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A Confederate Girl's Diary



Synopsis

Documented during the American Civil War, *A Confederate Girl's Diary* provides a thorough account of civilian life in Louisiana during and after the war through the diary entries of Sarah Morgan Dawson, who used her diary to record her thoughts and experiences from 1862 to 1865. HarperPerennial Classics brings great works of literature to life in digital format, upholding the highest standards in ebook production and celebrating reading in all its forms. Look for more titles in the HarperPerennial Classics collection to build your digital library.

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Customer Reviews

This book was a really good source for research I have done for Civil War Reenacting. Great first hand accounts of civilian refugee life. This girl writes very well for her age. Good detail and entertainingly told.

I found it very interesting to see how she viewed the Civil War. Seeing the shelling and gunfire of the various battles in her area, I was able to connect with, liking history. Her family suffered, but during

the war, lots of people suffered, her family was just better off than most. It was hard to follow at times with all the guest coming and going from the houses she stayed in. As a diary, she did an excellent job penning her story. At some points, you couldn't wait to see what would happen next.

I really enjoyed reading this book. It was difficult to put it down. As a Northerner, I appreciated how she obviously tried to be fair to the Union men she met. I can't imagine having a war rage in and around your home like that, and never knowing from one day to the next where you would go to be safe. She was a very brave young woman.

Loved this book. She describes her day to day experiences the families had to endure with the fighting going on all around them. The hardships and the devastation to home and family from someone who was there. This young girl writes about dreams lost but always has hope for the future.

This first-hand account of the life of a Confederate girl is both interesting and a very informative source of historical facts. As a "Yankee" myself, I have tended to hear mostly "Northern" accounts of the way certain battles were fought and either won or lost. This book actually gave me a chance to see things from the other side of the conflict. Miss Sarah is a most eloquently spoken Southern Belle, and I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to read her diaries, thank Heavens they were never burned, as she originally intended for them!

As a life-long Civil War nerd, I've read many accounts of this fascinating four years. Primary source materials, like this diary, offer insights that have not been filtered by another writer or historian. While this book does not chronicle any significant battles, it does show the average civilian's struggles to endure the danger and privations of war. Some members of this Louisiana family are in the Union army, and the sixteen-year-old writer expresses an unusual refusal to believe that one side is either all bad or all good.

A young lady writes of her family's experience and trials during the Civil War. She is the calm one of the family which has split loyalties between Union and Confederates. The pace of life is steady during the earlier months, but as shortages develop it becomes more difficult. They eventually lose their lovely home and possessions and have many frightening times. Surprisingly well written as she shares her emotions .

Very little insight into the great events of the War Between the States. A young woman whose father is a federal judge who declares for the Confederacy and has a brother who is federal judge and declares for the union. She lives in Baton Rouge. This is a journal of day to day events. The Union came and conquered. They became refugees. In time she and other family members take refuge in New Orleans with the brother. Other brothers die for the Confederacy. This is well written. A 15 year old with little education is quite literate. Some wonder if she could have done it. Either way it is worth the time spent reading. Of course I am reading diaries and memoirs from the civil war. Others might be less interested.

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