

MEDIA KIT

GOLD DIGGER *THE REMARKABLE BABY DOE TABOR*

By Rebecca Rosenberg

This media kit document contains:

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- Interview with Rebecca Rosenberg

The zip file download contains:

- Book cover (both low and high resolution versions)
- Author photo (both low and high resolution versions)
- Media kit PDF document

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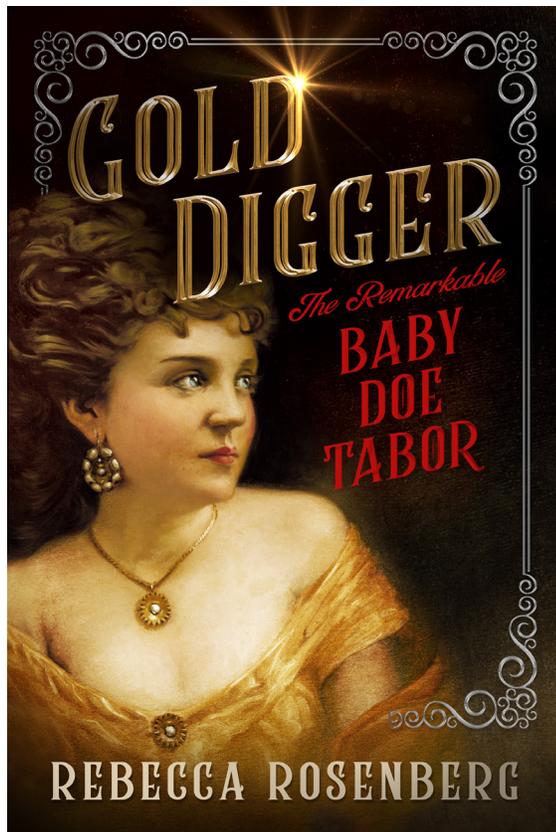
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GOLD DIGGER: THE REMARKABLE BABY DOE TABOR

BOOK DESCRIPTION



1878, Colorado. When Lizzie Doe's family loses everything in a fire, the twenty-year-old is forced to marry and go west to prospect a gold mine in Colorado, in hopes of sending money home to her parents. Miners, unaccustomed to such delicate beauty, nickname her Baby Doe, after a newborn deer.

But Baby Doe proves herself tougher than they'd imagined when she finds herself abandoned, pregnant and running the mine alone. Her pluck gains the admiration of Silver King Horace Tabor, married and twice her age and running for U.S. Senator. In Tabor, Baby Doe finds devotion and true passion. When scandal and economic ruin threatens Tabor's life, Baby Doe must make a painful choice.

Baby Doe Tabor was a real-life, deeply complex heroine, rising and falling and rising again with beguiling grit and stubborn spirit.

AUTHOR BIO

REBECCA ROSENBERG

Rebecca grew up in Colorado exploring old mines, ghost towns and honky-tonks with her family, sparking her life-long love of the Rocky Mountains and obsession with the Tabors. She learned about Baby Doe when she was five years old, and read every dime-store brochure about her: the love triangle, her daughters, Silver Dollar and Lily, and the Matchless Mine.

She began writing ***Gold Digger: the Remarkable Baby Doe Tabor*** fifteen years ago and has been rewriting it ever since, amidst writing other books.

Rebecca is a devotee of spirited women who lived in the past. Her 2018 book, ***The Secret Life of Mrs. London*** (Lake Union Publishing) was an award-winning, Amazon bestselling book and a Wiki Marvelous Novel of the 20th Century. Her other books include ***Lavender Fields of America*** (2012) and ***Champagne Widows*** (2020).

Rebecca is an alumni of the University of Colorado and holds a Stanford University Novel Writing Certificate. She now lives and writes on her lavender farm in Sonoma, California, where she and her husband, Gary, founded the largest lavender product company in America. Their King Charles Spaniel, Maxcy, named after Maxcy Tabor, likes to roam the fields with his owners. The Rosenbergs support many causes in the Sonoma Community through volunteering, financial donations and board positions.



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FACT SHEET

GOLD DIGGER: THE REMARKABLE BABY DOE TABOR

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PRESS RELEASE

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BABY DOE TABOR BORN AGAIN AS GOLD DIGGER!

(Sonoma, CA, January 7, 2019) New novel digs up the dirt on the most scandalized couple before Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie.

At the end of the nineteenth century, less than a half a percent of marriages ended in divorce. And if the divorce was due to a clandestine affair between a young girl and a senator, with illegal divorces and fly-by-night marriage licenses, there was no hope of redemption. Such was the fate of Baby Doe and Horace Tabor.

