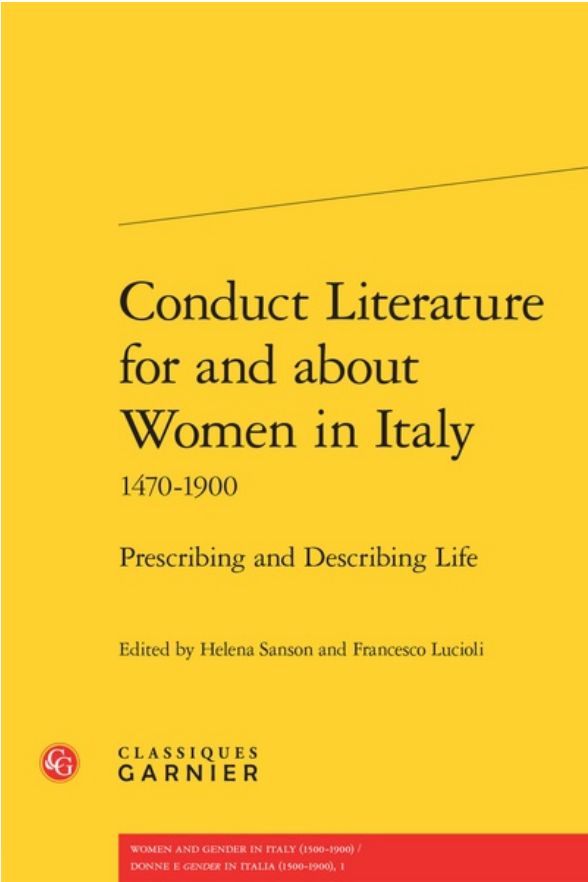


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Conduct for the Real Widow Giulio Cesare Cabei's *Ornamenti della gentildonna vedova* (1574)

- **Publication type:** Article from a collective work
- **Collective work:**
[Conduct Literature for and about Women in Italy 1470-1900](#)
[. Prescribing and Describing Life](#)
- **Author:** Sanson (Helena)
- **Abstract:** Widows were uneasy figures within a society that categorized women strictly on the basis of a male counterpart: as unattached figures, they were seen as socially disruptive and therefore in need of restraint. Giulio Cesare Cabei's *Ornamenti della gentildonna vedova* prescribes the everyday behaviour of a good widow, an eloquent example of “vera viduità”, while offering, at the same time, useful information about the customs relating to widows and widowhood in sixteenth-century society.
- **Pages:** 41 to 61
- **Collection:** [Women and Gender in Italy \(1500-1900\)](#), n° 1
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