



The Mysterious Private Thompson The Double Life of Sarah Emma Edmonds, Civil War Soldier

By Laura Leedy Gansler

Bison Books. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 272 pages. Dimensions: 8.9in. x 5.8in. x 0.5in. Resurrecting a lost hero of the Civil War, *The Mysterious Private Thompson* tells the remarkable story of Sarah Emma Edmonds (1841-1898), who disguised herself as a man and defended her country at a time of war. Drawing on Edmonds's journals and those of the men she served with, Laura Leedy Gansler recreates Edmonds's experience in some of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War, including both the First and the Second Battle of Bull Run, the Peninsula Campaign, and the Battle of Fredericksburg, during which she served with distinction in combat as a male nurse and braved enemy fire as a mail carrier. Gansler also investigates Edmonds's claim to have been a spy, going behind enemy lines disguised as a slave (by staining her skin with silver nitrate), as a Confederate soldier, and even, ironically, as a peddler woman. After two years of valiant service, the young soldier, who twice rejected medical attention for injuries sustained in the line of duty for fear of being discovered, was struck down with malaria. Rather than risk detection by a military doctor, Franklin Thompson disappeared and was marked down...



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