Contents

List of Illustrations	xiii
Introduction	1
The Ship of Virtuous Ladies	27
Title Page	29
Double Rondeau about <i>The Ship of Ladies</i>	29
Prologue of the Author in French in Rhetorical Style on <i>The Ship of Ladies</i>	30
Genealogy of the Noble and Excellent House of Bourbon	35
Poems Summarizing the First Book, in the Form of a Polemic against Defaming Ladies	37
Book 1 of <i>The Ship of Virtuous Ladies</i> : Praise, Flowers, and Defense of Women	39
First Chapter	39
Second Chapter, in Which the Author Shows by the Authority of Holy Scripture His Intention to Keep Ladies from Being Defamed	41
The Second Part of Book One	43
The Third Part of This Book, Titled "The Flower of Ladies," in Which Are Discussed the Virtues of Ancient Ladies of the Old Testament, from Both Natural Law and Written Law	66
The Fourth Part of Book 1, Titled "The Flower of Ladies," Containing Some of the Most Well-Known Ladies that Lived in the Law of Grace	76
Illustrious Women Who Were Not Considered Saints	90
Ballad for Everyone: Marriage is the Foundation of Everything	93
Book 2 of The Ship of Virtuous Ladies: Rules for Marriage	95

Book 3 of <i>The Ship of Virtuous Ladies</i> : The Prophecies and Oracles of the Sibyls	120
Book 4 of <i>The Ship of Virtuous Ladies</i> : The Book of True Love	121
Bibliography	137
Index	149