

THE ENGLISH CLOWN TRADITION FROM  
THE MIDDLE AGES TO SHAKESPEARE

*Robert Hornback*

D. S. BREWER

## CONTENTS

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xi
Introduction. Unearthing Yoricks: Literary Archeology and the Ideologies of Early English Clowning	1
1. Folly as Proto-Racism: Blackface in the “Natural” Fool Tradition	24
2. “Sports and Follies Against the Pope”: Tudor Evangelical Lords of Misrule	63
3. “Verie Devout Asses”: Ignorant Puritan Clowns	102
4. The Fool “by Art”: The All-Licensed “Artificial” Fool in the <i>King Lear</i> Quarto	143
Epilogue. License Revoked: Ending an Era	183
<i>Bibliography</i>	205
<i>Index</i>	223