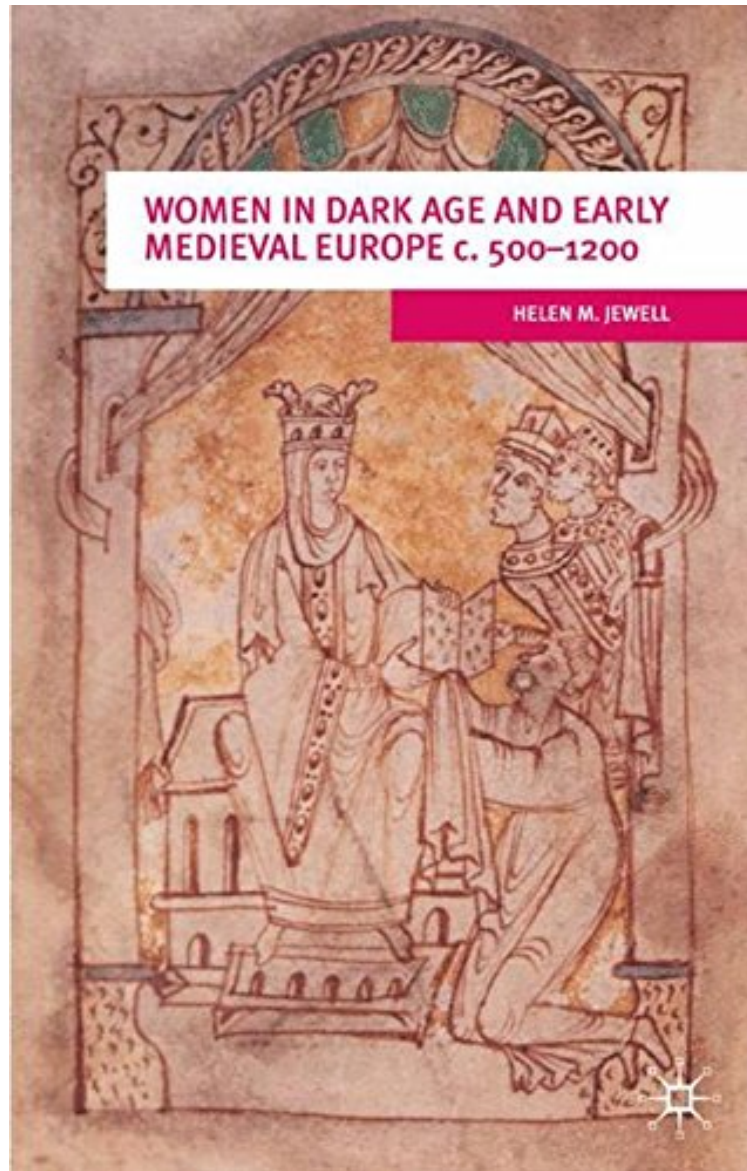


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Women In Dark Age And Early Medieval Europe c.500-1200 (European Culture and Society)

Helen Jewell

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Helen Jewell : Women In Dark Age And Early Medieval Europe c.500-1200 (European Culture and Society) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Women In Dark Age

And Early Medieval Europe c.500-1200 (European Culture and Society):

The period 1200-1550 opened in a time of population expansion but went on to suffer the demographically cataclysmic effects of the plague, beginning with the Black Death of 1347-51. The period dawned with a confident papacy and the Albigensian crusade against heretics and ended with the Catholic church torn apart by the Protestant Reformation. Huge challenges were affecting society in various ways, but they did not always affect men and women in the same ways. Helen M. Jewell provides a lively survey of western European women's activities and experiences during this timeframe. The core chapters investigate:- the function of women in the countryside and towns- the role of women in the ruling and landholding classes- women within the context of religion. This practical centre of the book is embedded in an analysis of the gender theories inherited from the earlier Middle Ages which continued to underpin laws which restricted women's activity, an education system which offered them inferior institutional provision, and a church which denied them ministry. Three individuals who vastly exceeded these expectations, crashing through the 'glass ceilings' of their day, are brought together in a fascinating final chapter. Combining a historiographical survey of trends over the last thirty years with more recent scholarship, this is an indispensable introduction for anyone with an interest in women's history from the late Medieval period through to the Reformation.

'Helen Jewell's books provide an up-to-date survey of the lives of medieval women, with valuable insights into society, economy, politics, religion and culture.' - Jennifer Ward, Lady Margaret Hall (The Brown Book) '...an excellent introduction to the study of medieval women across a substantial geographical and chronological span, and with plentiful suggestions for reading in order to pursue further study.' - Sarah James, Women's History Magazine

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From the Back Cover

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