



The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series)

Jean-Claude Schmitt

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series)

Jean-Claude Schmitt

The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series) Jean-Claude Schmitt

Sometime toward the middle of the twelfth century, it is supposed, an otherwise obscure figure, born a Jew in Cologne and later ordained as a priest in Cappenberg in Westphalia, wrote a Latin account of his conversion to Christianity. Known as the *Opusculum*, this book purportedly by "Herman, the former Jew" may well be the first autobiography to be written in the West after the *Confessions* of Saint Augustine. It may also be something else entirely.

In *The Conversion of Herman the Jew* the eminent French historian Jean-Claude Schmitt examines this singular text and the ways in which it has divided its readers. Where some have seen it as an authentic conversion narrative, others have asked whether it is not a complete fabrication forged by Christian clerics. For Schmitt the question is poorly posed. The work is at once true and fictional, and the search for its lone author—whether converted Jew or not—fruitless. Herman may well have existed and contributed to the writing of his life, but the *Opusculum* is a collective work, perhaps framed to meet a specific institutional agenda.

With agility and erudition, Schmitt examines the text to explore its meaning within the society and culture of its period and its participation in both a Christian and Jewish imaginary. What can it tell us about autobiography and subjectivity, about the function of dreams and the legitimacy of religious images, about individual and collective conversion, and about names and identities? In *The Conversion of Herman the Jew* Schmitt masterfully seizes upon the debates surrounding the *Opusculum* (the text of which is newly translated for this volume) to ponder more fundamentally the ways in which historians think and write.

 [Download The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, H ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series) Jean-Claude Schmitt

From reader reviews:

Stephen Hilton:

Reading a guide can be one of a lot of pastime that everyone in the world adores. Do you like reading book and so. There are a lot of reasons why people enjoyed. First reading a e-book will give you a lot of new details. When you read a guide you will get new information since book is one of several ways to share the information or maybe their idea. Second, examining a book will make an individual more imaginative. When you reading a book especially fiction book the author will bring you to imagine the story how the figures do it anything. Third, you may share your knowledge to other folks. When you read this The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series), you could tells your family, friends as well as soon about yours reserve. Your knowledge can inspire the others, make them reading a guide.

Ira Gonzalez:

The book The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series) has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of profit. The book was published by the very famous author. This articles author makes some research before write this book. This specific book very easy to read you may get the point easily after looking over this book.

Ann Mickey:

Does one one of the book lovers? If yes, do you ever feeling doubt when you find yourself in the book store? Try to pick one book that you just dont know the inside because don't determine book by its protect may doesn't work here is difficult job because you are scared that the inside maybe not since fantastic as in the outside appearance likes. Maybe you answer is usually The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series) why because the wonderful cover that make you consider concerning the content will not disappoint an individual. The inside or content is usually fantastic as the outside or even cover. Your reading 6th sense will directly guide you to pick up this book.

Aaron Tolleson:

Guide is one of source of expertise. We can add our information from it. Not only for students but also native or citizen have to have book to know the change information of year for you to year. As we know those publications have many advantages. Beside we all add our knowledge, may also bring us to around the world. From the book The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series) we can take more advantage. Don't one to be creative people? To be creative person must choose to read a book. Only choose the best book that suitable with your aim. Don't possibly be doubt to change your life by this book The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series). You can more inviting than now.

**Download and Read Online The Conversion of Herman the Jew:
Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The
Middle Ages Series) Jean-Claude Schmitt #462PNMJL9XF**

Read The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series) by Jean-Claude Schmitt for online ebook

The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series) by Jean-Claude Schmitt Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series) by Jean-Claude Schmitt books to read online.

Online The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series) by Jean-Claude Schmitt ebook PDF download

The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series) by Jean-Claude Schmitt Doc

The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series) by Jean-Claude Schmitt Mobipocket

The Conversion of Herman the Jew: Autobiography, History, and Fiction in the Twelfth Century (The Middle Ages Series) by Jean-Claude Schmitt EPub