

eric jager the last duel

Eric Jager The Last Duel: Exploring the Historical and Literary Significance

Introduction to Eric Jager and "The Last Duel"

Eric Jager is a renowned scholar and author known for his compelling works on medieval history and literature. One of his most acclaimed books, *"The Last Duel: A True Story of Trial by Combat in Medieval France"*, offers a vivid and detailed account of one of the final legally sanctioned duels in France. This book not only delves into the historical event but also explores themes of justice, honor, and societal values of the Middle Ages. For those interested in medieval history, legal traditions, or the art of storytelling, Jager's work provides a rich and engaging perspective.

Overview of "The Last Duel"

Historical Context

Published in 2004, "The Last Duel" recounts the true story of the duel between Jean de Carrouges and Jacques Le Gris in 1386. Set against the backdrop of medieval France, the narrative captures a time when personal reputation and social standing were often defended through combat. The duel was not only a matter of personal vengeance but also a legal procedure sanctioned by the crown, reflecting the complex intersection of law, morality, and societal norms during that period.

Summary of the Event

The duel was called after accusations of assault and rape involving Marguerite de Carrouges, Jean de Carrouges' wife. Marguerite's allegations prompted her husband to challenge Jacques Le Gris, a squire who was accused of attacking her. The duel was seen as a means of settling the dispute definitively, with the outcome determining guilt or innocence. The event is notable for its detailed portrayal of medieval justice and the role of combat as a form of legal proof.

Eric Jager's Approach and Narrative Style

Historical Research and Accuracy

Eric Jager's expertise shines through in his meticulous research and dedication to historical accuracy. Drawing on court records, contemporary chronicles, and other primary sources, he reconstructs the events with precision. His narrative vividly brings to life the characters involved, their motivations, and the societal pressures they faced.

Engaging Storytelling

Jager employs a storytelling approach that combines scholarly rigor with compelling prose, making complex historical details accessible and engaging for a broad audience. His vivid descriptions and characterizations help readers understand the human drama behind the legal proceedings and societal expectations.

The Significance of the Duel in Medieval Society

Legal and Cultural Implications

The duel exemplifies how justice was conceptualized and practiced in medieval Europe. It was believed that divine intervention would influence the outcome, and victory in combat was seen as a sign of moral righteousness. This practice reflected societal values that emphasized personal honor and divine justice over written law.

Transition to Modern Legal Systems

The case of Jean de Carrouges marks the end of an era when trial by combat was a legally sanctioned method of resolving disputes. Over time, legal systems evolved to favor written laws and judicial procedures, rendering duels obsolete. Jager's work highlights this pivotal transition in legal history.

Themes Explored in "The Last Duel"

Honor and Reputation

One of the central themes is the importance of personal honor and societal reputation. For medieval knights and noble families, a single accusation or insult could threaten their social standing, prompting actions such as duels to restore honor.

Justice and Morality

Jager examines the complexities of justice in medieval times, contrasting divine justice with modern notions of legal fairness. The story raises questions about morality, truth, and the consequences of relying on physical combat to resolve serious accusations.

Gender and Power Dynamics

The case also sheds light on the role of women and gender dynamics in medieval society. Marguerite's voice and her accusations are central to the story, highlighting issues of female agency and the societal expectations placed upon women.

Impact and Reception of "The Last Duel"

Critical Acclaim

Eric Jager's book has received widespread praise for its thorough research, compelling narrative, and insightful analysis. Historians, legal scholars, and general readers alike have lauded the work for its ability to bring medieval history to life.

Influence on Popular Culture

The story of the last duel has inspired adaptations and discussions beyond academic circles. Notably, the 2021 film "The Last Duel," directed by Ridley Scott and starring Matt Damon, Adam Driver, and Jodie Comer, draws heavily from Jager's detailed account, further cementing the story's place in popular culture.

Key Takeaways from Eric Jager's Work

- The duel was a legally sanctioned event in medieval France, reflecting societal values of honor and divine justice.
- Eric Jager's detailed historical research offers an authentic portrayal of medieval legal practices and social norms.
- The story underscores the transition from medieval trial by combat to modern legal systems.
- Themes of gender dynamics and societal reputation are central to understanding the broader context of the event.
- Jager's engaging storytelling makes complex historical events accessible and compelling for a wide audience.

