Parody In The Middle Ages: The Latin Tradition

by Martha Bayless


Although some scholars have
Parody in the Middle Ages: The Latin Tradition surveys and analyzes Latin parodies of texts and documents—Biblical parody, drinker's masses, bawdy litanies, lives of saints such as Nemo (Nobody) and Invicem (One-Another), and nonsense texts—in Western Europe from the early Middle Ages to the Renaissance. This book also sketches in the background to the canonical works of Parody in the Middle Ages: The Latin Tradition surveys and analyzes Latin parodies of texts and documents—Biblical parody, drinker's masses, bawdy litanies, lives of saints such as Nemo (Nobody) and Invicem (One-A Parody in the Middle Ages: the Latin tradition / Martha Bayless. - Full View | HathiTrust Digital Library | HathiTrust Digital Library. Skip to page content. Skip to text only view of this item. Skip to search in this text. Skip to book options.
Parody is one of the most satisfying forms of literary humor. Its success depends on a wide knowledge of the target texts, of which the Middle Ages had an ample supply in the Bible and liturgy, with its verses, responses, hymns, prayers, and a structure known intimately by every cleric. Almost equally well known were the techniques of biblical analysis. In its title and preface, Bayless's study explicitly challenges Paul Lehmann's pioneering Die Parodie im Mittelalter (1922, 1963); the texts she studies and edits largely overlap with Lehmann's, and in some ways her book