The thirteenth-century allegorical dream vision the Roman de la Rose transformed how medieval literary texts engaged with philosophical ideas. Written in Old French, its influence dominated French, English, and Italian literature for the next two centuries, serving in particular as a model for Chaucer and Dante. Jean de Meun’s section of this extensive, complex, and dazzling work is notable for its sophisticated responses to a whole host of contemporary philosophical debates. This collection brings together literary scholars and historians of philosophy to produce the most thorough, interdisciplinary study to date of how the Rose uses poetry to articulate philosophical problems and positions. This wide-ranging collection demonstrates the importance of the poem for medieval intellectual history and offers new insights into the philosophical potential both of the Rose specifically and of medieval poetry as a whole.

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THE *ROMAN DE LA ROSE*
AND THIRTEENTH-
CENTURY THOUGHT

EDITED BY

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# Contents

List of Contributors  \hspace{1cm} \textit{page vii}
Acknowledgements  \hspace{1cm} \textit{viii}
Note on Primary Texts  \hspace{1cm} \textit{ix}

Introduction  \hspace{2cm} 1
\textit{Jonathan Morton and Marco Nievergelt}

\textbf{PART I EPISTEMOLOGY AND LANGUAGE}  \hspace{1cm} 25

1  Mechanisms of Belief: Jean de Meun’s Implicit Epistemology  \hspace{1cm} 27
\textit{Christophe Grellard (translated by Jonathan Morton and Marco Nievergelt)}

2  Visual Experiences and Allegorical Fiction: The Lexis and Paradigm of \textit{Fantasie} in Jean de Meun’s \textit{Rose}  \hspace{1cm} 45
\textit{Fabienne Pomel (translated by Jonathan Morton and Marco Nievergelt)}

3  Imposition, Equivocation, and Intention: Language and Signification in Jean de Meun’s \textit{Roman de la Rose} and Thirteenth-Century Grammar and Logic  \hspace{1cm} 65
\textit{Marco Nievergelt}

4  Sophisms and Sophistry in the \textit{Roman de la Rose}  \hspace{1cm} 90
\textit{Jonathan Morton}

\textbf{PART II NATURAL LAW, POLITICS, AND SOCIETY}  \hspace{1cm} 109

5  The Personal and the Political: Love and Society in the \textit{Roman de la Rose}  \hspace{1cm} 111
\textit{Juhana Toivanen}
vi

Contents

6 Human Nature and Natural Law in Jean de Meun’s
Roman de la Rose
Philip Knox 131

7 A Politico-Communal Reading of the Rose: The Fiore
Attributed to Dante Alighieri
Antonio Montefusco (translated by Jonathan Morton and Marco Nievergelt) 149

PART III UNFINISHED BUSINESS: FORMS OF WRITING,
FORMS OF KNOWLEDGE 171

8 Jean de Meun, Boethius, and Thirteenth-Century Philosophy
John Marenbon 173

9 The Romance of the Non-Rose: Echoes and Subversions
of Negative Theology in Jean de Meun’s Roman de la Rose
Alice Lamy (translated by Jonathan Morton and Marco Nievergelt) 194

10 Metalepsis and Allegory: The Unity of the Roman de la Rose
Luciano Rossi (translated by Jonathan Morton and Marco Nievergelt) 210

Notes 233
Bibliography 282
Index 315
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Note on Primary Texts