

45TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION
**The Personal Memiors
of Julia Dent Grant**
(Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant)
Edited by John Y. Simon

“Certainly this book is a **literary and historic find, an engrossing book that reaffirms what historians have long known**—that Julia and her famous husband had a loving and richly supportive relationship.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

“Her charm, which is perhaps best expressed in the rambling conversational style of the book, is such that the reader is left with a sense of great loss at not having had the opportunity to have made Mrs. Grant’s acquaintance.”

—*Chicago Tribune*

“She spins a story of romantic love, of happiness, of contentment, and there is no reason to doubt that she worked hard to make this possible both for herself and ‘my dear Ulys.’”

—*New York Times*

“**Julia Dent Grant’s memoirs are just perfect.** This book combines history, love, personal insights, and a unique feminine viewpoint with one of America’s most turbulent eras.”

—*West Coast Review of Books*

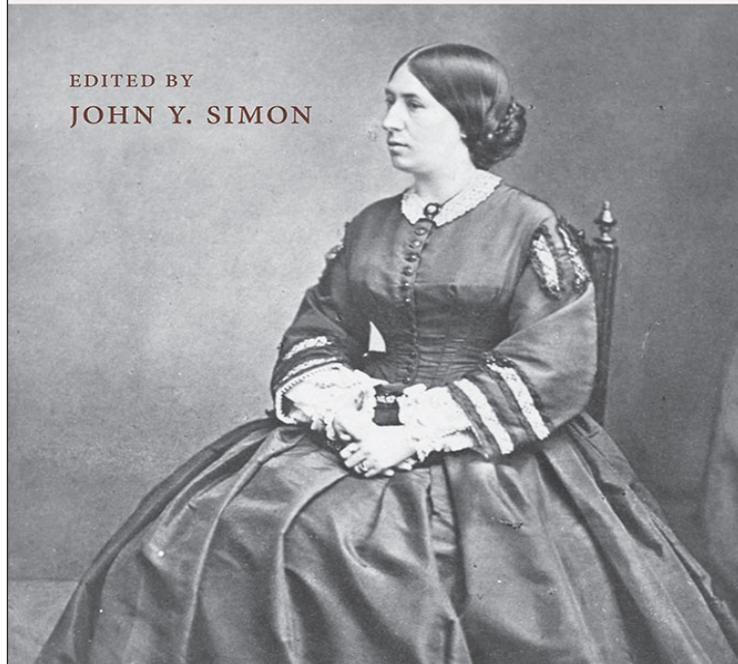
“Whatever happened to the old-fashioned love story? Well, you will find it in full bloom in *The Personal Memoirs of Julia Dent Grant*, edited by John Y. Simon. That is only one facet of the book.”

—*Wall Street Journal*

THE PERSONAL MEMOIRS OF
Julia Dent Grant

(Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant)

EDITED BY
JOHN Y. SIMON



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CARBONDALE

A story of enduring love

Written early in the twentieth century for her children and grandchildren and first published in 1975, these eloquent memoirs detail the life of General Ulysses S. Grant's wife. First Lady Julia Dent Grant wrote her reminiscences with the vivacity and charm she exhibited throughout her life, telling her story in the easy flow of an afternoon conversation with a close friend. She writes fondly of White Haven, a plantation in St. Louis County, Missouri, where she had an idyllic girlhood and later met Ulysses.

In addition to relating the joys she experienced, Grant tells about the difficult and sorrowful times. Her anecdotes give fascinating glimpses into the years of the American Civil War. One recounts the night President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated. Grant insisted she and her husband turn down an invitation to the theater. Her decision saved her husband's life: like Lincoln, he too had been marked for assassination.

Throughout these memoirs, which she ends with her husband's death, Grant seeks to introduce her descendants to both her and the man she loved. She also strives to correct misconceptions that were circulated about him. She wanted posterity to share her pride in this man, whom she saw as one of America's greatest heroes. Her book is a testament to their devoted marriage.

This forty-fifth-anniversary edition includes a new foreword by John F. Marszalek and Frank J. Williams, a new preface by Pamela K. Sanfilippo, the original foreword by Bruce Catton, the original introduction by editor John Y. Simon, recommendations for further reading, and more than twenty photographs of the Grants, their children, and their friends.

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John Y. Simon (1933–2008), was a professor of history at Southern Illinois University and the executive director and managing editor for thirty-one of the thirty-two-volumes that comprise *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant*, for which he was awarded the prestigious Lincoln Prize. He wrote four books, edited several essay collections, and wrote dozens of journal articles and book chapters.