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# World Authors Series

## Chretien De Troyes

### Revisited

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Chrétien de Troyes  
Bulletin bibliographique de la Société  
internationale arthurienne  
The Old French Tristan Poems  
The Grail Legend in Modern Literature  
Cliges A Romance  
Lancelot, Or, The Knight of the Cart  
Perceval  
The Legacy of Courtly Literature  
Translatio Studii  
Cligés  
Arthurian Romances  
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Cliges  
Erec and Enide  
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Lancelot: The Knight of the Cart (Chretien de  
Troyes Romances)  
The Complete Story of the Grail  
Arthurian Romances  
Chretien, Troyes, and the Grail

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"CLIGES", "YVAIN" AND "LANCELOT"  
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**JAX AYDIN**

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**Chrétien de  
Troyes**

University of  
Georgia Press  
Taking the

legends  
surrounding  
King Arthur  
and weaving  
in new  
psychological  
elements of  
personal  
desire and  
courtly  
manner,

Chrétien de  
Troyes  
fashioned a  
new form of  
medieval  
Romance. The  
Knight of the  
Cart is the  
first telling of  
the adulterous  
relationship

between Lancelot and Arthur's Queen Guinevere, and in The Knight with the Lion Yvain neglects his bride in his quest for greater glory. Erec and Enide explores a knight's conflict between love and honour, Cligés exalts the possibility of pure love outside marriage, while the haunting The Story of the Grail chronicles the legendary quest. Rich in symbolism, these

evocative tales combine closely observed detail with fantastic adventure to create a compelling world that profoundly influenced Malory, and are the basis of the Arthurian legends we know today. **Bulletin bibliographique de la Société internationale DS Brewer** Cliges is the second of five surviving Arthurian poems by twelfth-

century French poet Chretien de Troyes. In Cliges, Chretien creates his most artful plot and paints the most starkly medieval portraits of any of his romances. The world he describes has few of the safeguards and protections of civilization: battles are brutal and merciless, love is anguished and desperate. Cliges tells the story of the unhappy Fenice,

trapped in a marriage of constraint to the emperor of Constantinople. Fenice feigns death, then awakens to a new, happy life with her lover. Enormously popular in their own time, each of Chretien's great verse romances is a fast-paced psychologically oriented narrative. In a rational and realistic manner, Chretien probes the inner workings of his characters and the world

they live in, evoking the people, their customs, and their values in clear, emotionally charged verse. Cliges is filled with Chretien's barbs and bawdiness, his humor and his pleasure, his affection and his contempt. Chretien de Troyes was a French poet and trouvère who flourished in the late 12th century. Little is known of his life, but he seems to have been from Troyes, or at least intimately connected

with it, and between 1160 and 1172 he served at the court of his patroness Marie of France, Countess of Champagne, daughter of Eleanor of Aquitaine, perhaps as herald-at-arms (as Gaston Paris speculated). His work on Arthurian subjects represents some of the best regarded of medieval literature. His use of structure, particular in Yvain, the Knight of the Lion, has been

seen as a step towards the modern novel. Chretien's writing was very popular, as evidenced by the high number of surviving copies of his romances and their many adaptations into other languages. Three of Middle High German literature's finest examples, Wolfram von Eschenbach's Parzival and Hartmann von Aue's Erec and Iwein, were based on Perceval, Erec, and Yvain; the Three Welsh

Romances associated with the Mabinogion, Peredur, son of Efracw, Geraint and Enid, and Owain, or the Lady of the Fountain are derived from the same trio. Especially in the case of Peredur, however, the connection between the Welsh romances and their source is probably not direct, and has never been satisfactorily delineated. Chretien also has the distinction of being the first

writer to mention the Holy Grail (Perceval) and the love affair between Queen Guinevere and Lancelot (Lancelot), subjects of household recognition even today.

### **The Old French Tristan Poems**

Rodopi "Four Arthurian Romances" is a group of memories from the Middle Ages that have been written by way of the French author Chrétien de Troyes. Four

of his maximum well-known works are protected: "Erec and Enide," "Cligès," "Yvain, the Knight of the Lion," and "Lancelot, the Knight of the Cart." Within "Erec and Enide," the primary characters cross on some of adventures that check their love and loyalty. "Cligès" is a tale about Cligès's forbidden love for Fenice, his uncle's spouse. It talks about courtly love

and honor. "Yvain, the Knight of the Lion" is the story of Yvain's war to balance his duties as a knight together with his love for Laudine. Finally, "Lancelot, the Knight of the Cart" focuses on the courageous actions of the knight Lancelot to keep Queen Guinevere, highlighting the topic of noble love. People realize Chrétien de Troyes for his function in shaping Arthurian

