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Edited by Helen Smith And Louise Wilson
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RENAISSANCE PARATEXTS

In his 1987 work *Paratexts*, the theorist Gérard Genette established physical form as crucial to the production of meaning. Here, experts in early modern book history, materiality, and rhetorical culture present a series of compelling explorations of the architecture of early modern books. The essays challenge and extend Genette's taxonomy, exploring the paratext as both a material and a conceptual category. *Renaissance Paratexts* takes a fresh look at neglected sites, from imprints to endings, and from running titles to printers' flowers. Contributors' accounts of the making and circulation of books open up questions of the marking of gender, the politics of translation, geographies of the text, and the interplay between reading and seeing. As much a history of misreading as of interpretation, the collection provides novel perspectives on the technologies of reading, and exposes the complexity of the playful, proliferating, and self-aware paratexts of English Renaissance books.

HELEN SMITH is Lecturer in Renaissance / Early Modern Literature at the University of York. She has published widely on early modern textual culture and is currently completing a monograph, *Grossly Material Things: Women and Textual Production in Early Modern England*. She is Co-Investigator on the AHRC-funded project, 'Conversion Narratives in Early Modern Europe'.

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