



Colin Clouts Come Home Againe, Astrophel, and The Doleful Lay of Clorinda (1595)

Patrick Cheney

English, Comparative Literature

Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding > Chapter



Abstract

The year 1595 saw the publication of the marriage volume Amoretti and Epithalamion, and a less homogenous volume that contains Spenser's second pastoral, Colin Clouts Come Home Againe, his pastoral elegy on Sir Philip Sidney, Astrophel, and six other pastoral elegies on Sidney, including one that may (or may not) be by Spenser, The Doleful Lay of Clorinda. This article suggests that the 1595 Colin Clout volume is historic as the first book in English literature to feature the national poet as the center of a national community of fellow poets and civic leaders, especially Raleigh and Queen Elizabeth, who were themselves poets. In particular, the book depicts the English poet performing two vital roles as part of a national community: first, in Colin Clout Spenser presents his persona leading the nation because he has undergone a divinely inspired vision of purified erotic desire; and second, in Astrophel and The Doleful Lay he presents himself as a funeral poet helping the nation process its grief after he has undergone a professional vision of the soul's immortality, of the place of the national poet in eternity. The two roles cohere in their wisdom about the sanctified character of poetic identity within a civic world of national achievement, as well as in their underlying project: 'Poetry serves as a consolation for loss'.

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE	English (US)
TITLE OF HOST PUBLICATION	The Oxford Handbook of Edmund Spenser
PUBLISHER	Oxford University Press
ISBN (ELECTRONIC)	9780191743634
ISBN (PRINT)	9780199227365
STATE	Published - Sep 18 2012

All Science Journal Classification (ASJC) codes

Arts and
Humanities(all)

Access to Document

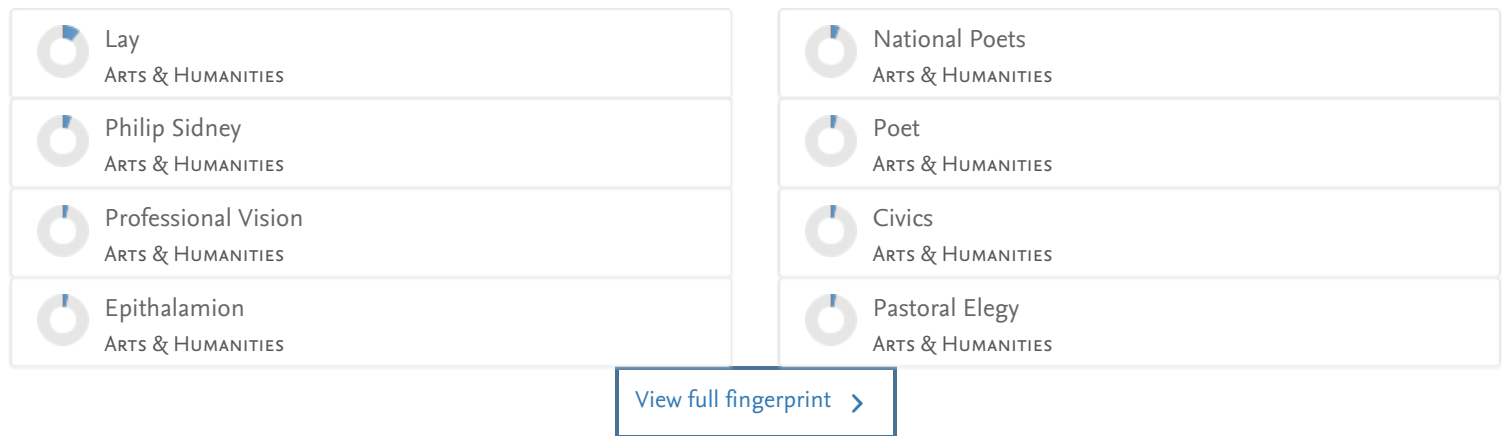
[10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199227365.013.0014](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199227365.013.0014)

[Link to publication in Scopus](#)

[Link to citation list in Scopus](#)

Fingerprint

Dive into the research topics of 'Colin Clouts Come Home Againe, Astrophel, and The Doleful Lay of Clorinda (1595)'. Together they form a unique fingerprint.



Cite this



Cheney, P. (2012). Colin Clouts Come Home Againe, Astrophel, and The Doleful Lay of Clorinda (1595) . In *The Oxford Handbook of Edmund Spenser* Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199227365.013.0014>

Powered by [Pure](#), [Scopus](#) & [Elsevier Fingerprint Engine™](#) © 2020 Elsevier B.V

"We use cookies to help provide and enhance our service and tailor content. By continuing you agree to [these of cookies](#)

[Log in to Pure](#)

[Penn State data protection policy](#)

[About web accessibility](#)

[Penn State contact form](#)

[Colin Clout's Come Home Again is the record of the poet's expedition to England with Raleigh in 1589 and of what he found there at court. It was obviously written not long after his return to Kilcolman and sent to his friend as soon as done. About four years later, probably by way of revision for the press, he made changes inspired by intervening events. In a poem of such content, it was natural that he should adopt his old incognito of the Shepherd's Calendar and appear as Colin Clout. In that character, he would naturally need his old friend and interlocutor, Hobbinol, to start the dialogue Other articles where Colin Clouts Come Home Again is discussed: Edmund Spenser: The Faerie Queene and last years: ...episode is charmingly evoked in Colin Clouts Come Home Againe (completed 1595), which is also one of Spenser's most effective pastoral embodiments of a provincial innocent up against the sophistications of a centre of power, with subsequent reflections on false, superficial love and the true love that finally animates a... Alternative Title: "Colin Clouts Come Home Againe". Learn about this topic in these articles: discussed in biography. In Edmund Spenser: The Faerie Queene and last years. Colin Clouts Come Home Againe (also known as Colin Clouts Come Home Again) is a pastoral poem by the English poet Edmund Spenser and published in 1596. conceal allegories of a political or ecclesiastical nature.[1]. Colin Clouts Come Home Againe is an allegorical pastoral based on the subject of Spenser's visit to London in 1591 and is written as a lightly veiled account of the trip. Spenser also sent Raleigh several versions of the poem between 1591 and 1595 when the poem was published.[2] In the poem, Colin Clout gives a description of the London visit; the poem is Spenser's most autobiographical and identifies a number of anonymous poets, the real life identities of whom have been the grist of speculation over time.[3].