

The Philosophers' Game

The Philosophers' Game

RITHMOMACHIA IN MEDIEVAL AND
RENAISSANCE EUROPE

ANN E. MOYER

with an edition of Ralph Lever and William Fulke,
The Most Noble, Auncient, and Learned Playe (1563)

Ann Arbor

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN PRESS

Copyright © by the University of Michigan 2001

All rights reserved

Published in the United States of America by

The University of Michigan Press

Manufactured in the United States of America

∞ Printed on acid-free paper

2004 2003 2002 2001 4 3 2 1

No part of this publication may be reproduced,
stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form
or by any means, electronic, mechanical, or otherwise,
without the written permission of the publisher.

*A CIP catalog record for this book is available
from the British Library.*

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Moyer, Ann E. (Ann Elizabeth), 1955–

The philosophers' game : rithmomachia in medieval and
renaissance Europe, with an edition of Ralph Lever and
William Fulke, *The most noble, auncient, and learned
playe* (1563) / Ann E. Moyer.

p. cm. — (Studies in medieval and early modern civilization)

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN 0-472-11228-7 (Cloth : alk. paper)

1. Philosophical recreations—History. I. Lever, Ralph,
d. 1584. *Most noble, auncient, and learned playe*. 2001.

II. Title. III. Series.

GV1507.P43 M69 2001

794—dc21

2001001225

Grateful acknowledgment is made to the British
Library for permission to reproduce 18 images
from *The Most Noble, Auncient, and Learned Playe*,
London 1563, 56. a. 2.

Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. From Cathedral School to University	17
3. Games of Philosophers and Astronomers: From the Late Middle Ages to the Renaissance	53
4. The Renaissance	85
5. Decline and Disappearance	123
<i>The Most Noble, Auncient, and Learned Playe</i> (1563), Ralph Lever and William Fulke	137
Bibliography	181
Index	199

