



April 16, 2019

**Rebecca Rosenberg, Novelist**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **The Secret Life of Mrs. London Wins Gold Medal**

***California historical novel receives gold medal from Independent Publisher Book Awards***

***The Secret Life of Mrs. London*** by Sonoma, California, author Rebecca Rosenberg was named gold medalist in the largest book award competition in the world, the Independent Publisher Book Awards. The awards, known as the IPPYs, were announced Friday, April 12. The IPPY awards were established in 1996 to bring increased recognition to works by independent authors and publishers. More than 5,000 entries are received each year for highly respected medals. ***The Secret Life of Mrs. London*** won gold West-Pacific, Best Regional Fiction, 2019.

***The Secret Life of Mrs. London*** (Lake Union Publishing), details the love triangle between famed author Jack London, his wife Charmian, and illusionist Harry Houdini. Much of the book is set in and around Sonoma Valley, Calif., near the London's Beauty Ranch. One of America's most provocative women, Charmian London, was the bohemian, flamboyant, yet devoted wife of Jack London, the most popular author of his era, until their fateful meeting with Harry Houdini and his wife, Bess Houdini.

***The Secret Life of Mrs. London*** is the first novel by Rosenberg, who lives in Sonoma, Calif. She previously wrote the nonfiction ***Lavender Fields of America***. Her new historical fiction, ***Gold Digger, the Remarkable Baby Doe Tabor***, will release May 28, 2019.

***The Secret Life of Mrs. London*** has been nominated for the ***California Book Awards*** (May 2019) and

*Best First Novel* by the Center for Fiction. It received a [Golden Poppy Award](#) and was nominated for a California Book Award (to be announced in May 2019). It was included in WIKI's [Marvelous Novels About the Early 20th Century](#), [Spirited Woman's Top 12 Books of 2018](#) and is a [Pulpwood Queen 5-diamond selection](#) (largest book club in the world with 750 chapters), as well as an [Amazon](#) best seller.

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## Author Rebecca Rosenberg

A California native, Rebecca Rosenberg lives on a lavender farm with her family in Sonoma, the Valley of the Moon, where Jack London wrote from his Beauty Ranch. Rebecca is a long-time student of Jack London's works and an avid fan of his daring wife, Charmian London. [The Secret Life of Mrs. London](#) is her debut novel, following her non-fiction, [Lavender Fields of America](#) (2012). Her upcoming novel is [Gold Digger, the Remarkable Baby Doe Tabor](#).



Rebecca and her husband, Gary, founded the largest lavender product company in America, selling to 4000 resorts, spas and gift stores. The Rosenbergs believe in giving back to the Sonoma Community, supporting many causes through financial donations and board positions, including [Luther Burbank Performing Arts Center](#), providing performances for children, [Sonoma Boys and Girls Club](#), and the [Valley of the Moon Children's Home](#).

Rebecca is available for interviews and video chats.

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# The Secret Life of Mrs. London

by Rebecca Rosenberg

*San Francisco, 1915.* As America teeters on the brink of world war, Charmian and her husband, famed novelist Jack London, wrestle with genius and desire, politics and marital competitiveness. Charmian longs to be viewed as an equal partner who put her own career on hold to support her husband, but Jack doesn't see it that way...until Charmian is pulled from the audience during a magic show by escape artist Harry Houdini, a man enmeshed in his own complicated marriage. Suddenly, charmed by the attention Houdini pays her and entranced by his sexual magnetism, Charmian's eyes open to a world of possibilities that could be her escape.

As Charmian grapples with her urge to explore the forbidden, Jack's increasingly reckless behavior threatens her dedication. Now torn between two of history's most mysterious and charismatic figures, she must find the courage to forge her own path, even as she fears the loss of everything she holds dear.

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\$14.95

Lake Union Publishing

ISBN 9781542048736

Available through [Readers Books](#) Sonoma, CA and [Copperfields Books](#), [Amazon](#)  
and [Barnes and Noble](#)

Wholesale: [Ingram](#), [Baker and Taylor](#) or [Brilliance Publishing](#)

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## Reviews for The Secret Life of Mrs. London

by Rebecca Rosenberg

"An impressively original and exceptionally well-crafted novel by an author who is a master of character- and narrative-driven storytelling, Rebecca Rosenberg's ***The Secret Life of Mrs. London*** is an inherently riveting and thoroughly reader-engaging story from beginning to end and features many an unexpected plot twist and turn."

—Midwest Book Review

“Clever, eloquent, intimate, and emotionally revealing, ***The Secret Life of Mrs. London*** introduces a brilliant novelist in Rebecca Rosenberg ...

In this fascinating read, Rebecca Rosenberg explores American novelist Jack London and his wife Charmian London’s seemingly made-in-heaven marriage. Love in its ideal form comprise a meeting of minds as well as bodies, and though the couple is blissfully in love—insecurities, jealousy, and secrets ripple through their ideal relationship and threaten to destroy it. Unraveling layers of the couple’s life—from Jack’s dependence on Charmian to his careless disregard for her literary work—from Charmian’s internal quest for self-discovery to her occasional digressions and her hopeless love for Jack, Rosenberg paints an immensely intriguing portrait of a marriage and tells it in an accomplished lyrical prose that captures each moment with poetic intensity.”

**–Prairie Book Review**

“Interesting, and based on the actual lives of the participants ... Learning more about Jack London was enjoyable, as well as seeing early feminist examples.”

**–Historical Novel Society**

“***The Secret Life of Mrs. London*** is a riveting behind-the-scenes look at the marriage of Jack and Charmian London, both fascinating and complicated characters with rich inner lives that Rosenberg conveys in crisp yet poetic prose. This contemporary historical fiction raises questions that are still relevant today about what makes a good marriage, and whether creativity and stability are incompatible. A rich, resonant, deeply satisfying novel sure to delight and leave readers thinking long after they put it down.”

**–Malena Watrous, author of *If You Follow Me and Sparked!*, and director of the Stanford Continuing Studies Program in Novel Writing**

“***The Secret Life of Mrs. London*** is a heart-wrenching portrait of a marriage between two people who utterly depend on one another, but ultimately aren’t enough for each other. With skillful precision of language, Rosenberg weaves a narrative that defines the complexities of love, passion and art. Any one who has ever loved another person will want to read this book”

**–Victoria Kelly, author of *Mrs. Houdini, A Novel***

“One of Houdini’s best kept secrets was his affair with Charmian London in 1918. Now Rebecca Rosenberg tells the story using an elegant blend of fact and fiction, creating a Houdini book like no other. *The Secret Life of Mrs. London* is a true peek behind the curtain and a page-turner.”

**–John Cox, *Wild About Harry***

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