According to the introduction, "The Wise Book of Philosophy and Astronomy has the distinction of being one of the most widely circulated pieces of instructional prose in English surviving from the late medieval period and, paradoxically, the most consistently over-looked tract of its kind in terms of textual scholarship relating to Middle English" (xv). Thus begins Carrie Griffin's edition of a text that few of us, except for specialists in medieval sciences, have even heard of—let alone read. The first part of the introduction is devoted to manuscript descriptions. Of the thirty-four manuscripts, fourteen are in London (in three different libraries), nine in Oxford, six in Cambridge (in four libraries), and one each in New Haven, New York, San Marino, Tokyo, and Woking. The Middle English Literature means English literature that developed during the period from 1100 to 1500 century. During this unique period, English got maturity and widespread popularity among people belonging to every strata of society. This was the beginning of English literature in the Middle Ages. Now, let's discuss some salient features of Medieval English Literature: Characteristics of Middle English Literature. Impersonality in Middle English Literature. One of the most important characteristics of Middle English Literature is its impersonality.