Why Read "The Last Duel" by Eric Jager?

For History Enthusiasts

The book provides an in-depth look into medieval justice, social hierarchies, and the cultural significance of duels, making it a must-read for history buffs.

For Legal Scholars

It offers insights into the evolution of legal practices and the transition from physical combat to written law, illustrating how societies seek justice.

For General Readers and Story Lovers

Jager's narrative style makes historical events come alive, emphasizing human drama, moral dilemmas, and societal values that resonate even today.

Conclusion

Eric Jager's "The Last Duel" stands out as a masterful blend of meticulous scholarship and engaging storytelling. It not only recounts a pivotal moment in medieval legal history but also prompts reflection on themes of justice, honor, gender, and societal change. Whether you are a history enthusiast, a legal scholar, or simply captivated by compelling narratives, Jager's work offers valuable insights and an immersive journey into a world where life and reputation could be decided in a single combat. Exploring this story through Jager's lens enriches our understanding of the complexities of medieval society and the enduring human quest for justice.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Eric Jager and what is his connection to 'The Last Duel'?

Eric Jager is a medievalist and author who wrote 'The Last Duel: A True Story of Crime, Scandal, and Trial by Combat,' which explores the historical events that inspired the film 'The Last Duel.'

How does Eric Jager's book 'The Last Duel' relate to the film directed by Ridley Scott?

Jager's book provides a detailed historical account of the true story behind the film's plot, offering context and background that enrich the movie's depiction of medieval justice and conflict.

What are the main themes explored in Eric Jager's 'The Last Duel'?

The book delves into themes of honor, justice, gender dynamics, and the medieval legal system, highlighting the complexities of truth and morality in 14th-century France.

Has Eric Jager's work influenced the way 'The Last Duel' was portrayed in the film?

Yes, Jager's detailed historical research helped inform the film's depiction of medieval society, trial by combat, and the cultural context of the events.

What is the significance of Eric Jager's scholarship in

understanding medieval justice as shown in 'The Last Duel'?

Jager's scholarship sheds light on the legal practices and societal values of the time, providing a nuanced understanding of the historical importance of the duel and its implications.

Are there any notable differences between Eric Jager's book and the film adaptation of 'The Last Duel'?

While the film dramatizes the true events for visual storytelling, Jager's book offers a detailed, factual account, sometimes highlighting discrepancies or emphasizing different aspects of the historical case.

Why is Eric Jager's 'The Last Duel' considered an important work in medieval history and legal studies?

The book is praised for its thorough research, compelling narrative, and insightful analysis of medieval justice and societal norms, making it a significant contribution to understanding that historical period.

Additional Resources

Eric Jager and The Last Duel: A Deep Dive into the Literary and Historical Significance

Introduction: A Fusion of History and Literature

Eric Jager's *The Last Duel* is a compelling exploration of medieval justice, chivalry, and the human condition, set against the tumultuous backdrop of 14th-century France. As a renowned literary scholar and medievalist, Jager meticulously reconstructs the events leading up to, during, and following what is heralded as the last legally sanctioned duel in French history. This book not only recounts a dramatic historical episode but also examines themes of truth, honor, gender dynamics, and societal change, making it a must-read for history buffs, literary enthusiasts, and lovers of narrative nonfiction alike.

Background and Context: Setting the Stage

Historical Setting

- Time Period: The late 14th century, primarily focusing on the year 1386.
- Location: France, specifically the region around Paris and the town of Pontoise.
- Political Climate: A period marked by political instability, the aftermath of the Black Death, and shifting power dynamics among nobility and the burgeoning bourgeoisie.
- Legal System: Medieval justice was often brutal, with trials by combat being a recognized method to determine truth, especially in cases involving accusations of serious crimes such as assault or treason.

The Central Figures

- Jean de Carrouges: A nobleman and knight, known for his valor and sense of honor.
- Jacques Le Gris: A squire and fellow knight, sometimes portrayed as more cunning and socially connected.
- Marguerite de Carrouges: Jean's wife, whose accusations and testimony are central to the narrative.

The Narrative Structure: A Multi-Perspective Approach

The Power of Witness Testimony

Jager employs a unique narrative technique by presenting the story from three different perspectives:

1. Jean de Carrouges' account — emphasizing honor and justice.
2. Jacques Le Gris' perspective — highlighting social mobility and cunning.
3. Marguerite de Carrouges' narration — offering insight into gender roles, agency, and moral dilemmas.

