

# Contents

Preface	7
Acknowledgements	11
1. Actor and clown in Shakespeare's romances	13
1.1. Armin, the new clown	13
1.2. Erasmus, wise fools and Armin's descending parabola	18
1.3. Life and times of Robert Armin	24
1.4. The clown in print: Armin's works	27
1.5. Armin in the romances, 1608-12	31
1.5.1. <i>Pericles</i> / 1.5.2. <i>Cymbeline</i> / 1.5.3. <i>The Winter's Tale</i> / 1.5.4. <i>The Tempest</i>	
2. The underworld fool: <i>Pericles</i> and <i>The Winter's Tale</i>	51
2.1. Boulton	53
2.2. Autolycus	69
2.3. Boulton, Autolycus, criminality and folly in Shakespeare's age	97
3. The natural fool: <i>Cymbeline</i> and <i>The Tempest</i>	105
3.1. Cloten	107
3.2. Caliban	139
3.3. Cloten and Caliban: disability, depravity and devilish mothers	168
4. Armin's last fools in Shakespeare: drawing conclusions	175
Bibliography	185
Index	197