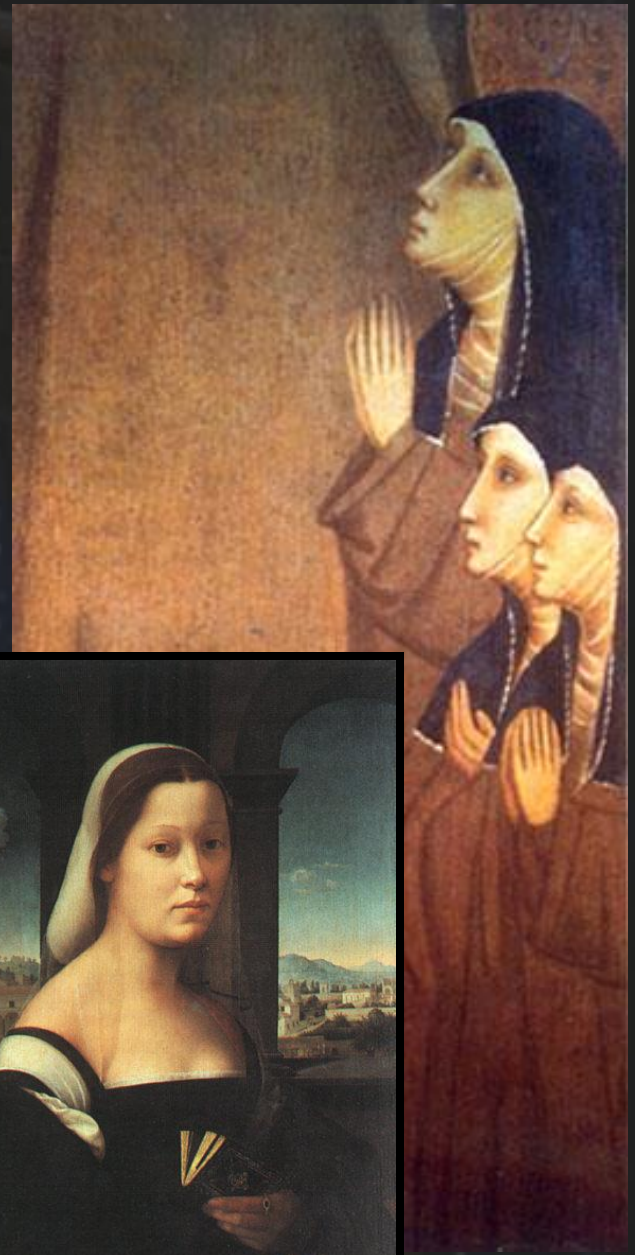


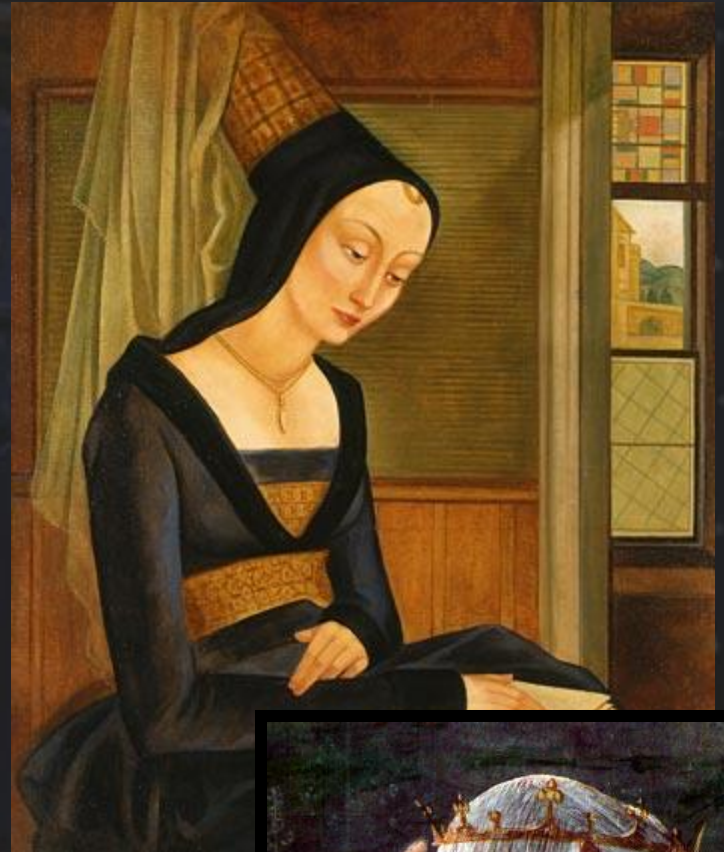
MEDIEVAL WOMEN

- Girls were marriageable at 12 years of age; Most were married off by 14
- If a father did not have enough money to offer a dowry for his daughter, she was usually forced to become a nun
- In a nunnery a girl would learn to sing, as well as speak and read French, which was often the extent to which a woman would be educated.



NOBLEWOMEN

- Noblewomen wore wimples over their hair at all times.
- They also dyed their hair and used make-up made from sheep fat.
- The rage in France was to pluck back your hairline to give yourself an extremely large forehead.
- Not all noblewomen were confined to the home; some led their troops into battle while their husbands crusaded afar.



COURTLY LOVE

- Romance was considered to exist only outside of marriage.
- The tradition of Courtly Love expected each knight to have a royal lady whom he secretly adored and whose honor he championed.
- In theory this was not a love that was ever consummated, but one that inspired noble actions on the part of the knight.



COURTLY LOVE

- Royal ladies loved to hear poems composed about gallant knights who pined for royal women they could not have.
- Sir Lancelot and Queen Guinevere were the ultimate example of courtly love.
- Troubadours, traveling bards, composed and performed these romances for royal patrons; however, the church condemned these stories for glorifying adulterous thoughts.

