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Dream Vision in Chaucer's Poetry

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Abstract

Dream vision is an important and well _ known medieval narrative genre in poetry . The basic framework is that the confused narrator falls asleep and dreams , then his dream will be the main story. The dream often takes the form of allegory , enigmatic , and it needs a kind of interpretation on the part of the reader .After the troubled narrator is awakened , he determines to write his dream in a poem . 1 Dream vision poetry has an impressive and extensive image, which has been widely commented upon . Falling asleep, dreaming , dream vision , prophetic visitations and oracular guidance are familiar motifs from a number of widely known literary sources , like for example in the Bible , Greek and Latin classics , continuing in to the late antiquity and in to the medieval period . 2 Dream visions have important elements in common , firstly, all dream visions are written in the first person . The narrator becomes the dreamer and tells the story as his own experience . Sometimes , the dreamer becomes the protagonist of the dream fiction , and other times , he is only an observer as in Chaucer 's Book of the Duchess .3

Keywords

[Dream Vision](#)

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Chaucer's poems are written in middle English with side glossing and helpful footnotes, and require study rather than mere reading. The last portion of the book includes contextual material by other authors who preceded Chaucer as well as critical scholarly essays. My favorite work in this book is Chaucer's Parliament of Fowls. Consider "The noyse of foules for to been delivered So loude rong, 'Have doon and let us wende!' That we While this volume appears slim, it contains dense subject material. Chaucer's poems are written in middle English with side glossing an Chaucer adopts dream vision as the frame of most of his early poems, and in his other works he also makes use of dreams to develop his narrative. The present paper studies the medieval tradition of dream vision, discusses the development of Chaucer as a writer within and against such a tradition. By a close reading of Chaucer's dream poetry, this author points out that Chaucer becomes the poet as [Show full abstract] he was because he, while taking advantage of the tradition, also transcends the convention. Read more. Article. Review: Chaucer and the Making of English Poetry, Vol. I, A dream vision or visio is a literary device in which a dream or vision is recounted as having revealed knowledge or a truth that is not available to the dreamer or visionary in a normal waking state. While dreams occur frequently throughout the history of literature, visionary literature as a genre began to flourish suddenly, and is especially characteristic in early medieval Europe. In both its ancient and medieval form, the dream vision is often felt to be of divine origin.

The genre reemerged in