GOLD DIGGER (Lion Heart Publishing, May 21, 2019, ISBN: 978-0-578-42779-9, \$15.95 (www.rebecca_rosenberg.com)) tells the rags-to-riches-to-rags story of real-life Baby Doe, a twenty-year-old girl who travelled west with her husband in 1878 to prospect a gold mine, but soon found herself abandoned and pregnant, working the mine alone. Baby Doe rose from that humble place to become the most infamous, scandalized woman in the country when she married the Silver King, Horace Tabor, a US Senator twice her age, questionably divorced. The Tabors marriage set fire to national headlines, fueling outrage in society and imaginations around the country.

The story of Baby Doe Tabor has been canonized in opera and film, but never told so intimately as Rosenberg's *Gold Digger*. *"From the time I was five I wanted to tell Baby Doe's story as she lived it. Baby Doe was a beacon of courage and tenacity that shined a light for me growing up, encouraging me to forge ahead, despite what people think,"* Rosenberg says.

Nothing could calm the Tabor scandal. Not the spectacular Tabor Theater featuring Sarah Bernhardt, Oscar Wilde and Lillie Langtree. Not the millions the Tabors donated to churches, charities and the post office. Not the birth of their innocent daughters illustrated on the cover of Harpers. Not even the Silver Crash of 1893, that caused the Tabors to lose hundreds of mines and businesses, and even their home.

After the Tabors lost everything, society was sure beautiful Baby Doe would leave the destitute Ta-

bor, but she stuck with him until his death left her a pauper. She gathered up her daughters and went to live in Leadville, Colorado, eventually living in the Tabor's Matchless Mine where she froze to death in 1935.

"Rosenberg's rollicking Western adventure strikes gold with a gutsy, good-hearted spitfire of a heroine and action aplenty." — Thelma Adams, contributor to The New York Times, Cosmopolitan, The Huffington Post, Variety

"A twisting tale worthy of Mark Twain, with a big-hearted heroine at the center." — Martha Conway, author of The Underground River, The New York Times Book Review Editor's Choice

About the Author: Rebecca Rosenberg grew up in Colorado exploring old mines, ghost towns and honky-tonks with her family, sparking her life-long love of the Rocky Mountains and obsession with the Tabor. An alumni of the University of Colorado, Rebecca now lives and writes on her lavender farm in Sonoma, California, where the Rosenbergs founded the largest lavender product company in America. She holds a Stanford University Novel Writing Certificate.

Rebecca's other books include [The Secret Life of Mrs. London](#) (2018), [Lavender Fields of America](#) (2012) and [Champagne Widows](#) (2020).

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TALKING POINTS

Six Little-known Facts about Baby Doe Tabor

1. Baby Doe Tabor was the most scandalized woman in America in the late 19th century, having an affair with the Silver King, Horace Tabor, married and twice her age.
2. While Baby Doe Tabor was called the original Gold Digger, facts show that she was a hard-working, loyal, shrewd and tenacious partner. Her false reputation shows a prejudice against a beautiful women who refused to stand down in the face of love and life's cruel challenges.
3. Baby Doe Tabor married US Senator Horace Tabor in Washington D.C. with president Arthur and several US Senators attending her wedding. In her lifetime, she met Buffalo Bill, Doc Holliday, Houdini, Oscar Wilde, Lillie Langtry, Sarah Bernhardt, Emma Abbott (famous opera singer), Marshal Fields, Tom May (May Company), Eugene Field (poet and writer), Chin Lin Sou (famous head of the Chinese labor force) and Shorty Scout (famous game tracker and owner of the Buckhorn Exchange).
4. Baby Doe spent the remaining thirty-five years of her life in a ramshackle cabin outside the Matchless Mine in Leadville.
5. March of 1935, Baby Doe Tabor's frozen body was discovered on the floor of her cabin, her arms crossed on her chest. Decades of diaries were found with her, now kept by History Colorado Center where Rebecca Rosenberg researched.
6. Baby Doe Tabor's story has inspired two operas, a movie, a stage play, a musical, a screenplay, a one-woman show and countless other books and articles.

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INTERVIEW WITH REBECCA ROSENBERG

1. What draws you to tell the stories of spirited women who lived in the past?

"Growing up, I wondered why women were left out of history for the most part. HIStory taught in schools is primarily about wars. Men's wars. It intrigued me to delve into the HERstory, which is much harder to dig up, but rich with culture, tradition, emotion and humanity."

