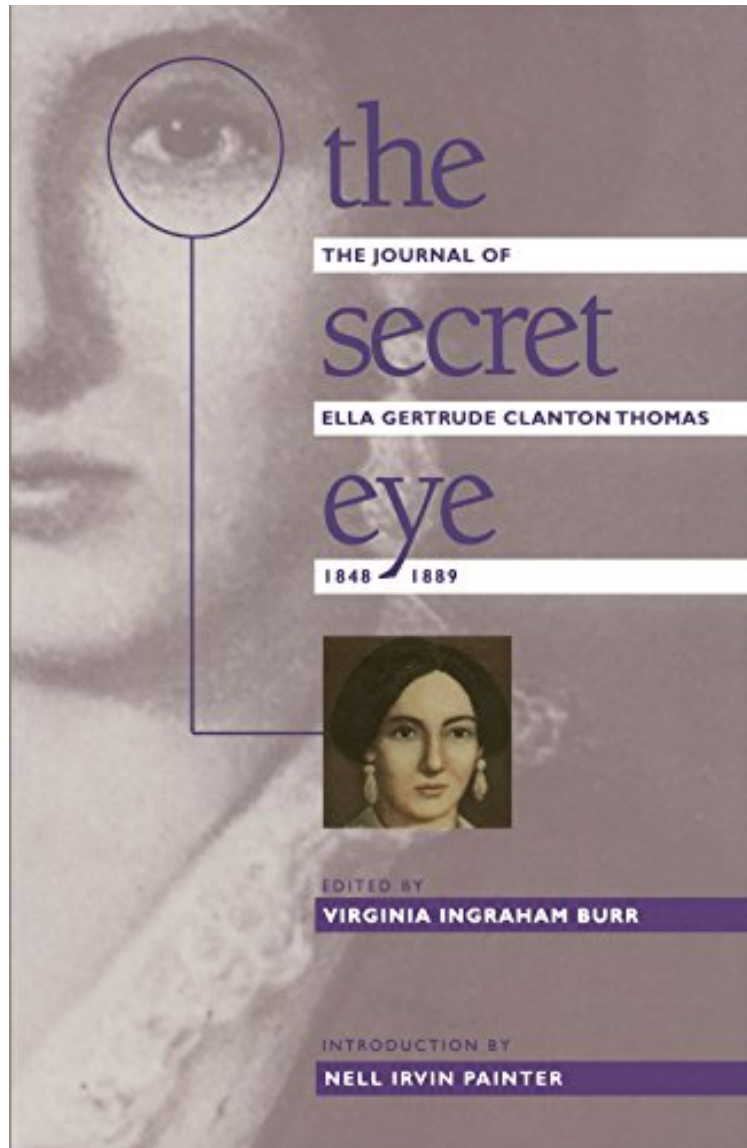


[Mobile ebook] The Secret Eye: The Journal of Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas, 1848-1889 (Gender and American Culture)

## The Secret Eye: The Journal of Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas, 1848-1889 (Gender and American Culture)

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**Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas : The Secret Eye: The Journal of Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas, 1848-1889 (Gender and American Culture)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Secret Eye: The Journal of Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas, 1848-1889 (Gender and American Culture):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. ILLUMINATINGBy henry lindsayMy mother was born and raised in Augusta Ga. That's what drew my initial interest to this book. Plus, the fact that Nell Painter (a gifted historian and writer) added her intellect to the introduction/overview, sealed the deal. The book was a real eye/mind opener in helping me to understand the mindset of the slave owning planter (read 1% elite) population of this country. Religion and class seemed to authorize and justify her (Mrs. E Thomas) deep seated racist convictions. Did her god create negroes to serve rich whites? They seemed to think so, absolutely and without contradiction. She felt betrayed (imagine that), at the end of the civil war, when her 'servants', many of whom had been trained as craftsmen, on her plantations, left to seek skilled wages. Worth noting also was her fear/resentment of the beautiful mulattoes, whom she felt had a sexual advantage, over proper white women and, who (now that the war had ended in defeat) could now be educated... ('how many white gentlemen would be left for her daughters to marry') The socio/economic conditions of the deep south were very slow in changing because of governmental betrayals (after Reconstruction) to the ex-slaves and some of the choices the ex-slaves and the ex-slave-owners made.....; the blacks called on Jesus, and the whites called on Smith and Wesson; (Malcolm X) FUTURE GENERATIONS OF HOMO SAPIENS WILL READ THIS BOOK AND EXPERIENCE A GLIMPSE OF THE RACIAL HYSTERIA AND THE CONTRADICTIONS THAT SHAPED OUR EARLY AMERICAN CULTURE

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Peppermint PattiBeing a Thomas, I found this book especially interesting!

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great historyBy Phyllis SwainBeing from Augusta GA is what attracted me to this book. My mother in law is a great history buff and an avid diary writer herself. It was the perfect gift for her!

The journal of Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas, spanning the years from 1848 to 1889, is rare for its treatment of both the Civil War and postbellum years and for its candor and detail in treating these eras. Thomas, who was born to wealth and privilege and reared in the tradition of the southern belle, tells of the hard days of war and the poverty brought on by emancipation and Reconstruction. Her entries illuminate experiences shared with thousands of other southern women.

From Library Journal Few diaries by Southern women are as rich as Thomas's account, which marks the transition of a plantation mistress to a school teacher and political activist, thereby charting the change from the Old South to the New. This abridged version, with a superb introductory essay on Southern women as diarists by Nell Painter, offers the most sustained female commentary on many subjects--marriage, religion, slavery, war, women's emotional and physical burdens, and more. Especially revealing are Thomas's observations during the fall and adjustment of the planter class and her preoccupation with slavery's effects on male-female relations and identities. Though she lived most of her life in Augusta, Georgia, Thomas's is an almost universal voice of Southern white women chafing against slavery, male-dominated institutions, and the spiritual and material poverty of the postwar South. This is a real Scarlett O'Hara, with grit. Highly recommended.--Randall M. Miller, St. Joseph's Univ., Philadelphia Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. An involving and intriguing addition to the personal histories of the period. "Kirkus s" An unusually rich insight into a crucial period of social change. "Maryland Historical Magazine" "Few diaries by Southern women are as rich as Thomas's account. This is a real Scarlett O'Hara, with grit." "Library Journal" "A rare, continuous picture. Elizabeth Fox-Genovese, author of "Within the Plantation Household: Black and White Women of the Old South" "Few diaries by Southern women are as rich as Thomas's account. This is a real Scarlett O'Hara, with grit." "Library Journal" A rare, continuous picture. Elizabeth Fox-Genovese, author of "Within the Plantation Household: Black and White Women of the Old South" Fascinating. "Publishers Weekly" A rare, continuous picture of one privileged slaveholding woman's response to the crumbling of her world in the trauma of war and its aftermath. This dramatic and moving personal story offers an important perspective on the death of the Old South and the birth of the New.--Elizabeth Fox-Genovese, author of Within the Plantation Household: Black and White Women of the Old South An involving and intriguing addition to the personal histories of the period . . . told by a privileged woman who gathered strength and independence from disaster.--Kirkus s Few diaries by Southern women are as rich as Thomas's account. . . . This is a real Scarlett O'Hara, with grit.--Library Journal In this fascinating abridged journal, a Southern belle shows that the events portrayed in *Gone with the Wind* were much less romantic in real life.--Publishers Weekly The readability, the sustained interest of this diary, with its keen observations and full detail and its continuing concern with social justice, offers an unusually rich insight into a crucial period of social change.--Maryland Historical Magazine