This multi-voiced approach allows Jager to explore the complex nature of truth, illustrating how each perspective is shaped by personal biases, social positions, and cultural norms.

The Central Event: The Duel and Its Significance

The Crime and Accusation

- Marguerite claims that Le Gris assaulted her, an accusation that threatened her reputation and her husband's honor.
- Jean de Carrouges, motivated by a sense of duty and justice, challenges Le Gris to a duel to settle the matter definitively.

The Duel: The Last of Its Kind

- Legal and Cultural Context: The duel was considered a divine judgment, where victory was viewed as a sign of divine favor, thus settling disputes beyond human judgment.
- Preparation and Rituals: The event was surrounded by elaborate rituals, including oaths, religious ceremonies, and symbolic acts emphasizing the gravity of the duel.
- Outcome: Jean de Carrouges emerges victorious, but the event's aftermath raises questions about justice, truth, and societal values.

Impact and Legacy

- The duel's outcome played a pivotal role in ending the legal practice of combat as a means of resolving serious accusations in France.
- It marked a turning point toward more modern notions of justice, although societal attitudes towards gender and honor persisted long afterward.

Themes Explored in The Last Duel

Honor and Chivalry

- Code of Conduct: The medieval code of chivalry demanded that knights defend their honor at all costs.
- Gender Expectations: Marguerite's role underscores the limited agency women had, with their honor often tied to sexual purity and virtue.
- The Duel as Justice: The belief that divine intervention could be determined through combat reflects the intertwining of religion, honor, and societal order.

Gender and Power Dynamics

- Marguerite's voice offers a rare female perspective, challenging the male-dominated narrative.
- The story highlights the vulnerabilities women faced, especially when accusations could ruin reputations or lead to violence.
- Jager discusses how societal norms often silenced women, with their testimonies undervalued compared to male accounts.

The Nature of Truth

- The book delves into the complexities of truth and perception.
- Each character's account is influenced by personal motives, social status, and cultural expectations.
- Jager emphasizes that truth is multifaceted, especially when filtered through human biases.

Justice and Its Evolution

- The duel as a form of justice reflects medieval beliefs in divine judgment.
- The transition away from combat signifies societal progress toward rational legal procedures.
- The narrative prompts readers to consider how justice systems evolve and the importance of fairness and evidence.

Literary Analysis: Jager's Narrative Technique and Style

Multi-Perspective Storytelling

- Jager's use of multiple viewpoints enhances the narrative's depth.
- It allows readers to question the reliability of each account and encourages critical thinking about the nature of truth.

Use of Primary Sources

- The book is grounded in meticulous research, referencing trial records, contemporary chronicles, and legal documents.
- This historical foundation lends authenticity and scholarly rigor to the narrative.

Engaging Prose and Descriptive Detail

- Jager balances scholarly analysis with compelling storytelling.

- Vivid descriptions of medieval life, armor, weaponry, and rituals immerse readers in the period.
- The pacing maintains tension, especially during the duel scenes, heightening emotional impact.

Critical Reception and Impact

Scholarly Acclaim

- The Last Duel has been praised for its thorough research and nuanced portrayal of medieval justice.
- It has been recognized as a significant contribution to both history and literary nonfiction.

Cultural Relevance

- The themes of gender, truth, and societal change resonate with contemporary discussions on justice and gender equality.
- The book has inspired adaptations, including the recent film directed by Ridley Scott, further amplifying its cultural footprint.

Educational Value

- The book serves as an excellent resource for courses on medieval history, legal history, gender studies, and literature.
- Its multi-perspective approach models critical analysis and empathy.

Conclusion: Why The Last Duel by Eric Jager Matters

Eric Jager's *The Last Duel* is more than just a recounting of a medieval duel; it is a profound reflection on the nature of truth, honor, and justice across centuries. Through meticulous research, compelling storytelling, and a nuanced examination of societal norms, Jager invites readers to consider how history is constructed and the ways in which stories are shaped by personal and cultural biases. The book's exploration of gender dynamics and societal values remains startlingly relevant today, making it not only a historical account but also a mirror to contemporary debates on justice and morality.

