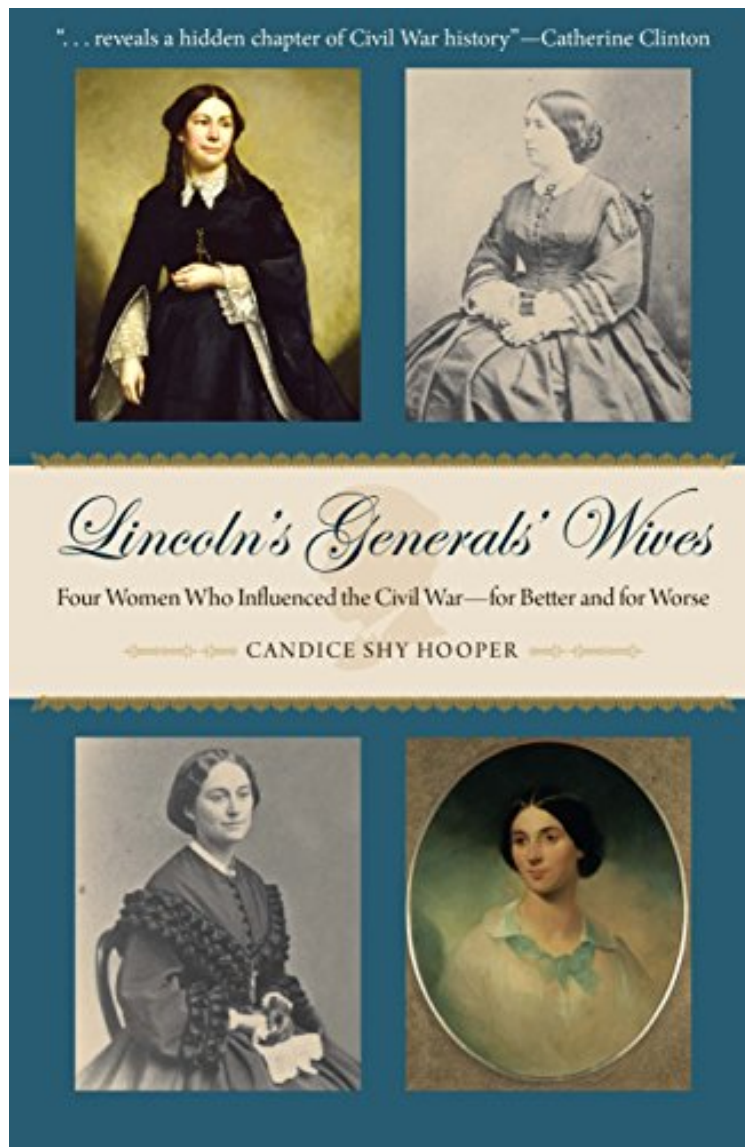


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## Lincoln's Generals' Wives: Four Women Who Influenced the Civil War--for Better and for Worse (Civil War in the North)

*Candice Shy Hooper*

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**Candice Shy Hooper : Lincoln's Generals' Wives: Four Women Who Influenced the Civil War--for Better and for Worse (Civil War in the North)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lincoln's Generals' Wives: Four Women Who Influenced the Civil War--for Better and for Worse (Civil War in the North):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy SEHAmazing research and interesting stories. Brings history and its complex female characters to life.7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Fabulous read ! Who knew the civil war could be so compellingBy H.J. GradWhat a wonderful book. While well researched and documented, it tells a tale never heard before. Behind every great man there is a woman. Which- may or not be the case amount these four couples. Big book and I couldn't put it down !0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. General's WivesBy DThis is an important book for anyone who is interested in the civil war. Most of the factual books about women are about caring for the wounded service men or masquerading as men so they could fight. This one is different in that it shows that even in a society that women had very little power financially or politically, they found ways to influence the war's outcome.

The story of the American Civil War is not complete without examining the extraordinary and influential lives of Jessie Frmont, Nelly McClellan, Ellen Sherman, and Julia Grant, the wives of Abraham Lincolns top generals. They were their husbands closest confidantes and had a profound impact on the generals ambitions and actions. Most important, the womens own attitudes toward and relation- ships with Lincoln had major historical significance.Candice Shy Hoopers lively account covers the early lives of her subjects, as well as their families, their education, their political attitudes, and their personal beliefs. Once shots were fired on Fort Sumter, the women were launched out of their private spheres into a wholly different universe, where their relationships with their husbands and their personal opinions of the president of the United States had national and historical consequences.The approaches and styles of Frmont and McClellan contrast with those of Sherman and Grant, and there is equal symmetry in their wives stories. Jessie Frmont and Nelly McClellan both encouraged their husbands to persist in their arrogance and delusion and to reject the advice and friendship of their commander in chief. In the end, Jessie and Nelly contributed most to the Union war effort by accelerating their husbands removal from active command. Conversely, while Ellen Shermans and Julia Grants belief in their husbands character and potential was ardent, it was not unbounded. Ellen and Julia did not hesitate to take issue with their spouses when they believed their actions were wrong or their judgments ill-advised. They intelligently supported their husbands best instinctsincluding trust in and admiration for Lincolnand re-buffed their worst. They were the source of strength that Sherman and Grant used to win the Civil War.Relying on a close reading of letters, memoirs, and other primary sourcesand, for the first time, mapping the womens wartime travelsHooper explores the very different ways in which these remarkable women responded to the unique challenges of being Lincolns generals wives.

From the Inside FlapThe story of the Civil War is incomplete without examining the extraordinary and influential lives of four women who influenced their husbandsJesse Fremont, Nelly McClellan, Ellen Sherman, and Julia Grant. They were their husband's closest confidantes and had a profound impact on their ambitions and actions. And, these women's attitudes toward and relationship with Lincoln had major historical significance. Relying on a close reading of letters, memoirs, and other primary sourcesand for the first time, mapping the women's wartime travels the author explores the very different ways in which these women responded to the unique challenge of being Lincoln's generals' wives.About the AuthorCandice Shy Hoopers writing has been published in The Journal of Military History and The New York Times. She received her M.A. in history from The George Washington University and is a member of the Board of Advisors of President Lincolns Cottage in Washing- ton, D.C., and of the advisory board of the Ulysses S. and Julia D. Grant Historical Home in Detroit, Michigan.