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In *The Virgin of Guadalupe and the Conversos*, Marie-Theresa Hernández unmaskes the secret lives of conversos and judaizantes and their probable influence on the Catholic Church in the New World. There are few, if any, archival documents that prove the existence of judaizantes after the Spanish expulsion of the Jews in 1492 and the Portuguese expulsion in 1497, but there are clues that say otherwise. On a Da Vinci Code-style quest, Hernández traces the cult of the Virgin of Guadalupe backward to its fourteenth-century Spanish origins. The trail from that point forward can then be followed to its interface with early modern conversos and their descendants at the highest levels of the Church and the monarchy in Spain and Colonial México. She describes key players who were somehow immune to the dangers of the Inquisition and who were allowed the freedom to display albeit in a camouflaged manner, vestiges of their family's Jewish identity. By exploring these original documents, Hernández reveals the existence of those conversos and judaizantes who did not return to the "covenantal bond of rabbinic law", who did not publicly identify themselves as Jews, and who continued to exhibit in their influential writings a covert allegiance and longing for a Jewish past. This is a spellbinding and controversial story that offers a fresh perspective on the origins and history of conversos