Whether you are interested in medieval history, legal evolution, gender studies, or literary narrative, *The Last Duel* offers a richly layered and thought-provoking experience. Jager's mastery in blending factual accuracy with engaging prose ensures that this work will be a reference point for years to come, highlighting the enduring power of storytelling to illuminate the human condition across ages.

In summary, Eric Jager's *The Last Duel* is an essential read that combines scholarly depth with narrative brilliance, shedding light on a pivotal moment in history while prompting reflection on issues that continue to resonate. Its detailed exploration of a singular event opens a window into the complexities of truth, justice, and societal values that remain relevant in our modern world.

[Eric Jager The Last Duel](#)

eric jager the last duel: *The Last Duel* Eric Jager, 2004-10-12 NEW YORK TIMES

BESTSELLER • “A taut page-turner with all the hallmarks of a good historical thriller.”—Orlando Sentinel The basis for the major motion picture starring Matt Damon, Jodie Comer, and Adam Driver, now streaming on Hulu! The gripping true story of the duel to end all duels in medieval France as a resolute knight defends his wife’s honor against the man she accuses of a heinous crime In the midst of the devastating Hundred Years’ War between France and England, Jean de Carrouges, a Norman knight fresh from combat in Scotland, returns home to yet another deadly threat. His wife, Marguerite, has accused squire Jacques Le Gris of rape. A deadlocked court decrees a trial by combat between the two men that will also leave Marguerite’s fate in the balance. For if her husband loses the duel, she will be put to death as a false accuser. While enemy troops pillage the land, and rebellion and plague threaten the lives of all, Carrouges and Le Gris meet in full armor on a walled field in Paris. What follows is the final duel ever authorized by the Parlement of Paris, a fierce fight with lance, sword, and dagger before a massive crowd that includes the teenage King Charles VI, during which both combatants are wounded—but only one fatally. Based on extensive research in Normandy and Paris, *The Last Duel* brings to life a colorful, turbulent age and three unforgettable characters caught in a fatal triangle of crime, scandal, and revenge. *The Last Duel* is at once a moving human drama, a captivating true crime story, and an engrossing work of historical intrigue with themes that echo powerfully centuries later.

eric jager the last duel: The Last Duel (Movie Tie-In) Eric Jager, 2021-09-14 NEW YORK

TIMES BESTSELLER • “A taut page-turner with all the hallmarks of a good historical thriller.”—Orlando Sentinel The basis for the major motion picture starring Matt Damon, Jodie Comer, and Adam Driver, now streaming on Hulu! The gripping true story of the duel to end all duels in medieval France as a resolute knight defends his wife’s honor against the man she accuses of a heinous crime In the midst of the devastating Hundred Years’ War between France and England, Jean de Carrouges, a Norman knight fresh from combat in Scotland, returns home to yet another deadly threat. His wife, Marguerite, has accused squire Jacques Le Gris of rape. A deadlocked court decrees a trial by combat between the two men that will also leave Marguerite’s fate in the balance. For if her husband loses the duel, she will be put to death as a false accuser. While enemy troops pillage the land, and rebellion and plague threaten the lives of all, Carrouges and Le Gris meet in full armor on a walled field in Paris. What follows is the final duel ever authorized by the Parlement of Paris, a fierce fight with lance, sword, and dagger before a massive crowd that includes the teenage King Charles VI, during which both combatants are wounded—but only one fatally. Based on extensive research in Normandy and Paris, *The Last Duel* brings to life a colorful, turbulent age and three unforgettable characters caught in a fatal triangle of crime, scandal, and revenge. *The Last Duel* is at once a moving human drama, a captivating true crime story, and an engrossing work of historical intrigue with themes that echo powerfully centuries later.

eric jager the last duel: Summary of Eric Jager's The Last Duel Milkyway Media, 2022-05-04

Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Book Preview: #1 The idea for this book first occurred to me ten years ago while reading a medieval account of the legendary quarrel between Jean de Carrouges and Jacques Le Gris. I traveled to Normandy and Paris to explore manuscript archives and experience the places where the drama unfolded more than six hundred years ago. #2 In 1386, thousands of people packed a large open space behind a monastery in Paris to watch two knights fight a duel to the death. The beautiful woman was about to be put to death for having sworn a false oath. #3 The Middle Ages were a time of constant warfare between Europe’s feuding monarchs. The frequent wars among Europe’s feuding monarchs reduced towns and farmland to smoking ruins, killed or starved the people, and left rulers with huge debts that they paid by raising taxes. #4 The Kingdom of France, located in Europe, was the center of feudalism. It had endured for nearly ten centuries, but was now desperately fighting for its survival. The English

invaded France in 1339, beginning the long, ruinous conflict that would be known as the Hundred Years' War.

