite being unable to read or write. One of 46 new books in the bestselling Little Black Classics series, to celebrate the first ever Penguin Classic in 1946. Each book gives readers a taste of the Classics' huge range and diversity, with works from around the world and across the centuries - including fables, decadence, heartbreak, tall tales, satire, ghosts, battles and elephants.

**Encountering The Book of Margery Kempe** Jun 15 2022 This innovative critical volume brings the study of Margery Kempe into the twenty-first century. Structured around four categories of 'encounter' – textual, internal, external and performative – the volume offers a capacious exploration of The Book of Margery Kempe, characterised by multiple complementary and dissonant approaches. It employs a multiplicity of scholarly and critical lenses, including the intertextual history of medieval women's literary culture, medical humanities, history of science, digital humanities, literary criticism, oral history, the global Middle Ages, archival research and creative re-imagining. Revealing several new discoveries about Margery Kempe and her Book in its global contexts, and offering multiple ways of reading the Book in the modern world, it will be an essential companion for years to come.

Margery Kempe's Meditations Jan 18 2020 The author argues that 'The Book of Margery Kempe' unfolds a creative experience of memory as spiritual progress, and explores Margery's meditational experience in the context of visual and verbal iconography.

**Authority and the Female Body in the Writings of Julian of Norwich and Margery Kempe** Nov 15 2019 The three archetypal representations of woman in the middle ages, as mother, as whore and as 'wise woman', are all clearly present in the writings of Julian of Norwich and Margery Kempe; in examining the ways in which both writers make use of these female categories, Dr. McAvoy establishes the extent of their success in resolving the tension between society's expectations of them and their own lived experiences as women and writers."--Jacket.

**Skirting Heresy** Jun 03 2021 It was perhaps England's darkest hour. It was a time when reading the Bible was against the law, and there was a death penalty in place to stop heresy; even Catholic priests were being burned alive. Margery Kempe was born into this world. She dared to follow her truth, and the calling she knew came from Jesus Christ himself. But she paid mightily for it, and she was repeatedly arrested, put on trial, even threatened with death. Kempe's only lifeline was her wit, determination, and a few influential friends who believed in her cause.

Margery Kempe's Dissenting Fictions Dec 29 2020

**Medieval Women Writers** Dec 17 2019 This is one of the first anthologies devoted to the writings of women in the Middle Ages. The fifteen women whose works are represented span seven centuries, eight languages, and ten regions or nationalities. Many are recognized, taught, and anthologized in their own countries but have been inaccessible to students in English. Others are little read today because their literary fortunes have paralleled fluctuations in literary taste and literary patronage. Katharina M. Wilson's introduction to the volume places these writers in historical context and explores the question of the female imagination and who these women were who were writing at a time when very few women were literate and most literature, sacred and secular, was penned by men. Each of the fifteen chapters has been written by a different scholar and includes a biographical and critical introduction to the writer, a representative selection of her works in translation, and a bibliography.

The Book of Margery Kempe Jul 24 2020 "The Book of Margery Kempe" is a semi-finalist in the 2012 Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award Contest. Janie Radcliffe is a brilliant yet introverted editor of seventeenth-century poetry and literature. Given to hearing voices from the past, and woefully out of step with her own time, she lives a cloistered, humdrum existence, until her world suddenly changes when her impresario boss, London publisher Bill Avery, asks her to take a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Her assignment is to walk in the footsteps of Margery Kempe, the author of the first autobiography in English, and the most well-known, and least understood, Christian mystic in all of Western literature. The Book of Margery Kempe is a moving portrait of pilgrimage, of how one must pass through the dark night of the soul and confront the demons of the past in order to acquire self-knowledge. Modeling her behavior after that of Margery and the "mystical heroines of the past," Janie endures fasting, mortification, and other hardships until, finally, she emerges from her pilgrimage on a foreign shore, a triumphant and translucent woman ready to shape her own destiny. Combining the dramatic intensity of Lars von Trier's *Breaking the Waves* with the lyrical prose of Colum McCann's *Zoli*, *The Book of Margery Kempe* questions the belief that God and self are easily known. Janie's story is one that depicts the trials and tribulations demanded of those who would seek to know the "flame within." In so doing, the work asks readers how much they are willing to give up to do the same. The Publishers Weekly Review of "The Book of Margery Kempe." "This first-rate manuscript incorporates contemporary fiction and historical nonfiction to tell a tale of spiritual transformation and the search for self. It utilizes "The Book of Margery Kempe" -- the first autobiography written in English, circa 1437, which recounts the life of medieval mystic and pilgrim Margery Kempe -- as the catalyst that spurs its modern-day and medieval characters to action. And it switches from narrator to narrator and from 1431 to 2007. The story begins when London publisher Bill Avery acquires the rights to distribute "The Book of Margery Kempe," and asks Janie Radcliffe, Avery Publishing's British literature specialist, to write the book's Introduction. Janie delves into her research and discovers that Margery dictated her story to two scribes -- one of whom is Arthur Chartis, a character who speaks eloquently of his consequential encounters with Marjorie and his own desire to confer with the Lord. This intriguing and impressive manuscript names the second scribe early, defying centuries-old assumptions about the scribe's possible identity. Janie becomes increasingly transfixed by Margery's mysticism. Could Margery hear God's voice, as she claimed? Or was she a heretic who flouted ecclesiastical authority? To generate publicity for the book's release Ambrose Wells, Avery's advertising guru, devises a marketing stunt: a reenactment of Margery's pilgrimage from England to Jerusalem with Janie "following in Margery's footsteps" and contributing missives along her journey to a London newspaper. What begins as a trite tactic to sell books morphs into Janie's veritable God quest -- the outcome of which solidifies Janie's persona and stupefies Bill, Ambrose, and Janie's mother. Keen insight, vivid characters, and solid storytelling make this one to watch.

