

This study, entitled "The Decline of Courtly Love Ideal in the Prose of 15th century", examines the origins, evolution, and the eventual decline of courtly love. The Mal period is illustrated by Antoine de la Sale's piece from the mid-fifteenth century, Jehan de Saintré.

The first part introduces various theories of the origin of courtly love. Denis de Rougemont's controversial theory of the religious origin of courtly love is presented in more detail, and compared to other, more classical theories. The fundamentals of courtly love as described in *The Romance of the Rose* are compared to those in *De Amore* by Andreas Capellanus. The uptake of courtly ideals by prose, as well as their further development, especially in novels, are also treated.

The second part outlines two principal perspectives of the literary theory on Jehan de Saintré. In particular, the consideration of this piece as a nostalgic remembrance of the vanishing fame of courtly love is contrasted with the interpretation of Jehan de Saintré as a portrait of Jehan's successful chivalric career. The detailed study of the sections relevant to the "courtoise" reveals the latter theory to be more persuasive.