eric jager the last duel: Summary of Eric Jager's The Last Duel Everest Media,, 2022-03-22T22:59:00Z Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 The idea for this book first occurred to me ten years ago while reading a medieval account of the legendary quarrel between Jean de Carrouges and Jacques Le Gris. I traveled to Normandy and Paris to explore manuscript archives and experience the places where the drama unfolded more than six hundred years ago. #2 In 1386, thousands of people packed a large open space behind a monastery in Paris to watch two knights fight a duel to the death. The beautiful woman was about to be put to death for having sworn a false oath. #3 The Middle Ages were a time of constant warfare between Europe's feuding monarchs. The frequent wars among Europe's feuding monarchs reduced towns and farmland to smoking ruins, killed or starved the people, and left rulers with huge debts that they paid by raising taxes. #4 The Kingdom of France, located in Europe, was the center of feudalism. It had endured for nearly ten centuries, but was now desperately fighting for its survival. The English invaded France in 1339, beginning the long, ruinous conflict that would be known as the Hundred Years' War.

eric jager the last duel: *The Last Duel* Eric Jager, 2020 In 1386, a few days after Christmas, a massive crowd gathered at a Paris monastery to watch two men fight a duel to the death. A trial by combat to prove which man's cause was right in God's sight. The dramatic story of the knight, the squire and the lady unfolds during the tumultuous fourteenth century. A time of war, plague and anarchy, as well as of honour, chivalry, and courtly love. The notorious quarrel appears in many histories of France, but no writer has recounted it in full, until now--Publisher's description.

eric jager the last duel: *The Last Duel* Eric Jager, 2005-09-13 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • "A taut page-turner with all the hallmarks of a good historical thriller."—Orlando Sentinel The basis for the major motion picture starring Matt Damon, Jodie Comer, and Adam Driver, now streaming on Hulu! The gripping true story of the duel to end all duels in medieval France as a resolute knight defends his wife's honor against the man she accuses of a heinous crime In the midst of the devastating Hundred Years' War between France and England, Jean de Carrouges, a Norman knight fresh from combat in Scotland, returns home to yet another deadly threat. His wife, Marguerite, has accused squire Jacques Le Gris of rape. A deadlocked court decrees a trial by combat between the two men that will also leave Marguerite's fate in the balance. For if her husband loses the duel, she will be put to death as a false accuser. While enemy troops pillage the land, and rebellion and plague threaten the lives of all, Carrouges and Le Gris meet in full armor on a walled field in Paris. What follows is the final duel ever authorized by the Parlement of Paris, a fierce fight with lance, sword, and dagger before a massive crowd that includes the teenage King Charles VI, during which both combatants are wounded—but only one fatally. Based on extensive research in Normandy and Paris, *The Last Duel* brings to life a colorful, turbulent age and three unforgettable characters caught in a fatal triangle of crime, scandal, and revenge. *The Last Duel* is at once a moving human drama, a captivating true crime story, and an engrossing work of historical intrigue with themes that echo powerfully centuries later.

eric jager the last duel: Blood Royal Eric Jager, 2024-09-24 A riveting true story of royal murder and detection in 15th-century Paris, by the New York Times– bestselling author of *The Last Duel*. Jager's book skillfully proves that a well-told work of history may resemble nothing so much as a detective story punctuated with footnotes. —David Lehman, author of *The Perfect Murder* On a chilly November night in 1407, Louis of Orleans was murdered by a band of masked men. The crime stunned and paralyzed France since Louis had often ruled in place of his brother King Charles VI, who had gone mad. As panic seized Paris, an investigation began. In charge was the Provost of Paris, Guillaume de Tignonville, the city's chief law enforcement officer—and one of history's first detectives. As de Tignonville began to investigate, he realized that his hunt for the truth was much more dangerous than he ever could have imagined. A rich portrait of a distant world, *Blood Royal* is a gripping story of conspiracy, crime and an increasingly desperate hunt for the truth. And in

