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« *Apology for the Woman Writing and Other Works*, Marie de Gournay  
[présentation de l'édition] », *Montaignes Studies An Interdisciplinary Forum*, n°  
14, 2002, *Montaigne and Ethics*, p. 221-221

DOI : [10.15122/isbn.978-2-406-07012-2.p.0223](https://doi.org/10.15122/isbn.978-2-406-07012-2.p.0223)

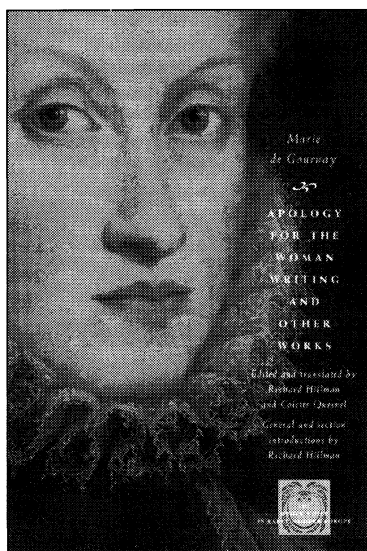
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# Apology for the Woman Writing and Other Works

Marie de Gournay

*Edited and translated by Richard Hillman  
and Colette Quesnel*



The adopted daughter of Montaigne, as well as his editor, Marie le Jars de Gournay was a major literary force and a pioneering feminist voice during a tumultuous period in France. This volume presents translations of four of Gournay's works that address feminist issues. Two of these appear here in English for the first time—*The Promenade of Monsieur de Montaigne* and *The Apology for the Woman Writing*. One of the first modern psychological novels, the best-selling *Promenade* was also the first to explore female sexual feeling. With the autobiographical *Apology*, Gournay defended every aspect of her life, from her moral conduct to her household management. The book also includes Gournay's last

revisions (1641) of her two best-known feminist treatises, *The Equality of Men and Women* and *The Ladies' Complaint*. The editors provide a general overview of Gournay's career, as well as individual introductions and extensive annotations for each work.

"Richard Hillman and Colette Quesnel have produced another masterful volume of translations from Marie de Gournay. Sensitive and scholarly, the introduction and notes let Gournay's originality stand out for the modern reader."—Cathleen M. Bauschatz, University of Maine

The Other Voice in Early Modern Europe  
Paper \$15.00



The University of Chicago Press

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