

You're invited to join the discussion...

Thursday, March 13, 2013

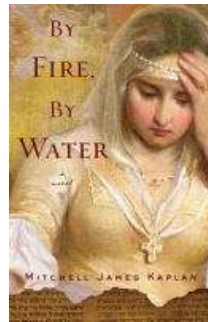
7:30 – 9:00 PM at

Congregation B'nai Israel

53 Palisade Avenue, Emerson, NJ

(201) 265 2272

One Book One Community



By Fire By Water, by James Mitchell Kaplan, tells a story about the time of the Inquisition in Spain. “The action centers on the historical figure of Luis de Santangel, chancellor to the king of Aragon and a converso, a Jewish convert to Christianity at a time when the Inquisition sought to repress "judaizing." Santangel is friend and financier of Columbus, surviving parent of young Gabriel, and more curious than is prudent about his Jewish heritage. While he learns about Judaism in clandestine meetings, a parallel story unfolds, centering on Judith Migdal, a beautiful Jewish woman who learns to become a silversmith in Granada, located in the last part of Spain under Muslim rule. Santangel's attraction to Judith grows, even as the Inquisition closes in and the prospect of another world to the West tantalizes. Kaplan has done remarkable homework on the period and crafted a convincing and complex figure in Santangel in what is a naturally cinematic narrative and a fine debut. “ (Amazon.com)

**Rabbi Debra Orenstein will lead a conversation about the book and its implications.
There will be Sephardic music and desserts, so please join us.**

This event is free to all.

