



KELMISCOTT









✿✿ THE PARLEMENT OF FOULES ✿✿ THE PROEM. ✿✿✿✿







HARM! CONDICION OF POVERTE!

With thirst, with coold, with hunger so confoundid!

To asken help thee shameth in thyn herte;
If thou noon aske, so soore artow ywoundid,
That verray nede unwrappeth al thy wounde hid!

Maugree thyn heed, thou most for indigence
Or stele, or begge, or borwe thy despence!



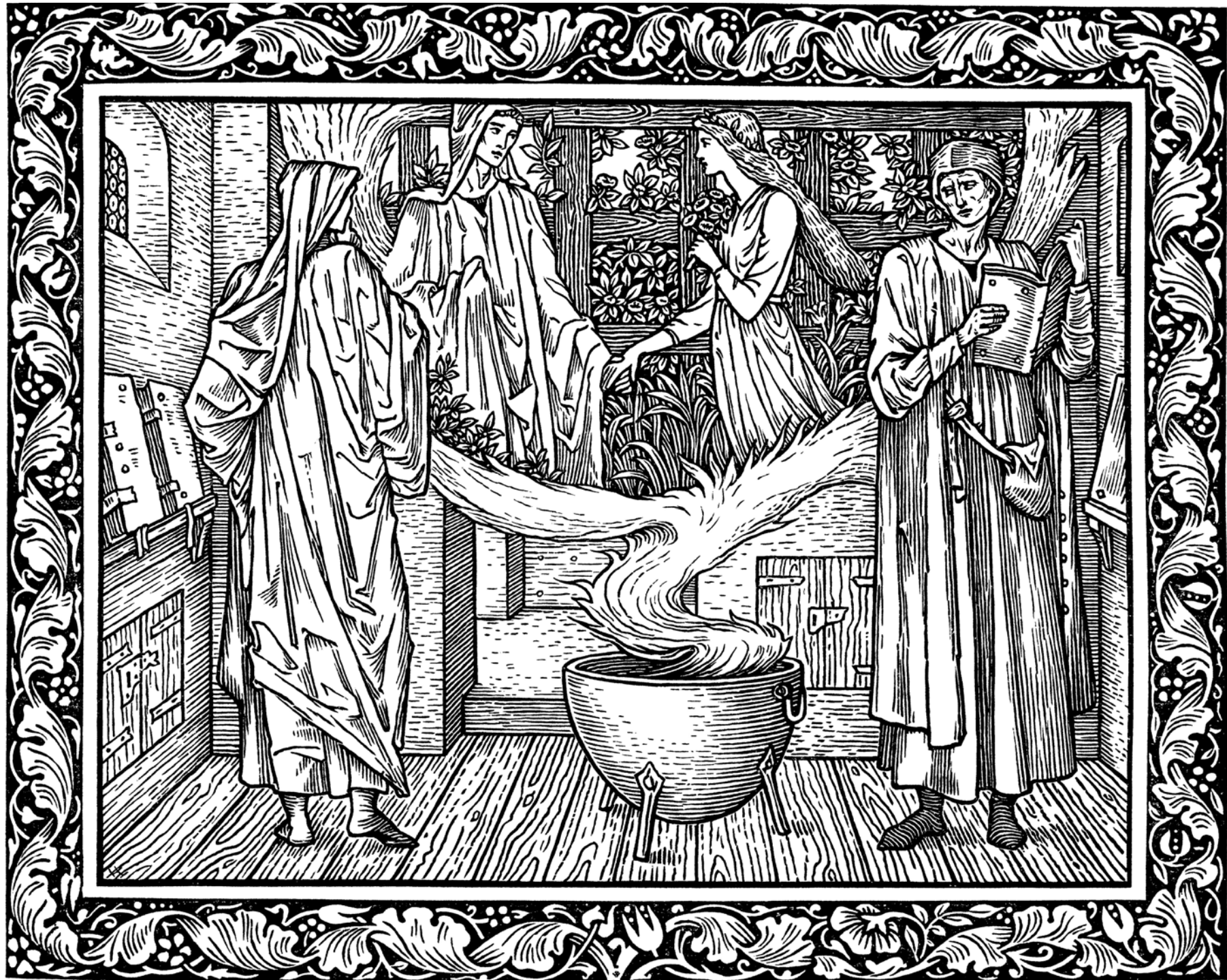
THOUSAND SYTHES HAVE I HERD
men telle,
That ther is joye in heven, and peyne in helle;
And I acorde wel that hit be so;
But natheles, this wot I wel also,
That ther nis noon that dwelleth in this
contree,
That either hath in helle or heven ybe,



















The Kelmscott Chaucer

June 26, 2021, marks the 125th anniversary of the publication of *The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer* by the Kelmscott Press, a landmark volume in the history of fine printing. The Kelmscott Chaucer, as the book is known, is considered one of the most beautiful books ever made: oversized, elaborately illustrated, and beautifully printed. The fonts used were created especially for the Press, and all of the type was set by hand. The woodcuts and ornaments used in the borders throughout the book were designed by William Morris (1834-1896) while Sir Edward Burne-Jones (1833-1898) created the illustrations—all of which were carved by hand before being printed.

The Kelmscott Press was founded in January 1891 by William Morris, a British writer, designer, and political activist. He was a major figure of the Arts and Crafts movement, which advocated for the social reform of the industrial society, and good craftsmanship over factory-produced goods. Artists and designers looked to the Middle Ages and folk tradition for sources of inspiration, creating beautiful works of art made for everyday use such as books, wallpapers, and textiles. Morris was especially interested in reproducing medieval-style aesthetics with modern technology which led directly to the crowning achievement that is *The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer*.

This colouring book's images are from a copy of the Kelmscott Chaucer in the collection of The Rare Book & Manuscript Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Chaucer, Geoffrey, William Morris, Edward Coley Burne-Jones, and William Harcourt Hooper. *The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer, Now Newly Imprinted*. Upper Mall, Hammersmith, in the county of Middlesex: Printed by William Morris at the Kelmscott Press, 1896. RBML Call number: Q. 821 C39 1896a

List of illustrations adapted:

1. Border illustration details from page 121; *Kelmscott* text from page 553
2. Illustration from the prologue to "A Treatise on the Astrolabe," page 397
3. Illustration detail from "The Romaunt of the Rose," page 257
4. Illustration detail from "The Parliament of Fowls," page 313
5. Border illustration details from pages 312 and 313
6. Illustration detail from "The Romaunt of the Rose," page 312
7. Decorative initial details from pages 43 and 416
8. Illustration from the prologue to "The Legend of Good Women," page 416
9. Illustration detail from "The Romaunt of the Rose," page 253
10. Decorative *thou* text from page 441, border detail from page 416
11. Illustration detail from "Troilus and Crissida," page 482
12. Illustration detail from "The Franklin's Tale," *The Canterbury Tales*, page 165
13. Border illustration details from pages 397 and 482
14. Illustration from "The Legend of Good Women" page 441
15. Border illustration details from pages 553 and 313
16. Illustration detail from "The Romaunt of the Rose," page 252