Guillaume de Tignonville, we have an unforgettable detective for the ages, a classic gumshoe for a cobblestoned era. Few works of fiction will grab readers' attention as well as Jager's . . . riveting story of a 1407 murder mystery that split the royal family of France. . . . An impressive combination of mystery, crime story, and social and political history. — Kirkus Reviews (starred review) An outstanding crime tale that also provides a good survey of both the glittering facade and the seamier aspects of medieval Paris. — Booklist

eric jager the last duel: Law, Justice, and Society in the Medieval World Esther Liberman Cuenca, M. Christina Bruno, Anthony Perron, 2025-05-06 This coursebook is the first full-length study of cinematic “legal medievalism,” or the modern interpretation of medieval law in film and popular culture For more than a century, filmmakers have used the “Middle Ages” to produce popular entertainment and comment on contemporary issues. Each of the twenty chapters in Law, Justice, and Society in the Medieval World represents an original contribution to our understanding of how medieval regulations, laws, and customs have been depicted in film. It offers a window into the “rules” of medieval society through the lens of popular culture. This book includes analyses of recent and older films, avant-garde as well as popular cinema. Films discussed in this book include Braveheart (1995), Kingdom of Heaven (2005), The Passion of Joan of Arc (1928), The Last Duel (2021), The Green Knight (2021), The Little Hours (2017), and The Adventures of Robin Hood (1938), among others. Each chapter explores the contemporary context of the film in question, the medieval literary or historical milieu the film references, and the lessons the film can teach us about the medieval world. Attached to each chapter is an appendix of medieval documentary sources and reading questions to prompt critical reflection.

eric jager the last duel: Iron, Fire and Ice Ed West, 2019-04-09 Have you read everything George R.R. Martin has ever written? Do you know what in Game of Thrones is based in real history? A young pretender raises an army to take the throne. Learning of his father's death, the adolescent, dashing and charismatic and descended from the old kings of the North, vows to avenge him. He is supported in this war by his mother, who has spirited away her two younger sons to safety. Against them is the queen, passionate, proud, and strong-willed and with more of the masculine virtues of the time than most men. She too is battling for the inheritance of her young son, not yet fully grown but already a sadist who takes delight in watching executions. Sound familiar? It may read like the plot of Game of Thrones. Yet that was also the story of the bloodiest battle in British history, fought at the culmination of the War of the Roses. George RR Martin's bestselling novels are rife with allusions, inspirations, and flat-out copies of real-life people, events, and places of medieval and Tudor England and Europe. The Red Wedding? Based on actual events in Scottish history. The poisoning of Joffrey Baratheon? Eerily similar to the death of William the Conqueror's grandson. The Dothraki? Also known as Huns, Magyars, Turks, and Mongols. Join Ed West, as he explores all of Martin's influences, from religion to war to powerful women. Discover the real history behind the phenomenon and see for yourself that truth is stranger than fiction.

eric jager the last duel: Honour, Violence and Emotions in History Carolyn Strange, Robert Cribb, Christopher E. Forth, 2014-04-10 Honour, Violence and Emotions in History is the first book to draw on emerging cross-disciplinary scholarship on the study of emotions to analyse the history of honour and violence across a broad range of cultures and regions. Written by leading cultural and social historians from around the world, the book considers how emotions - particularly shame, anger, disgust, jealousy, despair and fear - have been provoked and expressed through culturally-embedded and historically specific understandings of honour. The collection explores a range of contexts, from 17th-century China to 18th-century South Africa and 20th-century Europe, offering a broad and wide-ranging analysis of the interrelationships between honour, violence and emotions in history. This ground-breaking book will be of interest to all researchers studying the relationship between violence and the emotions.

