

First published 2020
by Routledge
2 Park Square, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4RN

and by Routledge
52 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York, NY 10017

Routledge is an imprint of the Taylor & Francis Group, an informa business

© 2020 selection and editorial matter, Andrea Kiss and Kathleen Pribyl;
individual chapters, the contributors

The right of Andrea Kiss and Kathleen Pribyl to be identified as the authors
of the editorial material, and of the authors for their individual chapters, has
been asserted in accordance with sections 77 and 78 of the Copyright, Designs
and Patents Act 1988.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reprinted or reproduced or
utilised in any form or by any electronic, mechanical, or other means, now
known or hereafter invented, including photocopying and recording, or in any
information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the
publishers.

Trademark notice: Product or corporate names may be trademarks or registered
trademarks, and are used only for identification and explanation without
intent to infringe.

British Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Kiss, Andrea, editor. | Pribyl, Kathleen, editor.

Title: The dance of death in late Medieval and Renaissance Europe :
environmental stress, mortality and social response / edited by Andrea
Kiss and Kathleen Pribyl.

Description: Abingdon, Oxon ; New York, NY : Routledge, 2020. | Series:
Routledge environmental humanities | Includes bibliographical references
and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2019036232 (print) | LCCN 2019036233 (ebook) |
ISBN 9781138590366 (hardback) | ISBN 9780429491085 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: Human ecology—Europe—History—To 1500. |
Human ecology—Europe—History—16th century. | Climatic changes—
Europe—History—To 1500. | Climatic changes—Social aspects—
Europe. | Death—Social aspects—Europe. | Epidemics—Europe—
History. | Famines—Europe—History.

Classification: LCC GF540 .D36 2020 (print) | LCC GF540 (ebook) |
DDC 304.2094/0902—dc23

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2019036232>

LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2019036233>

ISBN: 978-1-138-59036-6 (hbk)

ISBN: 978-0-429-49108-5 (ebk)

Typeset in Baskerville
by Apex CoVantage, LLC

Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	viii
<i>List of tables</i>	xi
<i>List of contributors</i>	xii

Introduction	1
---------------------	---

PART 1

Northern and Western Europe	7
------------------------------------	---

1 Famines, mortality, livestock deaths and scholarship: environmental stress in Iceland ca. 1500–1700	9
--	---

ASTRID E.J. OGILVIE

2 Winter severity in medieval Sweden: the documentary evidence	25
---	----

DAG RETSÖ AND JOHAN SÖDERBERG

3 The grain trade, economic distress and social disorder at a time of environmental stress in East Anglia, 1400–ca. 1440	46
---	----

KATHLEEN PRIBYL

4 War, climatic stress and environmental degradation during the 15th and 16th centuries: the case of the north Flemish coastal landscape in the estuary of the Western Scheldt	66
---	----

ADRIAAN M.J. DE KRAKER

PART 2

Central Europe

- 5 From the alpine mountain height to the Swiss Lake District: climate and society in the city and Republic of Bern from the 14th to the 16th centuries** 87
CHANTAL CAMENISCH
- 6 Apocalyptic riders in the borderlands: dealing with locust invasion, diseases and war in fifteenth- and sixteenth-century Eastern and Southern Austria** 107
CHRISTIAN ROHR
- 7 A dynamic interplay of weather, biological factors and socio-economic interactions: late 15th-century-early 16th-century crises in Hungary** 125
ANDREA KISS
- 8 The extreme year of 1540 in terms of climate variation from the perspective of historical sources derived from the Polish and Baltic territories** 146
WIESŁAW NOWOSAD AND PIOTR OLIŃSKI

PART 3

Southern Europe and beyond

- 9 Migration patterns from the Dalmatian hinterland during and after the great hunger of 1453–1454 as a consequence of environmental and political crisis** 159
ZRINKA NIKOLIĆ JAKUS
- 10 The “Danse Macabre” among climatic variability, famines and epidemics in Northern Italy during the 15th and 16th centuries: an overview through documentary sources** 175
SILVIA ENZI, FRANCESCA BECHERINI AND MIRCA SGHEDONI
- 11 ‘Toute chose se desnature’: environmental changes of the 14th century in the perspective of contemporary witnesses (c. 1330–1400)** 198
THOMAS LABBÉ

12 Chronology and impact of a global moment in the 13th century: the Samalas eruption revisited

214

MARTIN BAUCH

Index

233