

Bishops and the Politics of Patronage in Merovingian Gaul

GREGORY I. HALFOND

September 2019 220pp 1 map
9781501739316 £43.00 / \$49.95 HB
CORNELL UNIVERSITY PRESS

Following the dissolution of the Western Roman Empire, local Christian leaders were confronted with the problem of how to conceptualize and administer their regional churches. As Halfond shows, the bishops of post-Roman Gaul oversaw a transformation in the relationship between church and state. He shows that by constituting themselves as a corporate body, the Gallic episcopate was able to wield significant political influence on local, regional, and kingdom-wide scales. Halfond demonstrates, individual bishops, motivated by the promise of royal patronage to provide various forms of service to the court, often struggled, sometimes unsuccessfully, to balance their competing loyalties. However, even the resulting conflicts between individual bishops did not, he shows, fundamentally undermine the Gallo-Frankish episcopate's corporate identity or integrity. Ultimately, Halfond provides a far more subtle and sophisticated understanding of church-state relations across the early medieval period.

Excludes ANZ



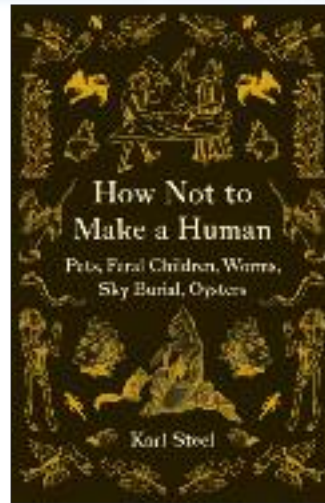
Bonds of Secrecy

Law, Spirituality, and the Literature of Concealment in Early Medieval England

BENJAMIN A. SALTZMAN

The Middle Ages Series
October 2019 400pp 12 illus.
9780812251616 £69.00 / \$79.95 HB
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS

What did it mean to keep a secret in early medieval England? It was a period during which the experience of secrecy was intensely bound to the belief that God knew all human secrets, yet the secrets of God remained unknowable to human beings. In *Bonds of Secrecy*, Benjamin A. Saltzman argues that this double-edged conception of secrecy and divinity profoundly affected the way believers acted and thought as subjects under the law, as the devout within monasteries, and as readers before books. One crucial way it did so was by forming an ethical relationship between the self and the world that was fundamentally different from its modern reflex. Whereas today the bearers of secrets might be judged for the consequences of their reticence or disclosure, Saltzman observes, in the early Middle Ages a person attempting to conceal a secret was judged for believing he or she could conceal it from God. In other words, to attempt to hide from God was to become ensnared in a serious sin, but to hide from the world while deliberately and humbly submitting to God's constant observation was often a hallmark of spiritual virtue.



How Not to Make a Human

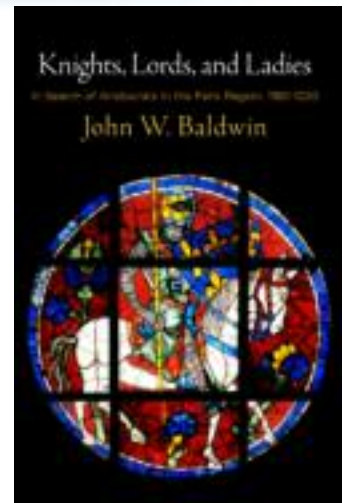
Pets, Feral Children, Worms, Sky Burial, Oysters

KARL STEEL

December 2019 280pp 9 illus.
9781517905279 £21.99 / \$27.00 PB
9781517905262 £93.00 / \$108.00 HB
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS

Mainstream medieval thought, like much of mainstream modern thought, habitually argued that because humans alone had language, reason, and immortal souls, all other life was simply theirs for the taking. But outside this scholarly consensus teemed a host of other ways to imagine the shared worlds of humans and nonhumans. *How Not to Make a Human* engages with these nonsystematic practices and thought to challenge both human particularity and the notion that agency, free will, and rationality are the defining characteristics of being human. Exploring a diverse range of topics, Steel furnishes contemporary posthumanists with overlooked cultural models to challenge human and other supremacies at their roots. By collecting beliefs and practices outside the mainstream of medieval thought, *How Not to Make a Human* connects contemporary concerns with ecology, animal life, and rethinkings of what it means to be human to uncanny materials that emphasize matters of death, violence, edibility, and vulnerability.

