## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acknowledgments</th>
<th>ix</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preface</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>NICHOLAS WATSON and FIONA SOMERSET</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>FIONA SOMERSET</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PART ONE • THE TRUTH OF TALES 1

| 1 | “The Vanishing Leper” and “The Murmuring Monk”: Two Medieval Urban Legends | RICHARD FIRTH GREEN | 19 |
| 2 | Don’t Cry for Me, Augustinus: Dido and the Dangers of Empathy              | THOMAS HAHN          | 41 |
| 3 | The New Plow and the Old: Law, Orality, and the Figure of Piers the Plowman in B | STEPHEN YEAGER       | 60 |
| 4 | The Exegesis of Tears in Lambeth Homily                                  | M. J. TOSWELL        | 79 |
| 5 | Mingling with the English in Laȝamon’s Brut                            | FIONA SOMERSET       | 96 |
PART THREE • CULTURAL DIVIDES AND THEIR COMMON GROUND

6 Unquiet Graves: *Pearl* and the Hope of Reunion
   ALASTAIR MINNIS 117

7 Mercantile Gentility in Cambridge, University Library MS Ff.2.38
   MICHAEL JOHNSTON 135

8 Resident Aliens: The Literary Ecology of Medieval Mice
   LISA J. KISER 151

9 Toward the Common Good: Punishing Fraud among the Victualers of Medieval London
   BARBARA A. HANAWALT 168

PART FOUR • NEW MEDIA AND THE LITERATE LAITY

10 The Ignorance of the Laity: *Twelve Tracts on Bible Translation*
    NICHOLAS WATSON 187

11 York Merchants at Prayer: The Confessional Formula of the Bolton Hours
    ROBYN MALO 206

12 A London Legal Miscellany, Popular Law, and Medieval Print Culture
    KATHLEEN E. KENNEDY 223

13 Tourists and *Tabulae* in Late-Medieval England
    MICHAEL VAN DUSSEN 238

PART FIVE • THE TRUTH OF TALES 2

14 Oral Performance and the Force of the Law: Taillefer at Hastings and Antgulilibix in Smithers
   ANDREW TAYLOR 257

About the Editors and Contributors 279
Index 283