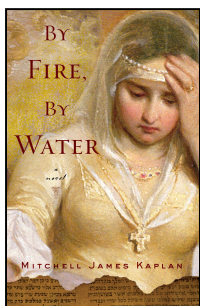


TORAH FUND BOOK CLUB

March 26, 2011



Luis de Santangel, chancellor to the Spanish king, is a Jewish convert to Christianity. However, when he is implicated in the murder of an official of the Spanish Inquisition who executed a Jewish associate of his, Luis and his family become the next targets of the feared institution.

FURTHER READING

Available in the Maxwell Abbell Library

Non-Fiction:

***The Mezuzah in the Madonna's Foot* by Trudy Alexy (900.51)**

A chronicle of five centuries of Jewish life in Spain details the 1492 rule expelling all unconverted Jews, the lives of the "Marranos," or secret Jews, and how the fascist government saved thousands of Jews during World War II.

***Christopher Columbus's Jewish Roots* by Jane Frances Amler (900.4)**

Examines the life and times of the discoverer, exploring the theory that Columbus was of Spanish-Jewish descent.

***The Jews of Spain: A History of the Sephardic Experience* by Jane S. Gerber (900.40)**

A narrative history of the Sephardic Jews discusses the first Jewish settlements of Roman times, Sephardic relations with Christian and Muslim societies, Spain's Golden Age, and the expulsion of the Jews.

***A Drizzle of Honey: The Lives and Recipes of Spain's Secret Jews* by David M. Gitlitz and Linda Kay Davidson (741.1)**

A comprehensive study of the culinary culture of Spanish converso Jews, who struggled for centuries to keep their forbidden identities alive, offers a recreation of Sephardic recipes that blend Christian and Islamic traditions, along with commentary on this unique culture.

***The Spanish Inquisition: A Historical Revision* by Henry Kamen (900.40)**

A renowned historian presents a new view of the notorious Spanish Inquisition, arguing that there was less terror, bigotry, and persecution associated with it than has been previously believed.

***The Grand Inquisitors Manual: A History of Terror in the Name of God* by Jonathan Kirsch (900.40)**

A history of the Inquisition traces the sources of its power, posing a controversial argument that its examples have inspired acts of violence in the modern West.

***The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara* by David I. Kertzer (B)**

In 1858, when Catholic authorities in Bologna discover that the six-year-old Edgardo Mortara might have been baptized, he is removed from his Jewish family because Jews are not allowed to raise Christians.

***The Origins of the Inquisition in Fifteenth Century Spain* by B. Netanyahu (900.40)**

In this landmark work, the author argues that the religious and racial persecution of the conversos, descendants of Spanish Jews who had converted to Christianity, gave birth to an anti-Semitism that had repercussions for centuries to come. See also: *Toward the Inquisition*.

***The End of Days: A Story of Tolerance, Tyranny, and the Expulsion of the Jews from Spain* by Erna Paris (900.40)**

Award-winning Canadian journalist narrates the degeneration of Spain from a tolerant and fertile milieu of Christians, Jews, and Moors, into the madness of the Spanish Inquisition and reign of terror and tyranny.

***The Cross and the Pear Tree* by Victor Perera (900.40)**

The personal journey of a Sephardic Jew probes the history of his ancestors on their flight from persecution from the Iberian Peninsula to Europe, Central America, and the Holy Land, and profiles the family's many strong characters.

***Farewell Espana: The World of the Sephardim Remembered* by Howard M. Sachar (900.40)**

A study of the history of the Iberian Jews follows the lives, fortunes, and influence of the Sephardic Jews from their golden age in medieval Spain through their expulsion and their odyssey throughout the world

***The Expulsion of the Jews: Five Hundred Years of Exodus* by Yale Strom (900.40)**

An illustrated chronicle of the Jewish experience from the Spanish Inquisition to the present discusses their exile, their subsequent life in Turkey, Greece, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, and elsewhere, and more.

***Sails of Hope: The Secret Mission of Christopher Columbus* by Simon Wiesenthal (900.40)**

Five years of detective work and painstaking research in Spain, Portugal, the Vatican, and North Africa convinced Wiesenthal that Columbus was of Jewish origin and that his 1492 voyage was actually a desperate search for a new homeland for the Jews.

Fiction:

***The Last Jew* by Noah Gordon**

The Great Expulsion of 1492 provides the backdrop for this terrifying novel of holocaust that follows a thirteen-year-old Spanish Jew named Jonah as he tries to avoid the Inquisition.

***Incantation* by Alice Hoffman (TF)**

During the Spanish Inquisition, sixteen-year-old Estrella, brought up a Catholic, discovers her family's true Jewish identity. When their secret is betrayed by Estrella's best friend, the consequences are tragic.

