

Some Reading on the Queer Middle Ages

Queer and trans issues and representation in Early Medieval and Medieval literature and culture has, over the past year, come up as a topic in discussions in my seminars, and I noticed there seems to be a demand for further information, so I have compiled a bibliography for you. This is obviously just a starting point: this is a growing field, and many more publications are coming up constantly.

Contrary to the proper MLA format I ask people to adapt in their academic work, this list is kept deliberately simple, to account for the fact that several of these texts might be accessible to you in multiple formats and may have been (re)published by different publishing houses.

(* = available via PLUS library)

- Amer, Sahar. *Crossing Borders: Love Between Women in Medieval French and Arabic Literatures*. (2008)*
- Blut, Victoria. *The Unspeakable, Gender and Sexuality in Medieval Literature 1000-1400*. (2017)*
- Boswell, John. *Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality: Gay People in Western Europe from the Beginning of the Christian Era to the Fourteenth Century*. (1980)*
→ this is the early, significant and discourse-changing publication on the topic
- ---. *The Marriage of Likeness: Same-Sex Unions in Premodern Europe*. (1994)
- Burger, Glenn, and Steven F. Kruger. *Queering the Middle Ages*. (2001)
- Burger, Glenn. *Chaucer's Queer Nation*. (2003)
- Cadden, Joan. *Meanings of Sex Difference in the Middle Ages*. (1993)*
- ---. *Nothing Natural Is Shameful: Sodomy and Science in Late Medieval Europe*. (2013)*
- Clark, David. *Between Medieval Men: Male Friendship and Desire in Early Medieval English Literature*. (2009)
- DeVun, Leah. *The Shape of Sex: Nonbinary Gender from Genesis to the Renaissance*. (2021)*
- Dinshaw, Carolyn. *Getting Medieval: Sexualities and Communities, Pre- and Postmodern*. (1999)*
- ---. *How Soon Is Now? Medieval Texts, Amateur Readers, and the Queerness of Time*. (2012)*
- Fienberg, Leslie. *Transgender Warriors*. (1996)
- Giffney, Noreen, Michelle M. Sauer and Diane Watt. (eds). *The Lesbian Premodern*. (2011)
- Kłosowka, Anna. *Queer Love in the Middle Ages*. (2005)
- LaFleur, Greta (ed.). *Trans Historical: Gender Plurality Before the Modern*. (2021)*
- Lochrie, Karma. *Heterosyncrasies: Female Sexuality When Normal Wasn't*. (2005)
- Pugh, Tison. *Sexuality and its Queer Discontents in Middle English Literature*. (2008)
- ---. *On the Queerness of Early English Drama: Sex in the Subjunctive*. (2021)*
- Rogers, Will and Christopher Michael Roman (eds.). *Medieval Futurity. Essays for the Future of a Queer Medieval Studies*. (2022)*
- Rollo, David. *Kiss My Relics: Hermaphroditic Fictions of the Middle Ages*. (2011)
- Sauer, Michelle. *Gender in Medieval Culture*. (2015)*
- Sautman, Francesca Canadé, and Pamela Sheingorn. *Same Sex Love and Desire among Women in the Middle Ages*. (2001)
- Zeikowitz, Richard E. *Homoeroticism and Chivalry: Discourses of Male Same-Sex Desire in the Fourteenth Century*. (2003)