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## Chaucers Open Books: Resistance to Closure in Medieval Discourse

By Rosemarie P. McGerr

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Rosemarie McGerr examines the open-endedness of Chaucers narrative poems in relation to modern and postmodern theory and to medieval traditions. She discusses links between Chaucers poems and modern definitions of open form and then addresses medieval conventions of closure and pre-Chaucerian poems that subverted those conventions. Against this critical backdrop, she offers readings of Chaucers narrative poems focusing on how they manipulate medieval conventions of closure and openness, highlight ambiguity in interpretation of texts, and raise questions about the relationship of gender and reading. McGerrs study is the first to demonstrate that subversion of closure plays a major role in all...



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