

# Early Theatre

**2023 Prize for Best Interpretive Essay, Volumes 24-25  
Honourable Mention**

**Jamie Paris**  
University of Manitoba

‘Bad Blood, Black Desires: On the Fragility of Whiteness  
in Middleton and Rowley’s *The Changeling*’  
*Early Theatre* 24.1 (2021), 113–27  
<https://doi.org/10.12745/et.24.1.3803>

Jamie Paris’s essay both establishes and theorizes the instability of whiteness within *The Changeling*. Situating the play’s anxieties about ‘bad blood’ within the context of Spanish conceptions of *limpieza de sangre* (purity of blood), Paris demonstrates that Beatrice-Joanna’s whiteness is inherently conditional, a conditionality that reveals the fictionality of whiteness in early modernity (and beyond).