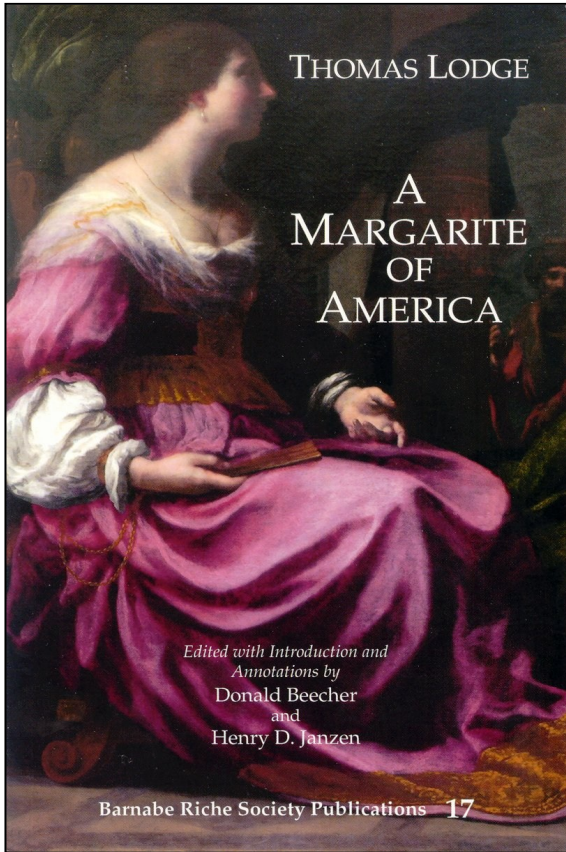


# *A Margarite of America* Thomas Lodge



EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION AND ANNOTATIONS  
BY DONALD BEECHER & HENRY D. JANZEN

According to Lodge, at least part of this “horror” romance was written during an expedition of the Strait of Magellan, making this the first English prose fiction written in “America.” But the tale itself is set in the romance lands of Arcadia and Central Europe. *A Margarite of America* is a story of war and peace, pathetic loyalty and brazen betrayal, attempted rape, imperial stratagems, and a bloodbath denouement—decisive and dramatic, just as the Elizabethans liked their plots of revenge.

This was to be Lodge’s *au revoir* to the writing of commercial fiction—a masterpiece to employ all the prose and poetic styles he had developed throughout his writing career. Readers will enjoy the challenge of classifying Lodge’s innovative genre and tracing the scope of his reading, evident in his richly referential textures. For the critical reader, the introduction and annotation offers useful insight into the style and poetics of the text.

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