

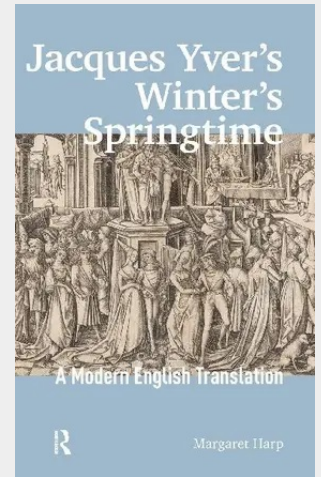
Margaret Harp is Associate Professor of French in the Department of World Languages at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She has published on Rabelais's Quart Livre and Jacques Yver's Le Printemps d'Yver.

Jacques Yver's Winter's Springtime

A Modern English Translation

A prose work interspersed with poetry, Le Printemps d'Yver was highly popular in its day, seeing thirty editions between 1572 and 1635. Jacques Yver's stories and their premise – three gentlemen and two noble women who spin five tales in order to distract each other from the horrors of the recent third religious war and to rejoice in the brief 1570 truce of Saint-Germain – provide an intriguing and distinctive continuation of this genre evocative of Boccaccio and Marguerite de Navarre. It reveals an author with a profound humanist education whose text, inspired by Bandello, engages the social and political controversies of late sixteenth-century France. Henry Wotton translated Le Printemps into early modern English in 1578, removing all references to the original author and title while also mistranslating, deleting, and substituting passages. This modern English translation constitutes the first complete translation of the original French text.

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