

LOVER, SON AND PROPHET: MAGIC AND KABBALAH IN
THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF YOHANAN ALEMANNIO

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The figure of the Italian kabbalist, philosopher and physician Rabbi Yohanan Alemanno has been known to the scholars of Jewish studies for some decades. Nonetheless, his autograph in the Bibliothèque nationale de France (Paris MS 849), has not been studied thoroughly. This article describes this manuscript and discusses certain kabbalistic and magical themes in it. The purpose of this discussion is to shed new light on the figure of Alemanno, while emphasizing his aspirations to lead the Jewish nation, like Moses, and to bring about the redemption. Furthermore, I argue that Paris MS 849 is a literary autobiography, in which the author used the literary frame of Dante's *La Divina Commedia*, and that this untitled manuscript might have a name.