eric jager the last duel: Blurred Boundaries and Deceptive Dichotomies in Pre-Modern Texts and Images Dafna Nissim, Vered Tohar, 2023-12-18 This collection of essays focuses on the way blurred boundaries are represented in pre-modern texts and visual art and how they were

received and perceived by their audiences: readers, listeners, and viewers. According to the current understanding that opposing cognitive categories that are so common in modern thinking do not apply to pre-modern mentalities, we argue that individuals in medieval and pre-modern societies did not necessarily consider sacred and secular, male and female, real and fictional, and opposing emotions as absolute dichotomies. The contributors to the present collection examine a wide range of cultural artifacts – literary texts, wall paintings, sculptures, jewelry, manuscript illustrations, and various objects as to what they reflect regarding the dominant perceptual system – the network of beliefs, worldviews, presumptions, values, and norms of viewing/reading/hearing different from modern epistemology strongly predicated on the binary nature of things and people. The essays suggest that analyzing pre-modern cultural works of art or literature in light of reception theory can lead to a better understanding of how those cultural products influenced individuals and impacted their thoughts and actions.

eric jager the last duel: Journal of Medieval Military History Clifford J. Rogers, Kelly DeVries, John France, 2010-11-18 A collection which highlights the range and richness of scholarship on medieval warfare, military institutions, and cultures of conflict that characterize the field. History 95 [2010] The journal's hallmark of a broad chronological, geographic, and thematic coverage of the subject is underlined in this volume. It begins with an examination of the brief but fascinating career of an armed league of (mostly) commoners who fought to suppress mercenary bands and to impose a reign of peace in southern France in 1182-1184. This is followed by a thorough re-examination of Matilda of Tuscany's defeat of Henry IV in 1090-97. Two pieces on Hispanic topics – a substantial analysis of the remarkable military career of Jaime I the Conqueror of Aragon (r. 1208-1276), and a case study of the campaigns of a single Spanish king, Enrique II of Castile (r. 1366-79), contributing to the active debate over the role of open battle in medieval strategy – come next. Shorter essays deal with the size of the Mongol armies that threatened Europe in the mid-thirteenth century, and with a surprising literary description, dating to 1210-1220, of a knight employing the advanced surgical technique of thoracentesis. Further contributions correct the common misunderstanding of the nature of deeds of arms à outrance in the fifteenth century, and dissect the relevance of the infantry revolution and artillery revolution to the French successes at the end of the Hundred Years War. The final note explores what etymology can reveal about the origins of the trebuchet. Clifford Rogers is Professor of History, West Point Military Academy; Kelly DeVries is Professor of History, Loyola College, Maryland; John France is Professor of History at the University of Swansea. Contributors: John France, Valerie Eads, Don Kagay, Carl Sverdrup, Jolyon T. Hughes, L. J. Andrew Villalon, Will McLean, Anne Curry, Will Sayers

eric jager the last duel: Cinema Medievalia Kevin J. Harty, Scott Manning, 2024-11-20 This collection of original essays presents new scholarship on nearly three dozen feature-length films, including silent films, animated films, films in black and white, and films in technicolor, along with other, shorter examples of cinematic medievalism. Written by contributors from around the globe with a wide variety of backgrounds, the essays in this volume take a critical approach to one of the most popular forms of medievalism. This book presents a full century of cinematic depictions of the Middle Ages, with new examinations of works such as *The Seventh Seal*, *God's Fool*, *La Passion de Jeanne d'Arc*, *Saladin the Victorious*, *Dante's Inferno: An Animated Epic*, and *A Knight's Tale*, among others.

eric jager the last duel: A King Travels Teofilo F. Ruiz, 2012-03-25 *A King Travels* examines the scripting and performance of festivals in Spain between 1327 and 1620, offering an unprecedented look at the different types of festivals that were held in Iberia during this crucial period of European history. Bridging the gap between the medieval and early modern eras, Teofilo Ruiz focuses on the travels and festivities of Philip II, exploring the complex relationship between power and ceremony, and offering a vibrant portrait of Spain's cultural and political life. Ruiz covers a range of festival categories: carnival, royal entries, tournaments, calendrical and noncalendrical celebrations, autos de fe, and Corpus Christi processions. He probes the ritual meanings of these events, paying special attention to the use of colors and symbols, and to the power relations

articulated through these festive displays. Ruiz argues that the fluid and at times subversive character of medieval festivals gave way to highly formalized and hierarchical events reflecting a broader shift in how power was articulated in late medieval and early modern Spain. Yet Ruiz contends that these festivals, while they sought to buttress authority and instruct different social orders about hierarchies of power, also served as sites of contestation, dialogue, and resistance. *A King Travels* sheds new light on Iberian festive traditions and their unique role in the centralizing state in early modern Castile.

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