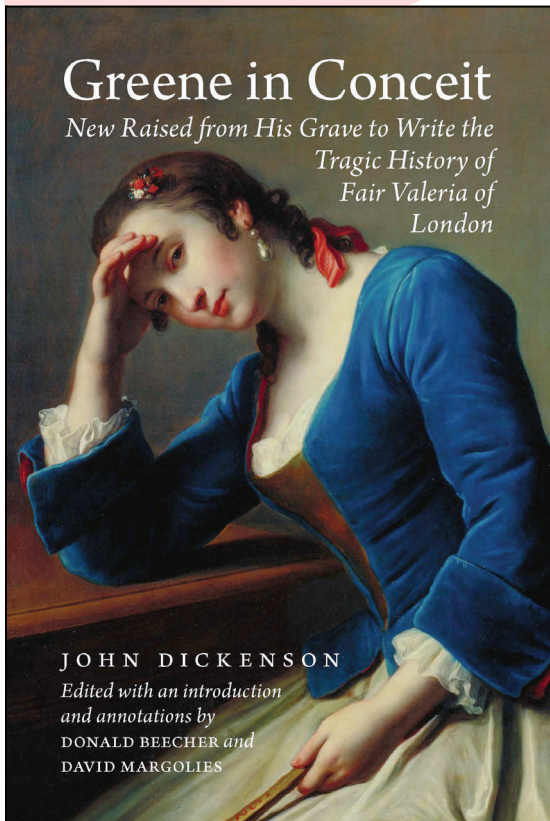


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Greene in Conceit: New Raised from His Grave to Write the Tragic History of Fair Valeria of London, John Dickenson



EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION AND ANNOTATION BY
DONALD BEECHER & DAVID MARGOLIES

The story of Valeria is an archetypal tale of unequal marriage, escape and betrayal, abuse and retribution. Trapped in the social conventions of late sixteenth-century London, the heroine's vitality and willfulness ultimately make her a tragic figure. Dickinson is a moralist, in keeping with the temper of the age, but he goes beyond conventional moralising to explore the position of women in a patriarchal society. He is an accomplished stylist yet capable of delivering a fast-moving narrative, making him very accessible. The title refers to the late Robert Greene, an outstanding popular fiction writer of the period, who is said to return briefly to the land of the living to tell the world the tragic tale of Valeria, whose shade has recently arrived in Hades. Encountering Dickinson, Greene appoints him to bring the tale to the public. An introduction to Dickinson, his style, and the text's narrative structure accompanies the text.

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