folklore and including to the style of medieval romance. His books are recognised for having complicated plots, romantic thoughts, and looking into how human beings experience. The "Four Arthurian Romances" display how knights, quests, and courtly love lived within the Middle Ages. They also show how proficient de Troyes changed into as an author and what kind

of he encouraged Arthurian writing. *The Grail Legend in Modern Literature* Rodopi This verse translation of Yvain; or, The Knight with the Lion brings to life a fast-paced yet remarkably subtle work often considered to be the masterpiece of the twelfth-century French writer Chrétien de Troyes. The creator of the Arthurian romance as a genre, Chrétien is

revealed in this work as a witty, versatile writer who mastered both the soaring flight of emotion and the devastating aside and was as skillful a debater of the finer points of love as he was a describer of battles. *Cliges A Romance* Yale University Press The 12th-century poet Chrétien de Troyes is chiefly responsible for the preservation of Arthurian myth and its eminent role

in European literature. This sensitive translation of his verse narratives features four romances. Its tales of Lancelot and early Grail legends offer lively, accessible views of the ideals of French chivalry. *Lancelot, Or, The Knight of the Cart* University of Georgia Press In this verse translation of Cligès, written by Chrétien de Troyes circa 1176, Ruth Harwood Cline not only preserves the

artistry of the original work but also captures the wit, irony, and striking emotional power of Chrétien's stylistic genius and highly structured form. The romance begins with the marriage of Cligès's parents and continues with the clandestine, mutual love of their son and his uncle's bride, Fenice. Cligès and Fenice are finally united after executing a false-death plot aided by

black magic. With a thoroughness and clarity that will appeal to students and scholars of medieval literature, Cline's accessible translation effectively conveys the sparkle, pace, and intricate wordplay of Chrétien's love monologues, classic themes, and complex poetic devices. In addition, her introduction sheds new light on the transmission of British

history and legend to the French court of Champagne. With themes that echo from the Tristan legend to Romeo and Juliet, Cligès is an exciting romance about young lovers who escape from an arranged match and find true love in marriage. *Perceval* New York : Twayne Publishers Chrétien de Troyes was a 12th century French poet known for his poems about King Arthur. Troyes also created the



character Lancelot. <u>The Legacy of Courtly Literature</u> Macmillan Reference USA "[A]n eminently readable text, done clearly and accurately . . . it gives as good an idea as a translation can of the complexity and subtlety of Chrétien's originals. . . . The text is provided by a translator who understands the spirit as well as the letter of the original and renders it with style. . . .	[T]his translation should attract a wide audience of students and Arthurian enthusiasts." —Speculum "[A] significant contribution to the field of medieval studies [and] a pleasure to read." —Library Journal "These are, above all, stories of courtly love and of knights tested in their devotion to chivalric ideals (with passion and duty often at odds); but they are also thrilling wonder stories of giants, wild	men, tame lions, razor- sharp bridges and visits to the Other World." —Washington Post Book World "This tastefully produced book will be the standard general translation for many years to come." —Choice This new translation brings to life for a new generation of readers the stories of King Arthur, Lancelot, Guinevere, Gawain, Perceval, Yvain, and the other "knights
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and ladies" of Chrétien de Troyes' famous romances. *Translatio Studii* Boydell & Brewer Ltd In this verse translation of Chrétien de Troyes's Lancelot, Ruth Harwood Cline revives the original story of the immortal love affair between Sir Lancelot and Queen Guinevere, a tale that has spawned interpretations ranging from Malory's *Le Morte d'Arthur* to Lerner and Lowe's *Camelot*. By remaining

faithful to Chrétien's highly structured form, Cline preserves the pace, the pungency of proverbial expressions, and the work's poetical devices and word play in translating this archetypal tale of courtly love from Old French into modern English. Cline's introduction--containing a description of Arthur in history and literature, a discussion of courtly love, and an

account of the continuations of the story of Lancelot and Guinevere--makes Lancelot an ideal classroom text.

