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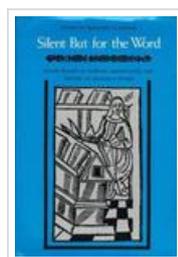
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## Silent but for the Word : Tudor Women as Patrons, Translators, and Writers of Religious Works

[Elaine V. Beilin, Framingham State University](#)

### Publication Date

11-1985

### Editors

Margaret P. Hannay

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Anne Askew's Self-portrait in the Examinations

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### Department

English

### Disciplines

English Language and Literature

### Description

Twelve of the fourteen essays in this volume describe much of the lives and works of an extraordinary group of English women who, despite the regime of chastity, silence and obedience imposed on them, managed to engage in particular with contemporary religious debates, through their work as writers, patrons, and especially translators. The translators discussed include Margaret More Roper, Queen Elizabeth I as a young girl, Mary Sidney, the Cooke sisters, and Lady Cary. Some essays focus on the style of individual translators, revealing "deviations" from source texts where the translator's voice, intentionally or unintentionally, shines through. Mary Ellen Lamb draws on translation prefaces to show how women translators were encouraged to be modest and self-effacing, and to reveal the prevailing misogyny of the time. Two more general essays describe: the social context in which Tudor women wrote, with reference to one

influential "conduct book" for women; and the need to develop new critical models to deal with women's writing. Margaret Hannay provides a lucid introduction, and a selected bibliography for further reading. An invaluable and highly readable source for anyone interested in the history and feminization of translation.

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