2. What is it about Baby Doe Tabor that inspired an opera, a movie, dozens of biographies, and kept her in the Western folklore for more than a hundred years?

"Baby Doe Tabor's story is a lightning rod of scandal, controversy and human drama that lives on today. It is a symbol of desire and passion and throwing good sense to the wind to gamble on something bigger, something amazing."

"In 1878, Baby Doe Tabor, a beautiful twenty-year-old girl comes west with her husband and ends up abandoned, pregnant and running their mine alone. She meets Horace Tabor, the new Silver King, married and twice her age, and the two find passion they cannot live without. Tabor divorces his wife and marries Baby Doe with the attendance of the President of the United States. The Tabors live an outrageously wealthy life for ten years, scandalized and shunned by society. In the Silver Crash of 1893, the Tabors lose everything. Everyone thinks Baby Doe, still young and beautiful, will leave Tabor, but she sticks with him. When he dies, he tells her, "Hold onto the Matchless Mine," their legendary silver mine in Leadville, Colorado. Baby Doe lives and works the Matchless until she freezes to death in 1935."

"Baby Doe Tabor has become a legend that lives on today. The Ballad of Baby Doe has become one of the staples of American opera."

3. What inspires you about Baby Doe Tabor?

"I was seven when I first fell in love with Baby Doe and read every pamphlet and biography there was about her, Horace Tabor, and his first wife Augusta Tabor. I connected with Baby Doe, a girl raised to be a beautiful, pampered wife, but forced to be a miner. She used her resources and talents to make something of herself, with respectable jobs. She could have been easy to become a "soiled dove" but she did not."

"What the Tabors did with their incredible wealth impressed me. They were extraordinarily generous with churches, charities, the Republican party and the state of Colorado. They built a grand Tabor Opera House for Broadway productions and operas to perform for the West. They donated

a city block of land for a post office. Still, society shunned Baby Doe in every way they could. I often thought about how she could live that way, ostracized from society. But it was the Silver Crash of 1893 that showed Baby Doe Tabor's true character, her love and loyalty for her family and Horace Tabor."

4. Was the exciting life that the Tabors lived worth their tragic downfall? How so?

"The Tabors would definitely live the way they did all over again, gambling on new mines and on the worth of Silver. They were gamblers at heart and hard workers. They even gambled on their love to withstand the horrific pressures society put on them. And in the end, they remained true to their vision, even to death at the Matchless Mine."

5. Could Baby Doe or Horace Tabor have changed their disastrous fate? If you were Baby Doe, what might you have done differently?

"The Tabors lost it all because they owned mostly silver mines, and they took their wealth for granted, spending and donating too much. If I were Baby Doe, I would have squirreled away money as she had when she was saving for her family. Her wealth made her lose sight of the fact that money was an important safety net to have, especially when the silver/gold issue was so volatile, and her husband growing older."

6. Tell us about the extensive research you do for your books. What is your methodology?

*"I grew up in Colorado and frequented Denver, Central City and Leadville, exploring the museums, houses, and saloons. I spent several weeks over a few years writing *Gold Digger* in Leadville and Central City where I could visit their haunts as often as I wanted. The most exciting was reading her diaries at History Colorado, her writing between my fingertips, I literally felt her words and emotions."*

7. How does the *Gold Digger* story relate to today's world?

"We live in a volatile world where politics and economics and natural disaster can wipe out our financial stability in a heartbeat. People rarely plan for catastrophes that could leave them destitute. This really hit home, recently, when my husband and I lost our home, lavender barn and farm in the California wild fires, and suddenly everything we owned was gone, and insurance and savings were not enough to rebuild. Yet, somehow you dig deep and survive. We still have our family and that is what counts."

8. The ending hints at another story starting. Is there a sequel?

“When Horace Tabor died, Baby Doe Tabor took her daughters and lived at the Matchless Mine. Her daughters abandoned her to her foolish dream, but she does not give up on the Matchless, even though silver was worthless. Now there are precious molybdenum mines in Leadville.”

9. Is there anything else you’d like our listeners to know?

“Yes, between years studying at the University of Colorado, I worked in Denver and lived in an apartment on Capitol Hill on Sherman Street. Years later, I hired an historian to tour important landmarks of Tabor, which was difficult because they’d been replaced with modern buildings. We were on Sherman Street and 13th when I pointed out the apartment building I lived in. The historian looked at me in shock, and said, “That is the very site of Baby Doe and Horace Tabor’s mansion.” I lived on the very spot that Baby Doe had lived her lonely, rich life.”

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