

# THE NEW MIDDLE AGES

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SEX, SCANDAL, AND  
SERMON IN FOURTEENTH-  
CENTURY SPAIN

JUAN RUIZ'S  
*LIBRO DE BUEN AMOR*

*Louise M. Haywood*

palgrave  
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SEX, SCANDAL, AND SERMON IN FOURTEENTH-CENTURY SPAIN

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*To Jon and Jake*

E así como el niño faze cosa de que todos ríen, así el amador,  
çiego del desordenado fuego del querer, así ha e pone en obra  
cosa de que todos ríen e escarnesçen

[And thus like the child who does things that make everyone laugh,  
so also the lover, blinded by the disordered fire of love, does things  
and undertakes acts at which everyone laughs and mocks]

Juan de Mena, *Tratado de amor*, p. 379





## CONTENTS

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xi
Introduction	1
1 Humor and the Humors	15
2 The Gaze and the Grotesque	49
3 The Stand-Up Archpriest	97
Conclusion: Sex, Scandal, and Sermon	143
<i>Notes</i>	153
<i>Works Cited</i>	177
<i>Index of Stanzas</i>	193
<i>Subject Index</i>	197



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Postscript: The present volume was already at press when I had the pleasure of organizing an international conference on the *Libro de Buen Amor*, and it would have been improved had I been able to cite articles by the following participants: María Luzdivina Cuesta Torre, José Palomares, Juan Paredes, Carmen Parrilla, Selena Simonatti, and Anthony N. Zahareas. The articles are published in *Juan Ruiz, Arcipreste de Hita, y el “Libro de Buen Amor”*: *Homenaje a Alan Deyermond; II Congreso Internacional del Centro para la Edición de los Clásicos Españoles celebrado en Alcalá la Real mayo 2005*, ed. Francisco Toro Ceballos and Louise M. Haywood, with Francisco Bautista and Gerladine Coates (Alcalá la Real: Ayuntamiento & Centro para la Edición de los Clásicos Españoles, in press).