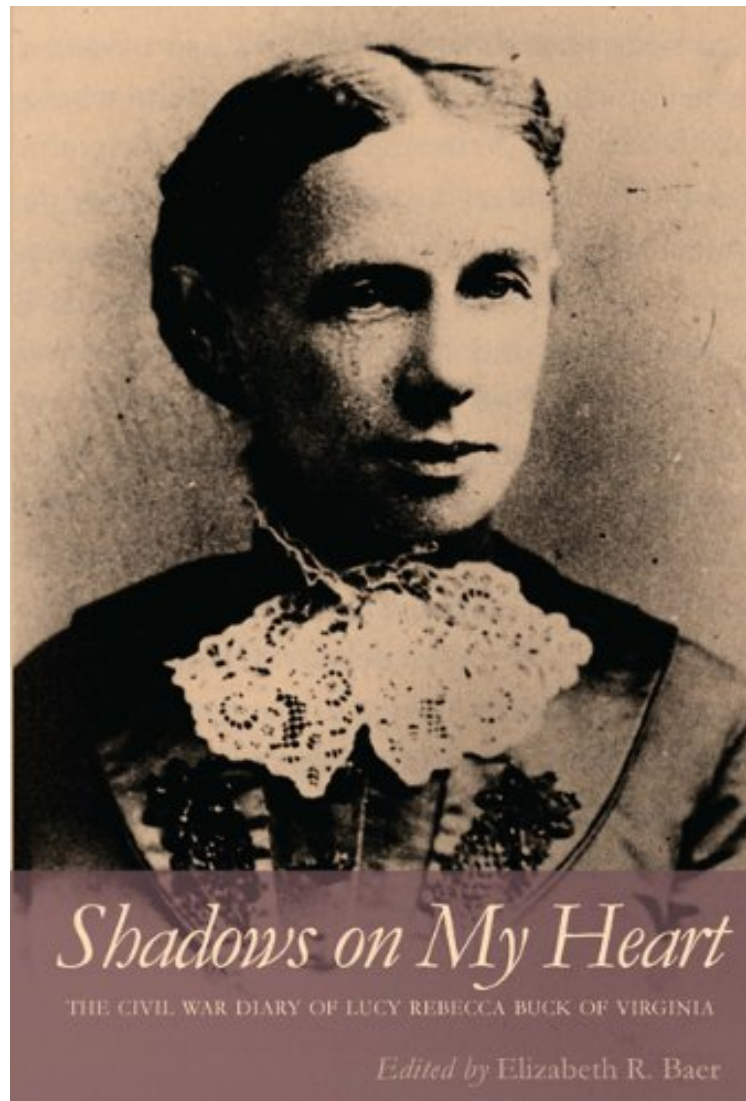


(Free) *Shadows on My Heart: The Civil War Diary of Lucy Rebecca Buck of Virginia* (Southern Voices from the Past: Women's Letters, Diaries, and Writings Ser.)

## **Shadows on My Heart: The Civil War Diary of Lucy Rebecca Buck of Virginia (Southern Voices from the Past: Women's Letters, Diaries, and Writings Ser.)**

*Lucy Buck*

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**Lucy Buck : *Shadows on My Heart: The Civil War Diary of Lucy Rebecca Buck of Virginia* (Southern Voices from the Past: Women's Letters, Diaries, and Writings Ser.)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Shadows on My Heart: The Civil War Diary of Lucy Rebecca Buck of Virginia* (Southern Voices from the Past: Women's Letters, Diaries, and Writings Ser.):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating and disturbing  
 By SLR  
 This is a read that requires detailed attention and the ability to leave a 2014 mentality behind as you time travel to the life of an 18 year old woman during a war. Lucy lives in a large plantation home, one of 13 children, and a female trapped in a time when women had nothing to do save domestic things and no personal power. If she lived today she would make the Guinness Book of Records for texting...but instead she only has a pen...and she writes many letters EVERY day. The mail worked better in 1860 than it does now. She is sick a lot...probably due to the many, and tight, articles of clothing. She has toothaches and has teeth pulled at home without novocaine. She and her family live in the center of battle crossings and feed many troops from both sides. General Lee ate at their home and she lists the names of pertinent battles and generals. Her family didn't suffer personally until towards the end of the war when the home was ransacked and the mill burned. I was intrigued that she saw so much violence but her attention was geared to family, home and mundane things like sewing and baking biscuits. I wished I could have known her and helped her out of her century. I so enjoy diaries and have been keeping my own since 1972. Whatever will future females think of me? Excellent read. Gives you a lot to ponder. Helps in understanding how regular people survived those horrible days. The one thing she didn't touch was how her father's slaves were feeling...until towards the end when they ran away and she was furious. Most interesting interaction between the whites and blacks during the turmoil. Excellent book.

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Very Moving Account  
 By Patricia  
 Of the civil war diaries that I have read, this is my favorite. I really felt like I got to know Lucy Buck and what she and her family had to go through--concern for her brothers and friends in battle, having to feed not only their own soldiers at times, but also the Yankees who often showed up on their doorstep. The fact that Lucy was well-educated and well-read is evident in her insights into the war and in her beautifully detailed descriptions. One of my favorite parts is when she got to meet General Lee. I was impressed, as she was, with the great gentleness and kindness shown to her by this great Southern gentleman. Towards the end of the war, Lucy fails to record anything for a while which leads me to think that life had gotten much worse for her and was more than she thought she was able to bear.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Parts were hard for me to comprehend  
 By Dawn DuBois  
 This was a good book and very interesting, but I found some parts almost emotionally painful to read as the hypocrisy of a slave owner talking about how horrible it is for those in power (the Feds) to take advantage of the weak (The Confederates). I realize at the time this was how certain people were raised, but parts of this book made me want to go back in time and slap her. However, it is an interesting look from a southern girls viewpoint.

When the Civil War began in 1861 Lucy Rebecca Buck was the eighteen-year-old daughter of a prosperous planter, living on her family's plantation in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. On Christmas Day of that year she began a diary which she would keep for the duration of the war, during which time troops were quartered in her home and battles were literally waged in her front yard. This extraordinary chronicle mirrors the experience of many women torn between loyalty to the Confederate cause and dissatisfaction with the unrealistic ideology of white southern womanhood. In powerful, unsentimental language, Buck's diary reveals her anger and ambivalence about the challenges thrust upon her by the upheaval of her self, her family, and the world as she knew it. This document provides an extraordinary glimpse into the "shadows on the heart" of both Lucy Buck and the American South.

In Baer's fine new edition, Lucy Buck's voice is fascinating. Through her absorbing account, we witness the disintegration of the confederacy. (Catherine Clinton author of *Tara Revisited*) Yields a rare insight into the heart of one Southern woman whose primary pre-war purpose was to serve her societal role. (Civil War History) About the Author Elizabeth R. Baer is professor of English and genocide studies at Gustavus Adolphus College. She has published widely on women's literature and Holocaust fiction and memoirs. Baer's books include "The Blessed Abyss: Inmate #6582 in Ravensbruck Concentration Camp for Women" (coedited with Hester Baer) and "Experience and Expression: Women, the Nazis, and the Holocaust" (coedited with Myrna Goldenberg). Her forthcoming book, "The Golem Redux: From Prague to Post-Holocaust Fiction," traces the intertextual appropriation of the golem legend in contemporary Jewish-American fiction, graphic novels, comics, "The X-Files," and films."