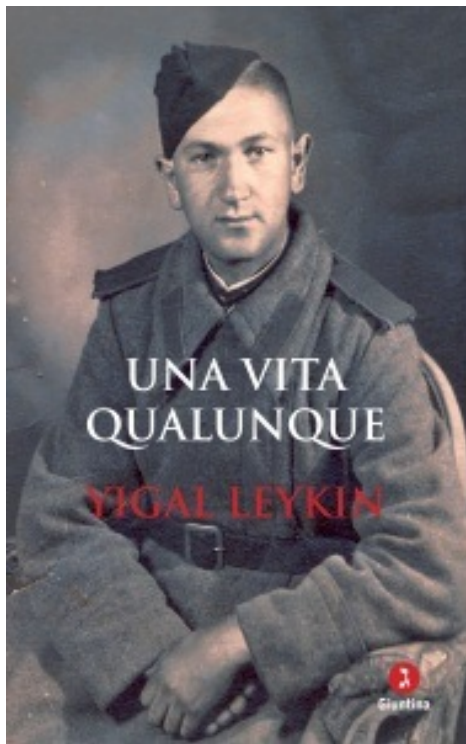


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Yigal Leykin

AN ORDINARY LIFE

(Fiction 2015, 304 pp.)

Mitia is an old man; never assertive, his manners reserved, polite. He has let his wife Bussia be the boss and has always regarded himself as an ordinary man, leading an ordinary life like many others'. One day the phone rings and the distant past knocks again on his door. A childhood friend wishes to meet him and tell him the truth about the disappearance of Mitia's beloved sister, taken away on an SS truck. For all those years Mitia has stubbornly hoped that she might still be alive, lost, far away. The anxiety preceding the day of the appointment drives him to write, to go over his long life again. It is something he needs for himself, to find some sort of relief, to set some order, to understand. At the end of his writing he will realize that his own course was directed, driven by the upheavals of that dreadful century which swept men and nations and during which death or life was often just a matter of chance. Thus, his supposed «normality» was just a way to avoid being overcome by the turmoil of those times and the tragedy of the Shoah. In the depths of his heart Mitia realizes that *his*, has not been an ordinary life at all, and that in spite of everything *his* has been a great love story. After all, does an «ordinary life» really exist?



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Daniel Fishman

THE GREAT CONCEALMENT

The extraordinary story of Mashad Jews
(History 2015, 102 pp.)

Conversion or death. Over the centuries, many Jewish communities have been confronted with this dramatic choice. Especially during the Inquisition in the Iberian Peninsula, but not only. The story reported here occurred in 1839 in Mashad, now the second largest city in Iran. An event that happened in modern times, in Islamic land. The book presents the different reactions of Mashad Jews facing the threat of conversion, focusing in particular on the consequences caused by the development of a dual identity: Muslims in the street, Jews at home. A schizophrenic behavior that lasted longer than a century, among suspicions, fears, subterfuge. A unique case that, for reasons of self-defense, has been handed down till recent times only orally.

MARIO CAMERINI

"JUDEI DE URBE"



STORIA ILLUSTRATA DEGLI EBREI DI ROMA



Mario Camerini "JUDEI DE URBE"

An illustrated history of the Jews of Rome

(Graphic Novel 2015, 256 pp.)

More than 2000 years of History are narrated in this extraordinary graphic novel. From the first Jews arrived in Rome from Egypt in 200 b.c.e. to the meeting between Pope Francesco and the chief Rabbi of Rome Riccardo Di Segni. The elegant drawings in black and white by Mario Camerini describe the long and tireless presence in Rome of the oldest Jewish Community of the Diaspora. And through the eyes of its Jewish citizens the history of Rome with all its ups and downs is told in this unique book.



Roberto Della Rocca
Con lo sguardo alla luna
Percorsi di pensiero ebraico



Roberto Della Rocca
LOOKING UP AT THE MOON
Trends of Jewish Thought
(Philosophy 2015, 206 pp.)

This book leads us to the rediscovery of a millenary Jewish tradition, rich and lively, always relevant, a perennial fountain of wisdom and teaching. The first trend introduces the reader to the Jewish marking of time with its profound meanings. The second one delves into the roots of the interpretation of the traditional sources as far as questioning the meaning of a single letter. The third trend reveals the values of Jewish ethics, pouring from the lines of the holy Scriptures. Like the moon which renews each month, a man will find in the ancient message of tradition a new sap for a never-ending revival and growth.

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all the reviews**

<http://bit.ly/liKKwxh>



Raphael Luzon **LIBYAN SUNSET**

Story of an Arab Jew
(Autobiography 2015, 144 pp.)

In these memoirs Raphael Luzon narrates the end of the Jewish community of Libya with its millenary history. As a child he was forced to leave Benghazi following the 1967's pogrom sparked off by the Arab mob against the Jews. That is the start of his exile, among homesickness and suffering, changes and new challenges, but always with the hope to revive, in his mind at least, his community destroyed by the destructive violence of fanaticism.

Luzon writes with no resentment since the pursuit of justice cannot be a hunting for the culprit, and also because he puts the desire for reconciliation before hostility, being full aware of the significance of a true, impartial testimony.

With reference to the above Roberto Saviano writes in the preface: «My advice to the reader is to read this book with great attention, to carefully consider some passages, because from Luzon's words we may sometimes derive the inspiration towards a path to peace and memory».