



Dream Visions and Other Poems

Geoffrey Chaucer, Kathryn L. Lynch (Editor)

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Contexts connects the poems to their classical and medieval foundations and includes works by Virgil, Ovid, Cicero, Boethius, Dante, and Boccaccio, among others. From the wealth of scholarly work available, the editor has chosen for Criticism six essays that address the poems central themes. Contributors include Charles Muscatine, A. C. Spearing, R. T. Lenaghan, Richard Firth Green, Elaine Tuttle Hansen, and Steven Kruger. A Chronology and Selected Bibliography are also included. "

Dream Visions and Other Poems Details

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From Reader Review Dream Visions and Other Poems for online ebook

Xavier Guillaume says

I must admit, I didn't understand the point of Dream Visions. This was the last book I read of my undergraduate career, and I must have been beyond tired at this point.

I probably have to reread it to fairly assess this, but it was definitely not as good as Canterbury Tales and Troilus and Criseyde.

Justine says

We started off the Canterbury Tales course with the House of Fame and the Book of the Duchess. I enjoyed them both, but I'm more partial to the House of Fame

Greg Kerestan says

This is Chaucer's B-sides, essentially: unfinished epics, short poetic works and so on. It's all high quality stuff, especially famous poems like "The Parliament of Fowls" and "The House of Fame," but compared to "Canterbury Tales" or "Troilus and Cresseye," it can't hope to measure up, because that's not what this is. Every author has their additional material alongside their great works, and Chaucer was simply paving the way for others from Shakespeare to Stephen King in this regard.

Sarah Hannah says

Read "The Parliament of Fowls," "Gentilesse," and "Truth." Also read "Scipio's Dream," "Commentary on Scipio's Dream," "The Consolation of Philosophy," and "Romance of the Rose" from the Contexts section. The contexts were more interesting than the dream visions, but I would like to read more of them at some point.

J. Alfred says

So some of us don't know much about Chaucer (cringing) and those of us who know only a very little bit think of him as primarily a comic writer. He may well be, but he's also intensely skilled, and can be downright thoughtful and serious when he wants to. Still nothing I'd pick up for pleasure on a Friday night, but worth your while figuring out all the irritating Middle English quirks. ("Hir" means "their," not "her." What the heck, Middle English??)

aya says

The lyf so short, the craft so long to lerne,
Th'assay so hard, so sharp the conquering,
The dredful joy alwey that slit so yerne
-Parliament of Fowls
[and then I died]

Elena says

I really enjoyed The Parliament of Fowls and The Legends of Good Women. The first was very humorous and the second was a nice defense of womanhood against courtly love and exploiting men. My edition also had critical essays and background sources. The sources were interesting and a few of the essays were but some of them really got on my nerves. Over all, I enjoyed reading the Middle English because it's pretty similar to modern English but different enough that it was like reading a foreign language at times--a fun challenge.

Taylor Hondos says

Can you say boring?! I was reading this for my Eng 363 class and just BLAHHH

Dan says

I, for one, don't think The House of Fame is unfinished at all.

Highlyeccentric says

Really good edition; superceded when I acquired a Riverside.

Sydney ? says

No thank you. Class killed me with this one. Glad we're done.

Nicholas says

All of Chaucer's dream visions are strange entrances into a medieval and fantastic world. Unfortunately,

these works are often forgotten because <u>The Canterbury Tales steals the focus. "The Parliament of Fowls" is a fun dream vision to read around Valentine's Day. In addition to his shorter poems and the visions, this Norton edition includes excerpts from Chaucer's sources which serve to contextualize his allusions.

Dorothy Hermary says

While this volume appears slim, it contains dense subject material. Chaucer's poems are written in middle English with side glossing and helpful footnotes, and require study rather than mere reading. The last portion of the book includes contextual material by other authors who preceded Chaucer as well as critical scholarly essays. My favorite work in this book is Chaucer's Parliament of Fowls.

Consider

"The noyse of foules for to been delivered
So loude rong, 'Have doon and let us wende!'
That wel wende I the wode had al to-shivered."

The contentious disagreements amongst the birds could well compare to our politicians as they discuss the necessities of running a country, just as scholars have suggested that Chaucer is alluding to the government of his time.

Read and listen and you might be able to hear them.

"The goos, the doke, and the cukkow also
So cryden, 'Kek, kek!' 'Kukkow!' 'Quek,quek!' hye
That thurgh myn eres the noyse wente tho."

For me this book required months of small time allotments each day, but it was worth the time.

Tiffany says

These stories were great! They are entertaining and thoughtful on the surface level, but offer even more as allegories. What's more, the stories are short which makes it easy to pick them up and put them down whenever you have time.

Robyn says

This is nothing that I'll ever revisit (I mean, outside of a paper), but I'm glad that I was required to read it.
