The God of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam was understood by its earliest worshippers to be a dual-gendered, male-female deity. So argues Mark Sameth in *The Name*. Needless to say, this is no small claim. Half the people on the planet are followers of one of the three Abrahamic religions. His evidence, however, is compelling and his case meticulously constructed. The Hebrew name of God—YHWH—has not been uttered in public for over two thousand years. Some thought the lost pronunciation was “Jehovah” or “Yahweh.” But Rabbi Sameth traces THE NAME to the late Bronze Age and argues that it was expressed *Hu-Hi*—Hebrew for “He-She.” Among Jewish mystics, we learn, this has long been an open secret. But what are the implications for us today if “he” was not God?

**Rabbi Mark Sameth** was named “one of America’s most inspiring rabbis” by the *Forward* in 2013. He is featured in Jennifer Berne and R. O. Blechman’s *God: 48 Famous and Fascinating Minds Talk about God*. He served the as rabbi of Pleasantville Community Synagogue, in Pleasantville, NY, and as the interim rabbi at Union Temple in Brooklyn, NY, and his interfaith work was the topic of a story in *The New York Times*. He is the author of numerous essays on Jewish perspectives on gender and theology, and gender in the Bible, in a wide variety of publications, including the *Forward*, *CCAR Journal* and the *New York Times*. Rabbi Sameth was ordained at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and is based in the New York area.

The Annual Rabbi Beryl D. Cohon Memorial Lecture is held in memory of the late Rabbi Beryl D. Cohon, Temple Sinai’s founding rabbi, who served the congregation until his retirement in 1964. The lecture is supported by the Cohon Memorial Lecture Fund and contributions from the congregation, and is coordinated by the Adult Jewish Learning Committee.

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