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0521580900 - Catholicism, Controversy and the English Literary Imagination,
1558–1660
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Catholicism, Controversy and the English Literary
Imagination, 1558–1660

The Catholic contribution to English literary culture has been widely neglected and often misunderstood. Drawing on extensive original research, this book sets out to rehabilitate a wide range of Catholic imaginative writing, while exposing the role of anti-Catholicism as an imaginative stimulus to mainstream writers in Tudor and Stuart England. It discusses canonical figures such as Sidney, Spenser, Webster and Middleton, those whose presence in the canon has been more fitful, such as Robert Southwell and Richard Crashaw, and many who have escaped the attention of literary critics. Among the themes to emerge are the anti-Catholic imagery of revenge-tragedy and the definitive contribution made by Southwell and Crashaw to the post-Reformation revival of religious verse in England. Alison Shell offers a fascinating exploration of the rhetorical stratagems by which Catholics sought to demonstrate simultaneous loyalties to the monarch and to their religion, and of the stimulus given to the Catholic literary imagination by the persecution and exile which so many of these writers suffered.

Alison Shell is Lecturer in the Department of English Studies at the University of Durham. She has held a British Academy Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship at University College London, a visiting fellowship at the Beinecke Library, Yale University, and was formerly Rare Books Curator at the British Architectural Library of the Royal Institute of British Architects. She is co-editor of *The Book Trade and its Customers* (1997), and has published essays on Edmund Campion, Aphra Behn, conversion in early modern England, anti-Catholicism and the early modern English book trade.

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Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	vi
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	ix
<i>Note on the text</i>	xi
Introduction	I
PART I CATHOLICS AND THE CANON	
1 The livid flash: decadence, anti-Catholic revenge tragedy and the dehistoricised critic	23
2 Catholic poetics and the Protestant canon	56
PART II LOYALISM AND EXCLUSION	
3 Catholic loyalism: I. Elizabethan writers	107
4 Catholic loyalism: II. Stuart writers	141
5 The subject of exile: I	169
6 The subject of exile: II	194
Conclusion	224
<i>Notes</i>	228
<i>List of works frequently cited</i>	300
<i>Index</i>	303

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1558–1660
Alison Shell
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

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0521580900 - Catholicism, Controversy and the English Literary Imagination,
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Alison Shell

Frontmatter

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vii

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Finally, I dedicate this book to my parents: thanking them for everything, but in particular for all the sacrifices they made for me over my childhood, and over the doctoral student's characteristic prolonged adolescence.

Abbreviations

<i>ARCR</i>	Anthony Allison and D. M. Rogers, <i>The Contemporary Printed Literature of the English Counter-Reformation Between 1558 and 1640</i> , 2 vols (Aldershot: Scolar, 1989–94)
Beinecke	Beinecke Library, Yale University
BL	The British Library, London
Bod.	Bodleian Library, Oxford
CRS	Catholic Record Society
CSPD	Calendar of State Papers, Domestic
<i>DNB</i>	<i>Dictionary of National Biography</i>
<i>EHR</i>	<i>English Historical Review</i>
<i>ELH</i>	<i>English Literary History</i>
<i>ELR</i>	<i>English Literary Renaissance</i>
Folger	Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C.
<i>HJ</i>	<i>Historical Journal</i>
<i>HLQ</i>	<i>Huntington Library Quarterly</i>
HMC	His/Her Majesty's Commission for Historical Manuscripts
<i>JEH</i>	<i>Journal of Ecclesiastical History</i>
<i>JWCI</i>	<i>Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes</i>
Lewis & Short	Charlton T. Lewis and Charles Short, <i>A Latin Dictionary</i> (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1980 edn.)
LPL	Lambeth Palace Library, London
<i>MLQ</i>	<i>Modern Language Quarterly</i>
<i>MLR</i>	<i>Modern Language Review</i>
MS	manuscript
<i>N & Q</i>	<i>Notes & Queries</i>
NAL	National Art Library, London
NLW	National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth
<i>OED</i>	<i>Oxford English Dictionary</i>

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x

Abbreviations

<i>P & P</i>	<i>Past and Present</i>
<i>PMLA</i>	<i>Proceedings of the Modern Language Association</i>
<i>RH</i>	<i>Recusant History</i>
<i>SPC</i>	Robert Southwell, <i>Saint Peters Complaint</i>
<i>STC</i>	A. W. Pollard and G. F. Redgrave, comp., <i>A Short-Title Catalogue of Books Printed in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and of English Books Printed Abroad, 1475–1640</i> , 3 vols, 2nd edn., rev. W. A. Jackson, F. S. Ferguson and Katharine F. Pantzer (London: Bibliographical Society, 1976–91)
<i>TLS</i>	<i>The Times Literary Supplement</i>
<i>VEC</i>	The Venerable English College, Rome
Wing	Donald Wing, <i>et al.</i> , <i>A Short-Title Catalogue of Books Printed in England, Scotland, Ireland ... and of English Books Printed in Other Countries, 1641–1700</i> , 3 vols, 2nd edn. (New York: MLA, 1972–88)

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Note on the text

In transcribing from sixteenth- and seventeenth-century documents, i/j and u/v have been normalized; superscript and subscript have been ignored, as have underlining and italicisation except where essential for the sense (e.g. to denote a refrain in a ballad); contractions have been expanded; and punctuation has been omitted before marks of omission except where it makes better sense to retain it.

Where a modern book has double imprints (e.g. London and New York), only the first has been given.

For the reader's convenience I have cited English translations of Latin works in the main body of the text, keeping the Latin to footnotes. Except where otherwise credited, I have translated all the Latin myself (with much-valued assistance, as recorded in the acknowledgements).