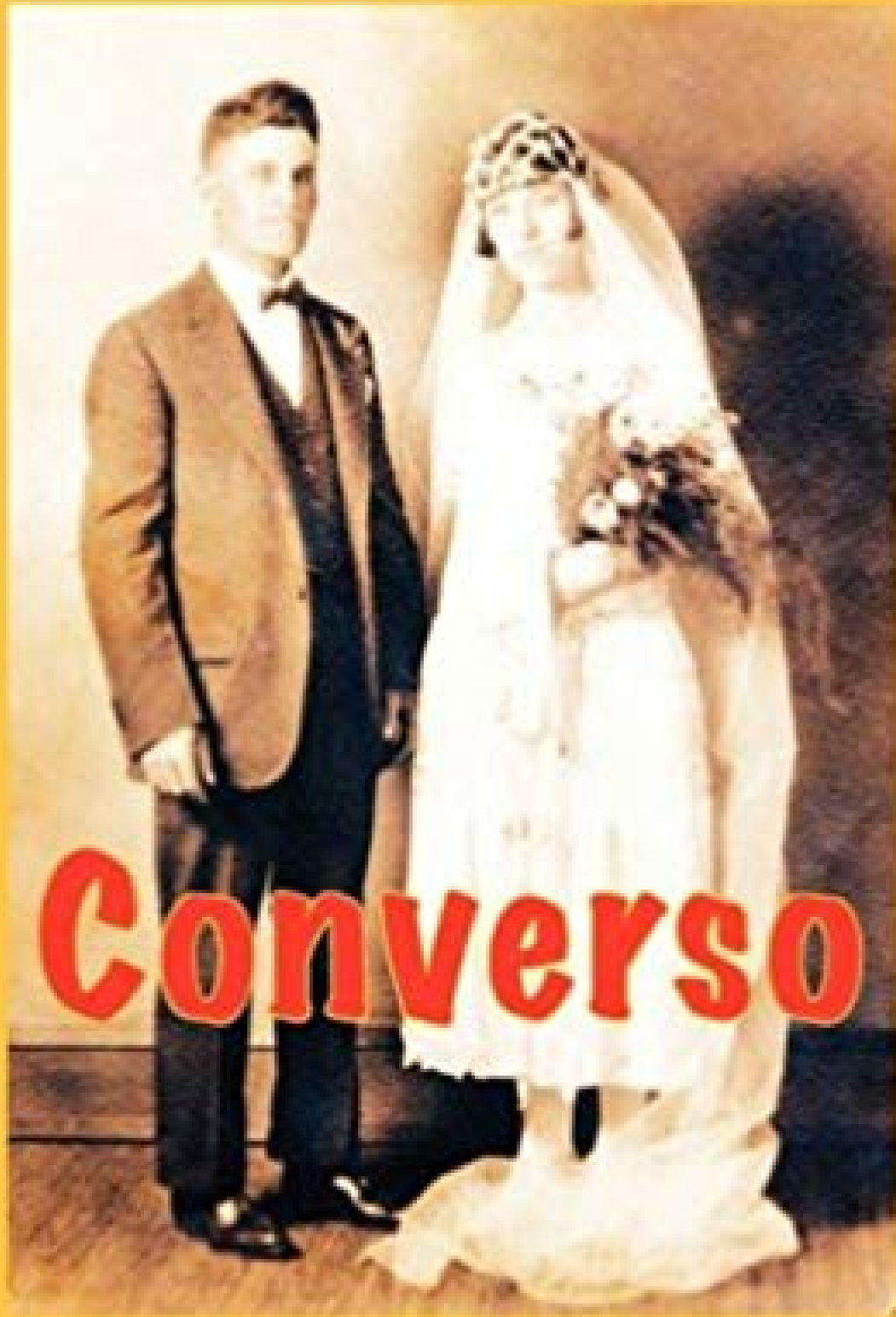


*Historical Novel*



*Mario X. Martinez*

Mario X. Martinez

## Converso (Western Sephardic Traditions)



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Converso is a tale of crypto-Jewish existence in a small city in northern New Mexico through the 1870's, enough time of Bishop Lamy. This combustible mixture leads to conflict, revenge and the suspicious demise of the priest as he was conducting mass. The newly-appointed priest, Dad LaSalle, mistakenly suspects them of sorcery, resulting in a confrontation and Abran's exile from the neighborhood church. The resulting tale is compelling and surprising. Mario X. That is a tale that Willa Cather could have understood about life and death and the secrecy where crypto-Jewish households lived and shielded their identification. Abran Espinosa together with his uncle, Don Moises Espinosa, discover their Jewish birthright through an old family members journal. Martinez uses tales from his family members to create this historic novel of powerful Dons, dashing young men, beautiful ladies, and the foreign priest who didn't understand New Mexican existence and culture.



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Delightful reading material on the subject of the Land of Enchantment! I'm really enjoying this fast paced historic novel of lifestyle in New Mexico Territory through the 1850's.D. As the editorial reviews condition, it's a story of the Crypto-Jews in the brand new Mexico frontier. Although the tale is fictitious, the heroes are ancestors of the author. Disappointed Converso This is a poorly written, badly edited book. (I experienced the paperback version, comfy print and layout). Five Stars great Disappointing Interesting subject but poorly written. I recommend this publication for reading enjoyment while learning of the culture and times of previous New Mexico. If indeed it won a prize in-was it New Mexico?Stanley M Hordes, Ph. Mario Martinez's novel, Converso, gives voice to an author from within the Hispano community who has embarked on a voyage of discovery of his own crypto-Jewish roots. This Historical Novel Gives a Tone of voice to the Southwest Crypto-Jews The story of the crypto-Jews of the Southwest has

been told largely by Anglo scholars, at times through scholarly works, and frequently through the filter of newspapers, mags and radio. He weaves an engaging narrative that tells the conveys the annals of the conversos in New Mexico from a perspective that transcends the dry analysis of the academic. I can just say that the state of literature there is quite low. Rio Sagrado is certainly a fictitious area but I'm thinking it's in the region of the Pecos River and the Santa Fe Trail between Santa Fe and NEVADA NM., author of To the End of the planet earth: A History of the Crypto-Jews of New Mexico (New York: Columbia University Press, 2005)

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