

Sacramento Book Review



Below is a clipping of your book review that appeared in the January 09 issue of the *Sacramento Book Review*. Thank you for sending us the book.

Fabergé's Eggs

By Toby Faber

Random House, \$30.00, 320 pages

Fabergé's eggs have been a symbol of decadence and extravagance ever since their origin as a gift from Czar Alexander III to his wife, Maria Fedorovna, as an Easter present in 1885. What seemed to be a plain white egg hid a golden yolk that contained a golden hen, a diamond miniature of the Imperial crown, and a ruby pendant. That treasure, created by Carl Fabergé, began a tradition for more than thirty years of gifts from the Czars commemorating events and holidays. Faber has collected tales of many of the

eggs, from when and why they were created, their disposition during the Russian Revolution, to their current return back to Russia at the hand of the oligarchs. There is not a great deal of

history of Fabergé himself, but mostly the highly entertaining stories of the eggs, their journeys and the people driven to collect them. It is also the history of the 20th century Russia, from the revolution through the Cold War and into the new Russia, complete with billionaires competing through conspicuous consumption. The book includes sixteen pages of black and white and color photos of the eggs, their owners, Fabergé's workshop and more.