***The Witch of Cologne* by Tobsha Learner**

A sensuous Jewish midwife is persecuted by the Spanish Inquisition, a chief rabbi is forced to choose between his daughter and his people, and an inquisitor harbors a deeply personal reason for seeking the midwife's condemnation.

***A Guide for the Perplexed* by Jonathan Levi**

Stranded by a strike at an airport in Spain, two women - Hanni, in Spain to locate important family documents, and Holland, a documentary filmmaker - discover that they are related by ties that reach back to the Spanish Inquisition.

***The Apprentice's Masterpiece: A Story of Medieval Spain* by Melanie Little (TF)**

Tells the story of two teenage boys, one a converso and the other a Muslim, living in Spain during the Inquisition as their lives take very different paths when one is enslaved and the other is brought into the service of the Inquisitors.

***The Source* by James A. Michener**

An archaeological excavation of Tel Makor launches a journey into the history and culture of the Jews that includes the early Hebrews, the impact of Christianity, the Spanish Inquisition, and the modern Middle East conflict.

***The Secret Book of Grazia dei Rossi* by Jacqueline Park**

Set against the backdrop of the religious persecution and papal politics of the Italian Renaissance, the story of Grazia dei Rosi, heiress to a Jewish banking dynasty and lover of a Christian lord, unfolds through her secret diary.

***The Ghost of Hannah Mendes* by Naomi Ragen**

The ghost of a real-life historical figure helps elderly Catherine da Costa convince her granddaughters to travel across Europe with her and helps them find a link between past and present by leaving mysterious journal entries along their travel route.

***The Alhambra Decree* by David Raphael**

A historical novel about the expulsion of the Jews from Spain featuring Queen Isabella of Castille, King Ferdinand of Aragon, Tomas de Torquemada, Don Abraham Senior, and Don Isaac Abravanel.

***The Marranos* by Liliane Webb**

In late-fifteenth-century Spain, the indomitable and passionate Isabel Valderocas, living under the shadow of the Inquisition as a secret Jew, becomes the lover of the man destined to be the Grand Inquisitor.

***Puppet* by Eva Wiseman (TF)**

A fictionalized account of the last blood libel trial in Hungary in 1882 is told through the eyes of Julie, a friend of the murdered servant girl Esther and a servant at the jail where Morris Scharf, the accused, is imprisoned.

***The Fifth Servant* by Kenneth Wishnia**

To save his Jewish community in 16th-century Prague during the Inquisition, a young Talmudic scholar has only three days to discover who really killed a Christian girl found in the store of a Jewish shopkeeper, whom the authorities have brought a blood libel charge against.

***The Last Kabbalist of Lisbon* by Richard Zimler**

In 1506 as the Inquisition rages, a young Jewish manuscript illuminator pretending to be Christian searches for the murderer of his uncle.

Available in the Pinsof Children's Reading Room

***The Other 1492: Jewish Settlement in the New World* by Norman H. Finkelstein (J900.40)**

Describes the causes, events, and aftermath of the expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492.

***The Secret Shofar of Barcelona* by Jacqueline Dembar Greene; illustrated by Doug Chayka (J240.2)**

In the late 1500s, while the conductor of the Royal Orchestra of Barcelona prepares for a concert to celebrate Spain's colonies in the New World, his son secretly practices playing the Shofar to help Jews, who must hide their faith from the Inquisition, to celebrate Rosh Hashanah.

***Out of Many Waters* by Jacqueline Dembar Greene (JF)**

Kidnapped from their parents during the Portuguese Inquisition and sent to work as slaves at a monastery in Brazil, two Jewish sisters attempt to make their way back to Europe to find their parents, but instead one becomes part of a group founding the first Jewish settlement in the United States. See also: *One Foot Ashore*.

***Secrets in the House of Delgado* by Gloria D. Miklowitz (JF)**

In Spain in 1492, Maria, a Catholic orphan, becomes a servant to a wealthy family of converted Jews, when the Jews are being expelled from the country and when the Inquisition is diligently searching for religious heretics.

***The Cardinal's Snuffbox* by Kenneth Roseman (JF)**

A "choose your own adventure" story set during the Spanish Inquisition, in which an eleven-year-old Jewish child must decide whether to convert to Catholicism or leave Spain forever.

***Abuelita's Secret Matzahs* by Sandy Eisenberg Sasso; illustrations by Diana Bryer (J240.6)**

A young boy's Hispanic grandmother in Santa Fe, New Mexico, reveals his Judaism to him as latest in a line hidden since the hateful expulsion of Jews from Spain.

***The Cross by Day, the Mezuzzah by Night* by Deborah Spector Siegel (JF)**

Because she is a Marrano, thirteen-year-old Isabel suffers the harrowing experience of expulsion from Spain during the reign of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella.

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