Gale Researcher Guide for: The Book of Margery Kempe Apr 01 2021 Gale Researcher Guide for: The Book of Margery Kempe is selected from Gale's academic platform Gale Researcher. These study guides provide peer-reviewed articles that allow students early success in finding scholarly materials and to gain the confidence and vocabulary needed to pursue deeper research.

**Margery Kempe** Jul 16 2022 Lust, religious zeal, and heartache come together in this provocative novel about two infatuations, one between a man and his young lover in the late 20th century and another between a 15th-century woman and Jesus Christ. First published in 1994, Robert Glück's *Margery Kempe* is one of the most provocative, poignant, and inventive American novels of the last quarter century. The book tells two stories of romantic obsession. One, based on the first autobiography in English, the medieval *Book of Margery Kempe*, is about a fifteenth-century woman from East Anglia, a visionary, a troublemaker, a pilgrim to the Holy Land, and an aspiring saint, and her love affair with Jesus. It is complicated. The other is about the author's own love for an alluring and elusive young American, L. It is

complicated. Between these two Margery Kempe, the novel, emerges as an unprecedented exploration of desire, devotion, abjection, and sexual obsession in the form of a novel like no other novel. Robert Glück's masterpiece bears comparison with the finest work of such writers as Kathy Acker and Chris Kraus. This edition includes an essay by Glück about the creation of the book titled "My Margery, Margery's Bob."

**The Book of Margery Kempe** Jul 04 2021 Margery Kempe's text draws on her maternal, female body to illuminate her relationship to the divine.

**The Book of Margery Kempe** Dec 21 2022 In this fresh, classroom-friendly volume, Margery Kempe, a married woman from fifteenth-century England, dictates her remarkable life story. Far from provincial, this extraordinary woman tells us about her business ventures in Lynn, her spiritual conversion and asceticism, and her travels all around Europe and the Holy Land while on pilgrimage. Kempe presents a splendidly detailed perspective of a woman from the rising middle class of the late Middle Ages, of a frequent pilgrim, and of a would-be saint gifted with spectacular crying. This edition, faithful to the original Middle English text but edited for accessibility to students, includes a gloss, notes, introduction, and a glossary, making *The Book of Margery Kempe* an excellent choice for any class interested in religion, gender, travel, or even daily life in late medieval Europe.

Margery Kempe Feb 11 2022 A fresh account of the medieval mystic, traveling pilgrim, and pioneering memoirist Margery Kempe. This is a new account of the medieval mystic and pilgrim Margery Kempe.

Kempe, who had fourteen children, traveled all over Europe and recorded a series of unusual events and religious visions in her work *The Book of Margery Kempe*, which is often called the first autobiography in the English language. Anthony Bale charts Kempe's life and tells her story through the places, relationships, objects, and experiences that influenced her. Extensive quotations from Kempe's Book accompany generous illustrations, giving a fascinating insight into the life of a medieval woman. Margery Kempe is situated within the religious controversies of her time, and her religious visions and later years put in context. And lastly, Bale tells the extraordinary story of the rediscovery, in the 1930s, of the unique manuscript of her autobiography.

**Margery Kempe and Her World** Mar 12 2022 "Margery Kempe is one of the most extraordinary figures in English medieval history. Daughter of a mayor of King's Lynn, wife of a burgess and mother of fourteen children, she was also the author of the first surviving autobiography composed by an Englishwoman. The Book of Margery Kempe, dictated in the 1430s, survives in a single manuscript which was discovered in the 1930s. It is an uninhabited, exhibitionist outpouring of impassioned religious emotions. The Book comprises an account of the mystical intimations of a lady born into Lynn's stately but troubled elite. Visionary episodes are interlinked with equally dramatic accounts of mundane experiences, in Margery's home town, in other parts of England, and as far afield as Jerusalem, Rome and Brandenburg."--BOOK JACKET.

**The Incendium Amoris of Richard Rolle of Hampole** Mar 20 2020

**Mystic and Pilgrim** Sep 18 2022 Traces the life of the fifteenth-century woman who wrote the first autobiography to appear in English and describes what life was like for English women at that time

**The Book of Margery Kempe** Nov 08 2021 The history of *The Book of Margery Kempe* from its first production in 1934 is also part of the history of English literary studies. Marea Mitchell traces some of the fascinating stories behind the proliferation of productions since then, including the involvement of Hope Emily Allen and other independent women scholars, popular receptions of the Book in World War II, and current productions that locate it as part of a medieval literary canon. Working from a cultural materialist perspective, Mitchell focuses on the materiality of the text itself and of the bodies of scholarship that have arisen around it.

