

# **An Uncommon Soldier The Civil War Letters Of Sarah Rosetta Wakeman Alias Pvt Lyons Wakeman 153rd Regiment New York State Volunteers 1862 1864**

An Uncommon Soldier The Civil War Letters Of Sarah Rosetta Wakeman Alias Pvt Lyons Wakeman 153rd Regiment New York State Volunteers 1862 1864 An Uncommon Soldier The Civil War Letters of Sarah Rosetta Wakeman Alias Pvt Lyons Wakeman 153rd Regiment New York State Volunteers 1862 1864 An Uncommon Soldier is a captivating collection of letters written by Sarah Rosetta Wakeman a young woman who disguised herself as a man to fight for the Union in the Civil War These intimate and revealing letters penned between 1862 and 1864 offer a unique glimpse into the life of a female soldier her struggles her fears and her unwavering determination Civil War Female Soldier Disguise Sarah Rosetta Wakeman Pvt Lyons Wakeman 153rd Regiment New York State Volunteers Letters History Gender Identity Courage Sacrifice Sarah Rosetta Wakeman a young woman with a yearning for adventure and a deep sense of patriotism decided to enlist in the Union Army during the Civil War Posing as a man under the alias Pvt Lyons Wakeman she joined the 153rd Regiment New York State Volunteers For over two years she lived a double life battling against the horrors of war alongside her fellow soldiers Through her letters we witness her transformation from a naive young woman into a hardened soldier experiencing firsthand the hardships of camp life the brutality of battle and the everpresent threat of discovery The collection delves into Sarahs inner struggles showcasing her anxieties about being exposed her longing for home and her unwavering commitment to her comrades We witness her courage in the face of danger her resilience in the face of hardship and her growing empathy for her fellow soldiers The letters reveal a strongwilled woman who defied societal norms and risked everything to fight for a cause she believed in Conclusion 2 An Uncommon Soldier is more than just a collection of historical letters It is a testament to the courage and resilience of a woman who dared to challenge societal expectations and fight for her beliefs Sarahs story serves as a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made by those who fought in the Civil War and the enduring human spirit that can overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles Her bravery and determination continue to inspire us prompting us to reflect on our own sense of identity our willingness to challenge norms and our capacity for courage in the face of adversity FAQs 1 How did Sarah Rosetta Wakeman manage to live as a man in the army for so long Sarahs success in maintaining her disguise was a result of a combination of factors Her small stature her ability to convincingly act as a man and the fact that she was mostly stationed in camps away from the scrutiny of higherranking officers contributed to her deception However her letters also reveal a constant fear of being discovered highlighting the risks she took and the constant tension she lived under 2 What were the challenges faced by female soldiers during the Civil War Female soldiers faced immense challenges including the constant threat of discovery and the potential consequences of being exposed which could range from imprisonment to severe punishment They also had to endure the harsh realities of war including hunger disease and the trauma of battle while trying to conceal their true identities The lack of access to basic necessities tailored for women such as clothing and medical care further compounded their struggles 3 How did Sarahs letters provide a unique perspective on the Civil War Sarahs letters provide a unique and intimate perspective on the war offering a glimpse into the daily lives of soldiers their thoughts and feelings and the impact of war on their psyche Her perspective as a woman hidden within a maledominated environment sheds light on the hidden anxieties and vulnerabilities of soldiers adding a layer of complexity to our understanding of the war experience 4 What was Sarahs fate after the war Unfortunately Sarahs deception was eventually discovered after the war leading to her exposure as a female soldier While her identity was revealed she was not punished for her actions However she did not receive the recognition she deserved for her bravery and commitment to the cause Her story

remained hidden for many years until it was 3 rediscovered and brought to light in recent times 5 Why is Sarah Rosetta Wakemans story relevant today Sarahs story is relevant today because it speaks to the enduring human desire for freedom equality and the right to choose ones own path in life Her story challenges gender stereotypes and reminds us that courage determination and resilience are not defined by gender By understanding Sarahs struggles and her bravery we can gain a deeper appreciation for the sacrifices made by those who fought for a better future and strive for a more inclusive and equitable world

