Rejecting marriage and the convent, the Spanish noblewoman, poet, and religious activist Luisa de Carvajal y Mendoza (Jaraicejo 1566–London 1614) led an uncommon life of adventure and spiritual devotion. Orphaned as a child, she lived first at Philip II’s court, and then with an uncle, the Viceroy of Navarra, who enforced harsh discipline on his ward. Through her contacts with the English Jesuits, Carvajal traveled secretly to London as a self-appointed missionary, where she was jailed twice for preaching against Anglicanism. A tireless writer, Carvajal left a small but impressive collection of spiritual poetry, an auto-biography, and over two hundred letters. This volume provides a scholarly introduction and translations of selections from her writings.

“Luisa de Carvajal’s writings offer compelling accounts of the persecution of English recusants and insights into the political and diplomatic background to the pax hispanica. Her religious poetry and autobiographical writings, at once disturbing and powerful, vividly document a particular strand of women's penitential piety. Without pathologizing Carvajal, Anne Cruz’s masterful introduction provides the essential literary and historical context for approaching this controversial would-be martyr.”
— Alison Weber, University of Virginia

Name as on card _________________________________
Visa/Mastercard # _______________________________
Expiry date ___________ 3-digit code ______________
Signature _____________________________________
Address _______________________________________
_____________________________________________
_____________________________________________
Email _________________________________________
Telephone ____________________________________

The Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, Victoria University in the University of Toronto
Tel: 416-585-4465 ♦ Fax: 416-585-4430 ♦ crrs.publications@utoronto.ca ♦ www.crrs.ca

To purchase an electronic copy (institutions only) please contact ITER: Gateway to the Middle Ages and Renaissance
TEL: 416-978-7074 ♦ ITER@UTORONTO.CA