**God is an Earthquake** Jan 30 2021

**Margery Kempe's Spiritual Medicine** Sep 25 2020 *The Book of Margery Kempe* set in the context of medieval medical discourse.

Margery Kempe and Translations of the Flesh Apr 13 2022 "A feminist analysis of the writing of the fifteenth-century English mystic, showing how Kempe exploited the gendered ideologies of flesh and text, violated taboos, and responded to the constraints of her time."—Book News, Inc.

**The Book of Margery Kempe** Feb 23 2023 The story of the eventful and controversial life of Margery Kempe - wife, mother, businesswoman, pilgrim and visionary - is the earliest surviving autobiography in English. Here Kempe (c.1373-c.1440) recounts in vivid, unembarrassed detail the madness that followed the birth of the first of her fourteen children, the failure of her brewery business, her dramatic call to the spiritual life, her visions and uncontrollable tears, the struggle to convert her husband to a vow of chastity and her pilgrimages to Europe and the Holy Land. Margery Kempe could not read or write, and dictated her remarkable story late in life. It remains an extraordinary record of human faith and a portrait of a medieval woman of unforgettable character and courage.

*The Book of Marvels and Travels* Nov 27 2020 'Another island in the Great Ocean has many sinful and malevolent women, who have precious gems in their eyes.' In his *Book of Marvels and Travels*, Sir John Mandeville describes a journey from Europe to Jerusalem and on into Asia, and the many wonderful and monstrous peoples and practices in the East. He tells us about the Sultan in Cairo, the Great Khan in China, and the mythical Christian prince Prester John. There are giants and pygmies, cannibals and Amazons, headless humans and people with a single foot so huge it can shield them from the sun. Forceful and opinionated, the narrator is by turns bossy, learned, playful, and moralizing, with an endless curiosity about different cultures. Written in the fourteenth century, the Book is a captivating blend of fact and fantasy, an extraordinary travel narrative that offers some revealing and unexpected attitudes towards other races and religions. It was immensely popular, and numbered among its readers Chaucer, Columbus, and Thomas More. Anthony Bale's new translation emphasizes the book's readability, and his introduction and notes bring us closer to Mandeville's medieval worldview. ABOUT THE SERIES: For over 100 years Oxford World's Classics has made available the widest range of literature from around the globe. Each affordable volume reflects Oxford's commitment to scholarship, providing the most accurate text plus a wealth of other valuable features, including expert introductions by leading authorities, helpful notes to clarify the text, up-to-date bibliographies for further study, and much more.

**The Book of Margery Kempe** Jan 22 2023 This volume presents the original text in a form accessible to modern readers, with on-page glossing and a glossary of common words. The text is also accompanied by on-page annotation and commentary setting Kempe's life in the social, political and spiritual context of her time.

The Revelations of Margery Kempe Oct 07 2021

*Perilous Passages* Oct 27 2020 This study will significantly further our interpretations of the unique autobiography of Margery Kempe, lay woman turned mystic and visionary. Following the manuscript from a Carthusian monastery through history, Chappell bridges the gaps in our understanding of the transmission of texts from the medieval past to the present.

*The Book of Margery Kempe* Nov 20 2022 *The Book of Margery Kempe* is the extraordinary account of a medieval wife, mother, and mystic. The earliest autobiography in English, it describes Kempe's transformation from businesswoman to pilgrim, her visions, hostile encounters with clergy and travels to holy sites abroad. This new translation provides full introduction and notes.

**The Book of Margery Kempe, Fourteen Hundred & Thirty-six** Aug 25 2020

**The book of Margery Kempe** Aug 17 2022 There is also a chronology of Kempe's life, a helpful summary analysis of the chapters, and a full bibliography, in this new edition of a work now accepted as among the most significant English texts of the Middle Ages."--Jacket.

**The Book of Margery Kempe** Aug 05 2021 *The Book of Margery Kempe* is the story of a boisterous worldly mystic, that will appeal to modern women. Margery, the mother of fourteen, wife of a debt-ridden &

lustly husband, & a hoarder of "secret" sin, brings the world of medieval women alive to contemporary readers. Her earthly & emotional autobiography, dictated to a priest near the end of her life & known as the first written in English, reveals a woman whose passions & vanities were turned from self-absorption to the service of her Lord. It records a brand of mysticism marked by pilgrimages, secret penances, near hangings as a heretic, uncontrollable tears inspired by the Holy Spirit, & a love of God so intense that the passion of Jesus reeled before Margery in much the same way as a film does for us today. The Book of Margery Kempe paints a vivid portrait of a unique medieval mystic-a woman more vibrantly & emotionally attached to God than to pious mortifications carried out in isolation.

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