### **Cligés**

CreateSpace Erec and Enide, the first of five surviving Arthurian romantic poems by twelfth-century French poet Chrétien de Troyes, narrates a vivid chapter from the legend of King Arthur. Chrétien's romances became the

source for Arthurian tradition and influenced countless other poets in England and on the Continent. Yet his swift-moving style is difficult to capture in translation, and today's English-speaking audiences remain largely unfamiliar with the pleasures of reading his poems. Now an experienced translator of medieval verse who is himself a poet has translated Eric and Enide

in an original three-stress metric verse form that fully captures the movement, the sense, and the spirit of the Old French original. Burton Raffel's rendition preserves the subtlety and charm of a poem that is in turn serious, dramatic, bawdy, merry, and satiric. Eric and Enide tells the story of Eric, a knight at King Arthur's court, whose retirement to domestic bliss with his beautiful new wife Enide

takes him away from his chivalric duties. To regain his knightly honor, Erec sets out with Enide on a series of amazing adventures. Eric dispatches thieves and giants with prodigious strength and valor but treats his wife rather harshly for doubting his abilities. When Enide is kidnapped by a robber baron, Erec revives from near-death to perform a courageous rescue, and at

length the two  
are  
reconciled.

**Arthurian  
Romances**

Yale  
University  
Press  
This book  
presents new  
and  
convincing  
evidence  
demonstrating  
the Judeo-  
Christian  
themes and  
allegory of  
Chretien de  
Trois' Conte  
del Graal.  
Basing the  
study on a  
careful  
analysis of  
Chretien's  
milieu as well  
as on his work  
itself, the  
authors seek  
the essential  
meaning of

the most  
significant  
masterpiece  
of the Middle  
Ages before  
Dante.  
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of print. These  
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original, and

are presented  
in affordable  
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formats,  
bringing  
readers both  
historical and  
cultural value.  
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Demand  
Born out of  
exhaustive  
research and  
study, this  
volume covers  
the five major  
romances in  
octosyllabic  
rhyming  
couplets that  
may with  
certainty be  
ascribed to  
the 12th-  
century  
French writer  
Chretien de  
Trois, and

touches on a few minor works that have been attributed to him. Karl Uitti locates Chretien within the theological and philosophical setting of his time; views him as a worker-craftsman who produced stories on demand for his patron; and argues persuasively that he advanced the French language to new heights in his work. *Cliges* Indiana University Press

This collection provides an innovative and wide-ranging introduction to the world of Arthur by looking beyond the canonical texts and themes, taking instead a transversal perspective on the Arthurian narrative. Together, its thirty-four chapters explore the continuities that make the material recognizable from one century to another, as well as transformations specific to particular

times and places, revealing the astonishing variety of adaptations that have made the Arthurian story popular in large parts of the world. Divided into four parts—The World of Arthur in the British Isles, The European World of Arthur, The Material World of Arthur, and The Transversal World of Arthur — the volume tracks the legend's movement across temporal,

geographical, and material boundaries. Broadly chronological, each part views the unfolding Arthurian story through its own lens, while temporal and geographical overlaps between the sections underscore the proximity of these developments in the legend's history. Ranging from early Latin chronicles and Welsh poetry to twenty-first century anime and political conspiracies, this

comprehensive and illuminating book will be of interest to anyone researching Arthurian literature or tracing the evolution of medievalism through literature, the visual arts, and popular culture. *Erec and Enide* BoD - Books on Demand "The purpose of this book is to attempt to restore to his proper historical position of high distinction the inventor of the novel,

Chrétien de Troyes, a French author of the twelfth century. This great innovator has been mistreated, probably, by fate and the literary critics more than any other great genius in all the history of the world. His accomplishment is one of the greatest ever known in the history of literature" -- Preface. *Books for College Libraries: Language and literature* University of Georgia Press The Holy Grail

has intrigued and inspired countless readers over the centuries since it first appeared in Chrétien's Perceval. Essentially the story of the making of a knight, both in worldly and spiritual terms, it is also the source of some of the most dramatic and mysterious adventures of romance. First English translation.

**Chrétien de Troyes**  
Copyright Office, Library of Congress  
"Cligès"

become written through the French poet Chretien de Troyes. The tale turns into a tale of love, honor, and courtly intrigue. The story is commonly about Cligès, the primary person, who's the Byzantine Emperor's nephew. Cligès falls strongly in love with Fenice, who's married to his uncle, and the two have an affair that is towards the policies. The book talks about courtly love, loyalty,

and how complex relationships are within the upper elegance. Chretien de Troyes places together a complex internet of stories with elements of tour and political maneuvering. The tale is shaped with the aid of the tropes of medieval romance, such as quests, battles, and the code of chivalry. As Cligès offers with the issues that arise due to his forbidden love, the story

goes into the ethical and moral problems that the characters ought to deal with. People realize Chretien de Troyes for his paintings on Arthurian fiction, and "Cligès" is no one of a kind. The poem suggests how good the poet changed into at writing a tale that appears into the subtleties of human feelings, societal expectations, and the thoughts of courtly love that are not unusual in

medieval literature. For many years, "Cligès" has been a critical part of Arthurian literature, showing how famous memories of affection and bravery had been inside the Middle Ages. Erec and Enide (Chretien de Troyes Romances) University of Georgia Press A fine collection...an excellent introduction to Chrétien's world and work. Highly recommended . CHOICE

