



French Medieval Romances - LAYS OF MARIE DE FRANCE

French Mediaeval Romances from the Lays of Marie de France

by Marie de France (12th century)
translated by Eugene Mason



“The tales included in this little book of translations are derived mainly from the "Lays" of Marie de France. I do not profess them to be a complete collection of her stories in verse. The ascription varies. Poems which were included in her work but yesterday are withdrawn to-day, and new matter suggested by scholars to take the place of the old. I believe it to be, however, a far fuller version of Marie's "Lays" than has yet appeared, to my knowledge, in English. Marie's poems are concerned chiefly with love. To complete my book I have added two famous mediaeval stories on the same excellent theme. This, then, may be regarded as a volume of French romances, dealing, generally, with one aspect of mediaeval life.” *(from the translator's preface to Lays of Marie de France)*



Total running time: 7:29:25

Cover design by Kathryn Delaney
Marie de France, from a medieval illuminated manuscript

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