

CONTENTS

Preface	ix
Chapter One <i>Tiferet Bahurim</i> : A Reading Proposal	1
1a. The Title	1
1b. The Manuscript	2
1c. The Author	4
1d. The Ferrara Community	9
Chapter Two <i>Tiferet Bahurim</i> : Structure and Themes	21
Chapter Three <i>Musar</i> Literature: A Proposal for a Historical Reading	33
Chapter Four The Originality of the Work	41
Chapter Five A Book of Advice and Sexual Morality	45
Chapter Six Continuity and Innovation in <i>Tiferet Bahurim</i>	51
Chapter Seven Suppressed Voices	65
7a. The Philosophical Discourse and <i>Musar</i> Literature	65
7b. Medical Dimensions of Sexuality	69
7c. Sexuality, Eroticism, and Magic	71
7d. Writing on Erotic Themes	74
7e. Erotic Writing for and by Youths	77
7f. The Sexuality of Young and Adult Women	82
Chapter Eight <i>Tiferet Bahurim</i> : Circles of Action	87
8a. The Body in the Early Modern Period	87
8b. Supervising the Behavior of the “ <i>Bahurim</i> ”	95
8c. The Key Role of Kabbalistic Tradition in “ <i>Tiferet Bahurim</i> ”	101
8d. The Centrality of Consciousness	110

CONTENTS

Chapter Nine	Between Publication and Concealment	115
Chapter Ten	The Catholic Circle between Counter-Reformation and “Christian Civilization”	129
10a.	Literature on House Management (<i>Libri di Economica</i>) ...	142
10b.	Catholic Advice Literature in Italy during the Counter-Reformation	147
10c.	Deep Religious Influence on “Secular” Literature	154
10d.	Medical Advice in the Sexual and Magical Realms	157
10e.	Advice Literature on Love and Eroticism	160
10f.	Advice Literature for Young People	162
10g.	Advice Literature for and about Women	166
10h.	Misogynous Literature	168
10i.	Subversive (“Counter-Literature”) Concerning Sexuality	170
10j.	An Interim Synthesis	173
Chapter Eleven	Halakhah vs. Kabbalah	201
11a.	The “Halakhic” Part of <i>Tiferet Bahurim</i>	203
11b.	The “Kabbalistic” Component of <i>Tiferet Bahurim</i>	210
11c.	The Innovative Aspect: Rituals and Sources Interpretation	217
11d.	The Struggle against Deviant Sexual Behavior: Masturbation	223
11e.	The Practical Character of the Work	231
Chapter Twelve	<i>Tiferet Bahurim</i> as a Pietistic Work: Dealing with Death	235
Chapter Thirteen	<i>Tiferet Bahurim</i> : A Work on Household Management	241
Chapter Fourteen	<i>Tiferet Bahurim</i> : A Link in the Civilizing Process	247
Chapter Fifteen	The Preaching Section of <i>Tiferet Bahurim</i>	253
15a.	The Preaching Tradition of Italian Jews up to the Early Sixteenth Century	256
15b.	The Sermon: Changes during the Early Modern Period	257

CONTENTS

15c. The Content of the Preaching Section of <i>Tiferet Bahurim</i>	263
15d. Jewish “Holy Preaching” in the Counter-Reformation Context	272
Chapter Sixteen A Testament to the Children	277
Chapter Seventeen <i>Tiferet Bahurim</i> : Summing Up	287
The Text of <i>Tiferet Bahurim</i>	301
Bibliography	429
Index	449