

GATHERING FORCE: EARLY MODERN BRITISH LITERATURE IN TRANSITION, 1557–1623

During the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, England grew from a marginal to a major European power, established overseas settlements, and negotiated the Protestant Reformation. The population burgeoned and became increasingly urban. England also saw the meteoric rise of commercial theater in London, the creation of a vigorous market for printed texts, and the emergence of writing as a viable profession. Literacy rates exploded, and an increasingly diverse audience encountered a profusion of new textual forms. Media, and literary culture, transformed on a scale that would not happen again until television and the internet. The twenty innovative contributions in *Gathering Force: Early Modern British Literature in Transition, 1557–1623* trace ways that five different genres both spurred and responded to change. Chapters explore different facets of lyric poetry, romance, commercial drama, masques and pageants, and non-narrative prose. Exciting and accessible, this volume illuminates the dynamic relationships among the period's social, political, and literary transformations.

KRISTEN POOLE, Blue and Gold Distinguished Professor of English Renaissance Literature at the University of Delaware, is the author of *Radical Religion from Shakespeare to Milton: Figures of Nonconformity in Early Modern England* (Cambridge, 2000) and *Supernatural Environments in Shakespeare's England: Spaces of Demonism, Divinity, and Drama* (Cambridge, 2011). She is co-editor of *The Bible on the Shakespearean Stage: Cultures of Interpretation in Reformation England* (Cambridge, 2018) and of a forthcoming volume tentatively titled *Early Modern Histories of Time: The Periodizations of Sixteenth- and Seventeenth-Century England*. Her research has been supported by the Folger Shakespeare Library, the Huntington Library, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Penn Humanities Forum.

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Volume 1

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For Barbara Kiefer Lewalski

– KEP

For Scott Black

– LES

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Abbreviations

<i>CPD</i>	<i>The Complete Poems of John Donne</i> , ed. Robin Robbins, rev. ed. (New York: Longman, 2010).
<i>CBJ</i>	<i>The Cambridge Ben Jonson</i> , ed. David Bevington, Martin Butler, et al., 7 vols. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007).
<i>FQ</i>	<i>Spenser: The Faerie Queene</i> , ed. A. C. Hamilton et al., 2nd ed. (Harlow: Pearson-Longman, 2001).
<i>NWS</i>	<i>The Norton Shakespeare</i> , ed. Stephen Greenblatt et al. (New York: Norton, 2008).
<i>ODNB</i>	<i>The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography</i> , online ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016).
<i>OED</i>	<i>The Oxford English Dictionary Online</i> .
<i>OFB</i>	<i>The Oxford Francis Bacon</i> , gen. eds. Graham Rees and Lisa Jardine, 15 vols. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1985–).
<i>STC</i>	<i>A Short-Title Catalogue of Books Printed in England, Scotland and Ireland, and of English Books Printed Abroad 1475–1640</i> , 2nd ed., revised and enlarged. Eds. A. W. Pollard, G. R. Redgrave, W. A. Jackson, F. S. Ferguson, Katharine F. Pantzer (London: The Bibliographical Society, 1976–1991).
<i>TMCW</i>	<i>Thomas Middleton: The Collected Works</i> , ed. Gary Taylor, John Lavignano, and John Jowett (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007).
<i>U1</i>	<i>The First Part of The Countess of Montgomery's Urania, by Lady Mary Wroth</i> , ed. Josephine A. Roberts (Tempe: Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2005).

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List of Abbreviations

*U*₂

The Second Part of the Countesse of Montgomery's Urania, by Lady Mary Wroth, ed. Josephine A. Roberts, Suzanne Gossett, and Janel Mueller (Tempe: Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 1999).

Except where otherwise indicated, these are the sources for all the volume's citations from these authors and works.