Excludes Japan & ANZ



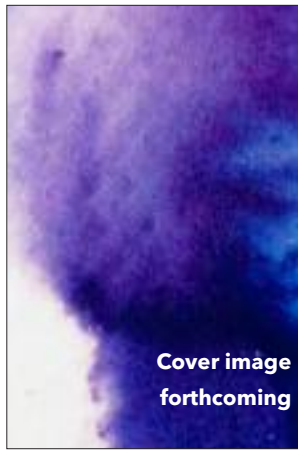
Knights, Lords, and Ladies

In Search of Aristocrats in the Paris Region, 1180-1220

JOHN W. BALDWIN

FOREWORD BY
WILLIAM CHESTER JORDAN
The Middle Ages Series
November 2019 456pp 39 color, 35 b&w illus.
9780812251289 £52.00 / \$59.95 HB
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS

In his final book, the distinguished historian John Baldwin turned to church charters, royal inventories of fiefs and vassals, aristocratic seals and documents, vernacular texts, and archaeological evidence to create a detailed picture of the transformation of aristocratic life in the areas around Paris during the four decades of Philip Augustus's reign. Working outward from the reconstructed biographies of seventy-five individuals from thirty-three noble families, Baldwin offers a rich description of their domestic lives, their horses and war gear, their tournaments and crusades, their romantic fantasies, and their penances and apprehensions about final judgment. *Knights, Lords, and Ladies* argues that the aristocrats who inhabited the region of Paris over the turn of the twelfth century were important not only because they contributed to Philip Augustus's increase of royal power and because they contributed to the wealth of churches and monasteries but also for their own establishment as an elite and powerful social class.



Cover image
forthcoming

Pure Filth

Ethics, Politics, and Religion in Early French Farce

NOAH D. GUYNN

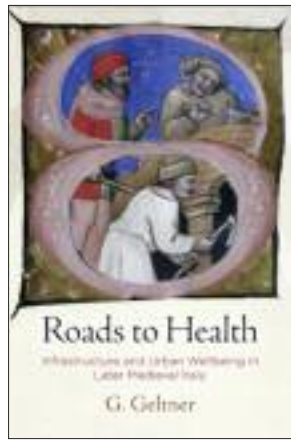
The Middle Ages Series

November 2019 304pp 2 illus.

9780812251685 £60.00 / \$69.95 HB

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS

Engaging with cultural history, political anthropology, and critical, feminist, and queer theories, *Pure Filth* focuses on the overlooked and occluded content in late medieval French farce farce, arguing that apparently coarse jokes conceal finely drawn, and sometimes quite radical, perspectives on ethics, politics, and religion.



Roads to Health

Infrastructure and Urban Wellbeing in Later Medieval Italy

G. GELTNER

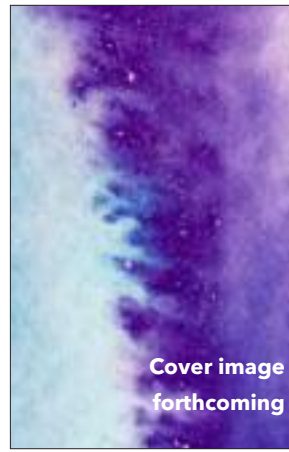
The Middle Ages Series

August 2019 320pp 20 illus.

9780812251357 £56.00 / \$65.00 HB

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS

Reconstructing the mandates and activities of urban "healthscapers" between roughly 1250 and 1500, *Roads to Health* contends that preventive healthcare emerged from a steady concern for populations' wellbeing. It challenges the view of the Black Death, let alone the Industrial Revolution, as a unique trigger in public health history.



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Suspect Saints and Holy Heretics

Disputed Sanctity and Communal Identity in Late Medieval Italy

JANINE LARMON PETERSON

December 2019 288pp 3 b&w

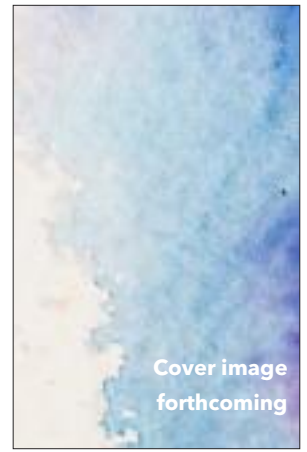
halftones, 1 map, 2 charts

9781501742347 £47.00 / \$55.00 HB

CORNELL UNIVERSITY PRESS

In *Suspect Saints and Holy Heretics* Janine Larmon Peterson investigates regional saints whose holiness was contested. She scrutinizes the papacy's toleration of unofficial saints' cults and its response when their devotees challenged church authority about a cult's merits or the saint's orthodoxy.

