# The Extraordinary Story of Jennie Hodgers: A Union Soldier in Disguise

In the annals of American history, the Civil War stands as a pivotal conflict that tested the nation's resolve and shaped its destiny. Amidst the thunder of canons and the horrors of battle, countless stories of bravery and sacrifice emerged, including the remarkable tale of Jennie Hodgers, a woman who defied societal norms and fought for the Union while disguised as a man.



#### My Last Skirt: The Story of Jennie Hodgers, Union

**Soldier** by Lynda Durrant

★★★★★ 4.3 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 191 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 209 pages



#### A Woman with a Heart of a Soldier

Born in 1839 in Pennsylvania, Jennie Hodgers grew up in a time when gender roles were strictly defined and women's opportunities were severely limited. From a young age, she possessed an adventurous spirit and a strong desire to contribute to her country. When the Civil War broke out in 1861, Jennie felt an irresistible pull to serve.



#### **Breaking the Barriers of Gender**

Recognizing that society would not tolerate a woman fighting on the front lines, Jennie resolved to disguise herself as a man. She cut her hair short, bound her breasts, and adopted the name Albert Cashier. With a keen eye for detail and an unwavering resolve, she meticulously crafted a new identity that would allow her to join the fight.

In 1862, Albert Cashier enlisted in the 95th Illinois Infantry Regiment. As a soldier, Jennie proved to be both courageous and resourceful. She fought alongside her fellow comrades, enduring the hardships of camp life and the horrors of battle with unwavering determination.

#### A Secret Well-Kept

For four long years, Jennie Hodgers' secret remained undiscovered. She navigated the dangers of combat, maintaining her disguise with astonishing skill. Her fellow soldiers never suspected that Albert Cashier was actually a woman, and she earned their respect and admiration for her bravery and comradeship.

Jennie's secret was so well-guarded that even after the war, she continued to live as Albert Cashier. She worked as a farmhand and later as a custodian at a courthouse, all the while concealing her true identity. It was not until years after her death in 1915 that her remarkable story came to light.

#### A Legacy of Courage and Determination

The discovery of Jennie Hodgers' secret sent shockwaves through the nation. Her story inspired countless people and challenged the deeply ingrained gender norms of the time. Jennie's unwavering courage, determination, and willingness to break barriers became a symbol of women's strength and resilience.

Today, Jennie Hodgers is remembered as a pioneer and a true American hero. Her legacy lives on, reminding us that even in the face of adversity, it is possible to overcome prejudice and achieve one's dreams. Her story continues to inspire generations, proving that true heroism knows no gender.



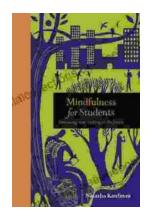
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