

CONTENTS

ABBREVIATIONS	xiii
Introduction	1
Bibliographical Note	3
Note to the Second Edition	4
<i>The Canterbury Tales</i>	5
X Date 5; Text 6; Genre 8; Sources and Analogues 10; Structure 17; Themes 18; Style: Language, Rhetoric, and Prosody 22	

FRAGMENT I(A)

The General Prologue	27
Date and Text 27; Genre 28; Sources and Analogues 30; Structure 32; Themes and Style: A Guided Tour of the General Prologue 33, <u>The Knight</u> 34, <u>The Squire</u> 36, <u>The Yeoman</u> 37, <u>The Prioress</u> 37, <u>The Monk</u> 39, <u>The Friar</u> 40, <u>The Merchant</u> 42, <u>The Clerk</u> 43, <u>The Sergeant of Law</u> 44, <u>The Franklin</u> 45, <u>The Guildsmen</u> 47, <u>The Cook</u> 48, <u>The Shipman</u> 48, <u>The Doctor of Physic</u> 49, <u>The Wife of Bath</u> 50, <u>The Parson</u> 52, <u>The Ploughman</u> 53, <u>The Miller</u> 53, <u>The Manciple</u> 55, <u>The Reeve</u> 55, <u>The Summoner</u> 56, <u>The Pardoner</u> 57, <u>The Tabard</u> 59	
The Knight's Tale	61
Date 61; Text 62; Genre 63; Sources and Analogues 64, 1. Boccaccio: <i>The Teseida</i> 65, 2. Boethius 68, 3. Minor Sources: Statius, the Ovidian Tradition, the <i>Roman de la rose</i> , Dante, English Romance 71; Structure 73; Themes 76, A Note on Astrology 83; The Tale in Context 85; Style 87	
The Miller's Tale	92
Prologue 92; Date and Text 94; Genre 95; Sources and Analogues 96; Structure 99; Themes 100; The Tale in Context 103; Style 104	
The Reeve's Tale	108
Prologue 108; Date and Text 109; Genre 109; Sources and Analogues 110; Structure 112; Themes 113; The Tale in Context 114; Style 115	
The Cook's Tale	118
Prologue 118; Date and Text 119; Genre 119; Sources and Analogues 120; Structure, Themes, and Style 120; The Tale in Context 121	

FRAGMENT II(B')

- The Man of Law's Tale** 123
 Introduction 123; Date and Text 125; Genre 126; Sources and Analogues 127; Structure 129; Themes 130; The Tale in Context 133; Style 135; Epilogue: A Textual Note 136

FRAGMENT III(D)

- The Wife of Bath's Prologue** 139
 Date and Text 139; Genre 140; Sources and Analogues 141; Structure 147; Themes 148; The Prologue in Context 152; Style 154
- The Wife of Bath's Tale** 156
 Date and Text 156; Genre 156; Sources and Analogues 157; Structure 160; Themes 161; The Tale in Context 163; Style 164
- The Friar's Tale** 167
 Prologue 167; Date and Text 167; Genre 167; Sources and Analogues 168; Structure 170; Themes 171; The Tale in Context 172; Style 173
- The Summoner's Tale** 176
 Prologue 176; Date and Text 176; Genre 176; Sources and Analogues 177; Structure 178; Themes 179; The Tale in Context 181; Style 182

FRAGMENT IV(E)

- The Clerk's Tale** 185
 Prologue 185; Date and Text 186; Genre 187; Sources and Analogues 188; Structure 191; Themes 193; The Tale in Context 197; Style 200
- The Merchant's Tale** 202
 Prologue 202; Date and Text 202; Genre 203; Sources and Analogues 204; Structure 206; Themes 207; The Tale in Context 212; Style 213

FRAGMENT V(F)

- The Squire's Tale** 217
 Prologue 217; Date and Text 217; Genre 218; Sources and Analogues 219; Structure 222; Themes 223; The Tale in Context 226; Style 227

The Franklin's Tale	230
The Ending of the Squire's Tale: The Squire–Franklin Link 230; Date and Text 231; Genre 232; Sources and Analogues 233; Structure 235; Themes 236; The Tale in Context 240; Style 242	
FRAGMENT VI(C)	
The Placing of the Fragment	247
The Physician's Tale	248
Date and Text 248; Genre 248; Sources and Analogues 250; Structure 251; Themes 252; The Tale in Context 255; Style 257; The Physician–Pardoner Link 258	
The Pardoner's Prologue and Tale	260
Date and Text 260; The Prologue: Sources and Analogues 260; The Prologue: Structure, Themes, and Style 262; The Tale: Genre 263; Sources and Analogues 264; Structure 266; Themes 268; The Tale in Context 271; Style 273	
FRAGMENT VII(B ²)	
The Placing of the Fragment	277
The Shipman's Tale	278
Date, Attribution, and Text 278; Genre, Sources, and Analogues 278; Structure 280; Themes 281; The Tale in Context 283; Style 284	
The Prioress's Tale	287
The Shipman–Prioress Link 287; Date and Text 287; Genre 288; Sources and Analogues 289; Structure 291; Themes 292; The Tale in Context 295; Style 296	
<i>The Tale of Sir Thopas</i>	299
Prologue 299; Date and Text 299; Genre, Sources, and Analogues 300; Structure 304; Themes and Style 305; The Tale in Context 308	
<i>The Tale of Melibee</i>	310
Prologue 310; Date 311; Text 313; Genre 313; Sources 314; Structure 315; Themes 316; The Tale in Context 319; Style 321	
The Monk's Tale	323
Prologue 323; Date 324; Text 325; Genre 327; Sources and Analogues 328; Structure 330; Themes 332; The Tale in Context 334; Style 334	

The Nun's Priest's Tale	338
Prologue: Text 338; Prologue: Themes 339; Date and Text 340; Genre 340; Sources and Analogues 342; Structure 346; Themes 348; The Tale in Context 350; Style 352; Endlink 356	
FRAGMENT VIII(G)	
The Placing of the Fragment	357
The Second Nun's Tale	358
Date 358; Attribution and Text 358; Genre, Sources, and Analogues 359; Structure 360; Themes 361; The Tale in Context 363; Style 366	
The Canon's Yeoman's Tale	368
Date and Text 368; Prologue 369; Genre 370; Sources and Analogues 371; Structure 373; Themes 374; The Tale in Context 377; Style 378	
FRAGMENT IX(H)	
The Manciple's Tale	383
Prologue 383; Date and Text 384; Genre 385; Sources and Analogues 385; Structure 388; Themes 389; The Tale in Context 391; Style 393	
FRAGMENT X(I)	
The Parson's Tale	395
Prologue 395; Date 398; Text 399; Genre, Sources, and Analogues 400; Structure and Themes 402; The Tale in Context 404; Style 407	
Chaucer's Retractions	410
Imitations of the <i>Canterbury Tales</i> 1400-1615	413
Filling in the Gaps: The Cook's and Squire's Tales 413; Tales for the Pilgrimage: <i>Beryn</i> , <i>The Siege of Thebes</i> , Two Ploughman's Tales 415; The Non-Canterbury Tales: <i>The Pilgrim's Tale</i> , <i>The Cobbler of Canterbury</i> , <i>Greene's Vision</i> 418; The Afterlife of Individual Tales 420	
GENERAL BIBLIOGRAPHY	429
INDEX	433