Excludes ANZ



Cover image
forthcoming

That Most Precious Merchandise

The Mediterranean Trade in Black Sea Slaves, 1260-1500

HANNAH BARKER

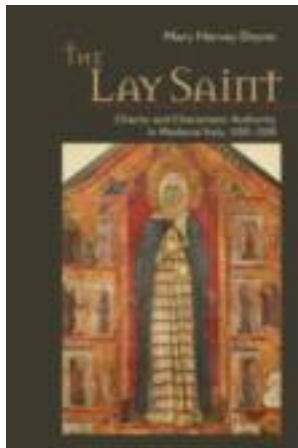
The Middle Ages Series

October 2019 392pp 18 illus.

9780812251548 £69.00 / \$79.95 HB

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS

Reading notarial registers, tax records, law, merchants' accounts, travelers' tales and letters, sermons, slave-buying manuals, and literary works as well as treaties governing the slave trade and crusade propaganda, Barker gives a rich picture of the context in which merchants traded and enslaved people met their fate in the Black Sea slave trade.



The Lay Saint

Charity and Charismatic Authority in Medieval Italy, 1150-1350

MARY HARVEY DOYNO

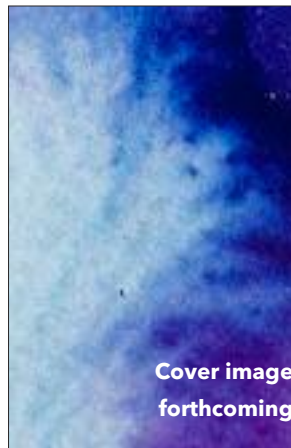
October 2019 330pp 10 b&w halftones

9781501740206 £47.00 / \$55.00 HB

CORNELL UNIVERSITY PRESS

In *The Lay Saint*, Mary Harvey Doyno investigates the phenomenon of saintly cults that formed around pious merchants, artisans, midwives, domestic servants, and others in the medieval communes of northern and central Italy. She uses the rise of and tensions surrounding these civic cults to explore medieval notions of lay religiosity, charismatic power, civic identity, and the church's authority in this period.

Excludes ANZ



Cover image
forthcoming

The Medieval Economy of Salvation

Charity, Commerce, and the Rise of the Hospital

ADAM J. DAVIS

December 2019 334pp 5 b&w

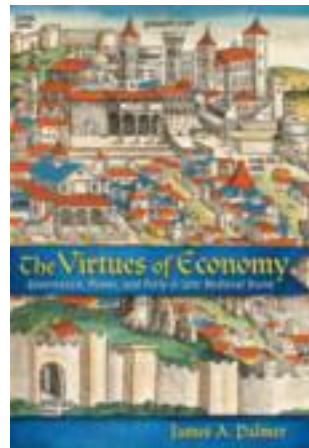
halftones, 1 map

9781501742101 £34.00 / \$39.95 HB

CORNELL UNIVERSITY PRESS

In *The Medieval Economy of Salvation*, Adam J. Davis shows how the burgeoning commercial economy of western Europe in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, alongside an emerging culture of Christian charity, led to the establishment of hundreds of hospitals and leper houses.

Excludes ANZ



The Virtues of Economy

Governance, Power, and Piety in Late Medieval Rome

JAMES A. PALMER

December 2019 264pp 1 b&w halftone,

2 maps

9781501742378 £43.00 / 49.95 HB

CORNELL UNIVERSITY PRESS

The humanist perception of fourteenth-century Rome has cast a long shadow on the historiography of the city. Challenging this view, James A. Palmer argues that Roman political culture underwent dramatic changes in the late Middle Ages, with profound and lasting implications for city's subsequent development.

Excludes ANZ



The Voices of Medieval English Lyric

An Anthology of Poems ca 1150-1530

ANNE L. KLINCK

November 2019 408pp

9780773558823 £33.00 / \$39.95 PB

9780773558816 £99.00 / \$120.00 HB

MCGILL-QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY PRESS

A critical edition of 131 poems that illustrate the range and rich variety of lyric poetry from the mid-twelfth century to the early sixteenth century, *The Voices of Medieval English Lyric* presents its texts – freshly edited from the manuscripts – in thirteen sections emphasizing contrasting and complementary voices and genres.

Excludes Asia Pacific