

CONTENTS

General Introduction: BORIS FORD	7
----------------------------------	---

PART I

Medieval Europe: J. C. HOLT	13
-----------------------------	----

The Shifting Christian World – The Changing Countryside – The Emergence of Western Europe – The Juxtaposition of Languages – The Law and Local Customs – Hardening Divisions and Prejudices – Rifts in Christian Europe – An International Community – The Feudal Order – The Dynastic Family – Custom and the Liberties of the Subject – The Written Language – Medieval Society

PART II

Medieval European Literature: DEREK BREWER	41
--	----

The Non-Latin and Latin Elements: Conquerors and Captives – Why Were the Middle Ages So Called? – Founders of the Middle Ages – The Development of Latin Language and Literature – The Emergence of Romance Languages – French Literature – Italian Literature – Provençal – Spanish Literature – The Emergence of Germanic Vernaculars – English Literature – Old High German and Old Saxon Literature – Old Norse Literature – The Emergence of Celtic Vernaculars – Welsh Literature – Irish Literature – The Nature of Traditional Literature – Style – Rhetoric – Music – The Variety of Medieval Literature

CONTENTS

PART III

<i>Beowulf</i> : An Epic Fairy-Tale: G. T. SHEPHERD	85
Byzantine Literature: ROBERT BROWNING	97
<i>The Song of Roland</i> : RICHARD AXTON	111
Chrétien de Troyes' Arthurian Romance, <i>Yvain</i> : TONY HUNT	126
<i>The Poem of My Cid</i> : IAN MICHAEL	142
Church Drama and Popular Drama: RICHARD AXTON	150
Troubadours and Minnesang: INGEBORG GLIER	167
Wolfram von Eschenbach: <i>Parzival</i> : PETER JOHNSON	188
Gottfried von Strassburg: <i>Tristan</i> : PETER JOHNSON	207
<i>The Roman de la Rose</i> : L. T. TOPSFIELD	222
The Icelandic <i>Njal's Saga</i> : JACQUELINE SIMPSON	236
Dante Alighieri: <i>The Divine Comedy</i> : JOHN A. SCOTT	247
Juan Ruiz: <i>The Book of Good Love</i> : COLIN SMITH	275
Giovanni Boccaccio: <i>The Decameron</i> : ROBIN KIRKPATRICK	287
Dafydd Ap Gwilym and Celtic Literature: PATRICK SIMS-WILLIAMS	301
Francesco Petrarch and the Poetry of Love: PHILIP M. J. McNAIR	318
François Rabelais: <i>Gargantua and Pantagruel</i> : PETER BURKE	333

PART IV

An Anthology of Medieval Literature in the Vernacular	347
---	-----

PART V

Appendix	569
For Further Reading and Reference	571
Authors and Works	589
COMPILED BY ROSEMARY MORRIS	
Acknowledgements	608
Notes on Contributors	611
Index	615