

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – SANTA BARBARA WRITER
contact: diana@dianaraab.com

WINNER -- 2008 NATIONAL INDIE AWARD -- MEMOIR

Regina's Closet: Finding My Grandmother's Secret Journal

is winner of the 2008 National Indie Excellence Award for Memoir. It is also a finalist for the 2008 ForeWord Magazine Book of the Year for Memoir and was nominated for the Sophie Brody Award.

Regina's Closet is based on the retrospective journal author Diana Raab's grandmother wrote in the late 1930's, after her arrival in the United States.

Regina is Diana's beloved grandmother - a spirited woman who loves her, cares for her, even teaches her to type her first stories on a Remington typewriter. So when Regina inexplicably takes her own life at age sixty-one, ten-year-old Diana is left devastated.

Three decades later, Diana discovers Regina's secret diary and learns about her grandmother's life - from the tragic death of her mother when Regina was twelve through her years of suffering in Europe during World War I, and finally her immigration to the U.S. The book contains photos and details gathered from various sources and historical documents relating to events and locales, all of which provide a complete picture of Regina's time and place for her granddaughter.

Throughout **Regina's Closet**, Diana's reflections are interspersed with excerpts from her grandmother's diary. This braided narrative presents a touching portrait of the relationship between Diana and Regina, their past and present, their loves and losses, and the discovery of their shared legacy.

About the author:

Diana M. Raab is a memoirist, essayist, poet and instructor who teaches journaling and memoir at UCLA Writers Program and The Santa Barbara Writers Conference. Her award-winning work has been published in numerous national publications. Her book, **Getting Pregnant and Staying Pregnant: Overcoming Infertility and High Risk Pregnancy** won the Benjamin Franklin Book Award in 1992. She has two poetry collections and two works of nonfiction. She frequently lectures and writes on journaling and resides in SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA.

REGINA'S CLOSET: *Finding My Grandmother's Secret Journal*

By Diana Raab

Beaufort Books

192 pages; \$23.00 Hardcover

ISBN: 978-0-8253-0575-7