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three starred reviews a 2024 shelf awareness best picture book of the year new york public library best books for kids list a magnificently illustrated picture book biography of private rosetta lyons wakeman the only soldier whose letters capture the civil war from a woman s perspective in 1862 the war between north and south showed no signs of stopping and in rural new york nineteen year old rosetta wakeman longed for a life beyond the family farm so one day she made a brave bold choice she cut her braid and disguised herself as a man no one suspected that lyons was a woman not even when she signed up to fight for the union army as rosetta s new regiment traveled to virginia washington d c and louisiana she sent letter after letter home to new york army life wasn t easy but rosetta knew it was where she belonged supporting her family and serving her country through intricately detailed scratchboard art and excerpts from rosetta wakeman s letters this fascinating and inspiring biography a debut from author illustrator joanna lapati introduces young readers to an unconventional woman who was determined to claim her own place in history an author s note supplementary biographical and historical information a timeline excerpts from actual letters and other back matter provide additional context children s book council cbc librarian favorites 3rd 5th grade 2025 children s book council cbc children s favorites 3rd 5th grade 2025 mississippi children s museum the magnolia book awards grades 3 5 nominee 2026

popular images of women during the american civil war include self sacrificing nurses romantic spies and brave ladies maintaining hearth and home in the absence of their men however as deanne blanton and lauren m cook show in their remarkable new study that conventional picture does not tell the entire story hundreds of women assumed male aliases disguised themselves in men s uniforms and charged into battle as union and confederate soldiers facing down not only the guns of the adversary but also the gender prejudices of society they fought like demons is the first book to fully explore and explain these women their experiences as combatants and the controversial issues surrounding their military service relying on more than a decade of research in primary sources blanton and cook document over 240 women in uniform and find that their reasons for fighting mirrored those of men patriotism honor heritage and a desire for excitement some enlisted to remain with husbands or brothers while others

had dressed as men before the war some so enjoyed being freed from traditional women's roles that they continued their masquerade well after 1865 the authors describe how yankee and rebel women soldiers eluded detection some for many years and even merited promotion their comrades often did not discover the deception until the young boy in their company was wounded killed or gave birth in addition to examining the details of everyday military life and the harsh challenges of warfare for these women which included injury capture and imprisonment blanton and cook discuss the female warrior as an icon in nineteenth century popular culture and why twentieth century historians and society ignored women soldiers contributions shattering the negative assumptions long held about civil war distaff soldiers this sophisticated and dynamic work sheds much needed light on an unusual and overlooked facet of the civil war experience

with entries overviewing groups such as the amazons women in the spanish civil war and native american women and entries profiling over 300 women tells their stories focusing particularly on women who fought with a focus on those who fought this two volume reference for scholars and general readers contains alphabetically arranged entries on some 300 military women from antiquity to the present the entries are also listed by geographic region time period branch of service prisoner status and by group or organization pennington affiliation not cited presents a historical overview of women in the military and in war in the introduction while an extensive timeline traces the accomplishments of women in military history reaching back to 9000 bce bibliographic surveys of women as prisoners of war and women's participation in military medicine are found in the appendix

an anthology of civil war stories from nineteenth century magazines

personal accounts of female to male transsexuals

this collection examines the intersection of male and female spheres in american literature arguing that more common ground exists than critics have previously recognized

examines the confederacy's role in the civil war the hostility between northern and southern states and the aftermath of the war

undertaken at the wrong time for the wrong reasons and with poor planning organization and execution no major operation during the war had less to recommend it war along the bayous concentrates on the louisiana portion of this ill advised campaign that resulted in heavy losses and very nearly turned into a complete disaster for the union

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