

Editorial Note

All quotations and references to the *Amoretti* relate to *The Yale Edition of the Shorter Poems of Edmund Spenser*, edited by William A. Oram, Einar Bjorvand, Ronald Bond, Thomas H. Cain, Alexander Dunlop and Richard Schell (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1989). The commentary and notes in this edition are referred to parenthetically as ‘Yale’.

I have also used *Edmund Spenser’s Poetry*, ed. Hugh Maclean and Anne Lake Prescott (London: W.W. Norton & Company, 1993), referred to as Maclean and Prescott and *Selected Shorter Poems*, ed. Douglas Brooks-Davies (London: Longman, 1995), referred to as Brooks-Davies.

All Italian quotations from Petrarch are from the edition by Guido Bezzola (Milan: Rizzoli, 1976). English translations are by J. G. Nichols (Manchester: Carcanet, 2000).

References to the *OED* relate to *The Oxford English Dictionary*, 2nd edn., prepared by J. A. Simpson and E. S. C. Weiner, 20 vols (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1989).