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utterance; 3.1 Macro-context: The holograph/scribal distinction; 3.1 Macro-context: The holograph/scribal distinction; 3.2 Micro-context: Using scribes; 3.2 Micro-context: Using scribes; 3.3 Analysis I: Handwriting; 3.3 Analysis I: Handwriting; 3.4 Analysis II: Spatial organization of the page  
3.4 Analysis II: Spatial organization of the page 3.5 Analysis III: Orthographies and abbreviation; 3.5 Analysis III: Orthographies and abbreviation; 3.6 Analysis IV: Scribes and language; 3.6.1 Scribal practice(s); 3.6 Analysis IV: Scribes and language; 3.6.1 Scribal practice (s); 3.6.2 Scribal variation in Joan Thynne's letters; 3.6.2 Scribal variation in Joan Thynne's letters; 3.7 Conclusion; 3.7 Conclusion; Chapter 4; Ruling epistolary prose; Punctuation and textual-utterance markers; 4. Ruling epistolary prose: Punctuation and textual-utterance markers; 4.1 Textual utterances  
4.1 Textual utterances 4.2 Historical background to epistolary prose structure; 4.2 Historical background to epistolary prose structure; 4.3 Punctuation; 4.3 Punctuation; 4.3.1 Punctuation in Joan's holograph letters; 4.3.1 Punctuation in Joan's holograph letters; 4.3.2 Punctuation in Joan's scribal letters; 4.3.2 Punctuation in Joan's scribal letters; 4.3.3 Punctuation in Maria's letters; 4.3.3 Punctuation in Maria's letters; 4.4 Lexical utterance markers; 4.4.1 Connectives; 4.4 Lexical utterance markers; 4.4.1 Connectives; 4.4.2 Adverbial and subordinating connectors  
4.4.2 Adverbial and subordinating connectors 4.4.3 Discourse markers and interjections; 4.4.3 Discourse markers and interjections; 4.5 Present participles; 4.5 Present participles; 4.6 Openings and closings; 4.6 Openings and closings; 4.7 Conclusion; 4.7 Conclusion; Chapter 5; Everyday magic verbs; Performative utterances; 5.1 Performatives: Description and significance; 5. Everyday magic verbs: Performative utterances; 5.1 Performatives: Description and significance; 5.2 Commissive performatives; 5.2 Commissive performatives; 5.3 Representative performatives; 5.3 Representative performatives  
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#### Sommario/riassunto

Located at the intersection of historical pragmatics, letters and manuscript studies, this book offers a multi-dimensional analysis of the letters of Joan and Maria Thynne, 1575-1611. It investigates multiple ways in which socio-culturally and socio-familiarily contextualized reading of particular collections may increase our understanding of early modern letters as a particular type of handwritten communicative activity. The book also adds to our understanding of these women as individual users of English in their historical moment, especially in terms of literacy and their engagement with

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