Table of Contents

Preface	1
Acknowledgements	3
Part One: The Book in its context	
Chapter 1: Composition and characteristics of the Book 1.1. Cultural activity in the Jewish communities of southern	7
Europe and the production of medical literature on the female body	10 15
1.2. Linguistic analysis	
1.3. Sources	23
1.3.1. Sources of Graeco-Latin origin	25
1.3.2. Sources of Arab origin	32
1.3.3. Sources of Hebrew origin	34
1.3.4. Unidentified sources	38
1.4. The genre and intended audience of the Book of Women's	40
Love	40
Chapter 2: Contents of the Book	49
2.1. Magic and kabbalah in the Book of Women's Love: the written	
reflection of a living practice.	49
2.1.1. Magic is a living practice	50
2.1.2. The more women the more witchcraft	52
2.1.3. Kabbalah and magic practices in the Book	55
2.2. Sexuality and eroticism in the Book	63
2.2.1. Treatises dedicated to (hetero)sexuality and the Book of	
Women's Love	69
2.3. The care of women's health and beauty: cosmetics and	
gynaecology	71
2.3.1. The adornment and decoration of female bodies	72
2.3.1.1. The texts on cosmetics and the Book of Women's	
Love	76
2.3.2. Women's diseases: gynaecology and obstetrics	80
2.3.2.1. The Hebrew corpus on women's healthcare	83
2.3.2.2. Women's health and the diseases of genital	
organs in the Book of Women's Love	91

Part Two: Edition and translation	
The manuscript	101
On the edition and translation	102
Abbreviations and SIGLA	105
Hebrew text and English translation	108
Commentary	179
Glossary of materia medica and technical terms	
English – Hebrew	215
Hebrew - English	249
Sources and Bibliography	
Unpublished sources	283
Published sources	283
Bibliography	288
Dionography	
Index of names, places and topics	307