Chrétien de Troyes is arguably the creator of Arthurian romance, and it is on his work that later writers have based their interpretations . This book offers both crucial information on, and a comprehensive coverage of, all aspects of the work of Chrétien de Troyes - the literary and historical background, patronage, his influence on other writers, manuscripts and editions of his work and, at the heart of



the volume, major essays on the themes, techniques and artistic achievements in each of his compositions; the contributions, all from leading experts in Chrétien and related studies, have been commissioned especially for this volume and are designed to remain accessible to students while also addressing specialists in Arthurian studies and Chrétien de

Troyes. They reflect the most current critical and scholarly views on one of the greatest of medieval authors.  
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MATILDA TOMARYN BRUCKNER, TONY HUNT, RUPERT T. PICKENS, ANNIE COMBES, MICHELLE SZKILNIK, EMMANUELE BAUMGARTNER  
**Lancelot: The Knight of the Cart (Chretien de Troyes Romances)**  
Springer  
Twelfth-century French poet Chrétien de Troyes was one of the most influential figures in Western literature, for his romantic

poems on the legend of King Arthur gave rise to a tradition of storytelling that continues to this day. This important and fascinating book is a study of all of Chrétien's work. Joseph J. Duggan begins with an introduction that sets Chrétien within the social and intellectual currents of his time. He then organizes the book in chapters that focus on major issues in Chrétien's romances

rather than on individual works, topics that range from the importance of kinship and genealogy to standards of secular moral responsibility and from Chrétien's art of narration to his representation of knighthood. Duggan offers new perspectives on many of these themes: in a chapter on the influence of Celtic mythology, for example, he gives special attention to the ways Chrétien

integrated portrayals of motivation with mythic themes and characters, and in discussing the Grail romance, he explores the parallels between Perceval's and Gauvain's adventures. *The Complete Story of the Grail* DS Brewer The romantic poems of 12th-century French poet Chretien de Troyes were of immense influence across Europe - widely imitated, translated, and adapted.

Giving rise to a tradition of story-telling that continues to this day, the poems established the shape of the nascent Arthurian legend. This poem was the first to introduce Lancelot as an important figure in the King Arthur legend. "Lancelot" tells of the adulterous relationship between the knight and his mistress, Guinevere, the wife of King Arthur. Thematically this poem differs from

Chretien's other romances - Lancelot and Guinevere's love is a serious crime against their king, Lancelot casts aside his knightly ideals and reputation for the sake of his beloved, and Arthur is endowed with a weaker personality. Chretien de Troyes is one of the unsung heroes of world literature in general and Arthurian legend in particular. In Perceval he introduced the Grail, a fundamental

symbol that fascinated other medieval writers, who expanded on it until the Grail became the defining object of the entire literature. And in Lancelot, Chretien created a story of love and betrayal that achieved almost equal importance with the Grail legend. If you're interested in medieval literature, particularly knightly tales and anything concerned with Arthurian legend,

Lancelot is in indispensable read. You won't be disappointed. Arthurian Romances DS Brewer In this new verse translation of one of the great works of French literature, Dorothy Gilbert captures the vivacity, wit, and grace of the first known Arthurian romance. Erec and Enide is the story of the quest and coming of age of a young knight, an illustrious member of

Arthur's court, who must learn to balance the demands of a masculine public life—tests of courage, skill, adaptability, and mature judgment—with the equally urgent demands of the private world of love and marriage. We see his wife, Enide, develop as an exemplar of chivalry in the female, not as an Amazon, but as a brave, resolute, and wise woman. Composed ca. 1170, Erec and Enide

masterfully combines elements of Celtic legend, classical and ecclesiastical learning, and French medieval culture and ideals. In choosing to write in rhymed octosyllabic couplets—Chrétien's prosodic pattern—Dorothy Gilbert has tried to reproduce what so often gets lost in prose or free verse translations: the precise and delicate meter; the rhyme, with its rich possibilities

for emphasis, nuance, puns and jokes; and the "mantic power" implicit in proper names. The result will enable the scholar who cannot read Old French, the student of literature, and the general reader to gain a more sensitive and immediate understanding of the form and spirit of Chrétien's poetry, and to appreciate the more Chrétien's great contribution to European literature.