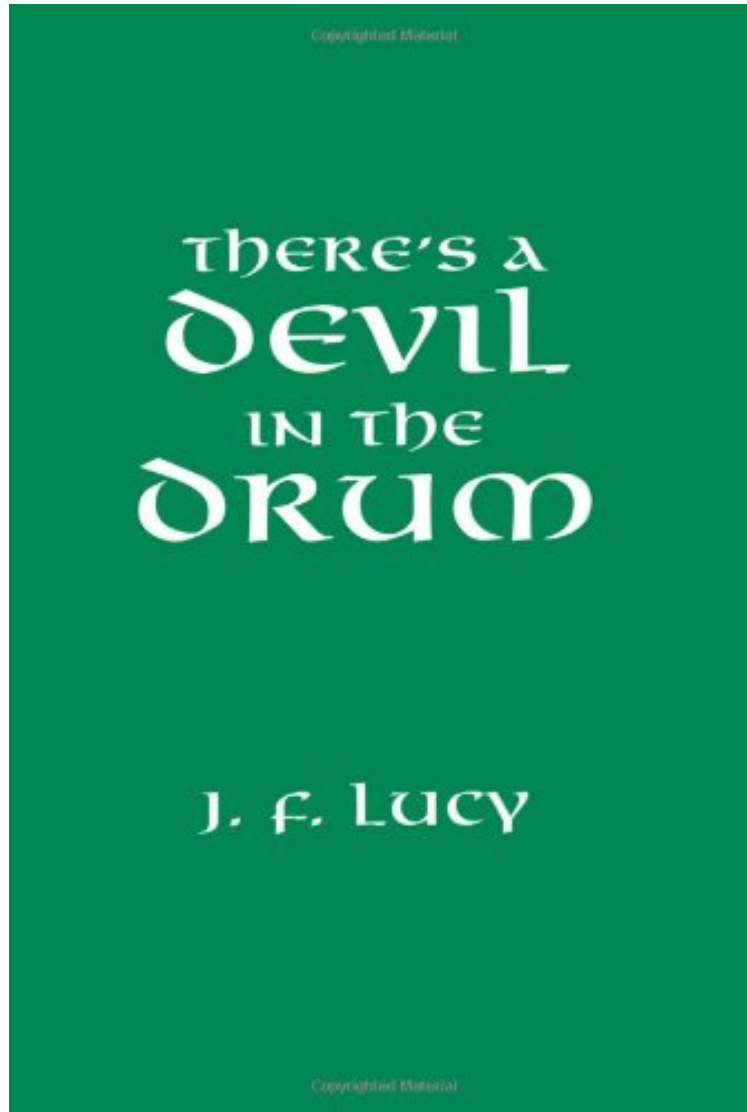


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## There's A Devil In The Drum: There's A Devil In The Drum

*John F. Lucy*

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**John F. Lucy : There's A Devil In The Drum: There's A Devil In The Drum** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised There's A Devil In The Drum: There's A Devil In The Drum:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Riveting Diary of an Irish Soldier's Experience in WWIBy SkidzFurgesonFascinating story about Irish soldier John Francis Lucy who fought and kept a journal during the beginning through the end of WWI.John is a hero, and a man of valor, with bravery, honor, and a reverent spirit. The stories he tells are the most gruesome and terrible scenarios built out of turn of the century nightmares, but it is all true.

After reading this novel I have had even more admiration for the brave men who fought in The Great War. As an American, we aren't taught nearly enough about this War and it's impacts, John Lucy's experience will stay with me forever, as a reminder and appreciation for the sacrifices our European brothers made. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great first hand account By Edward L. Semler I have read many autobiographies of World War 1 and this is one of the best. It is well written and the author has the unusual fortune to make it almost through the entire war; An almost unheard of accomplishment by a front line soldier. A must read! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Read By William This book was enthralling; I couldn't put it down. A very candid glimpse from a point of view that one doesn't get from military history text books. It is a definite must to supplement one's study of the Great War, and accessible enough for a novice at history, like myself.

John Lucy, an Irishman from Cork, enlisted in an Ulster regiment, The Royal Irish Rifles, with his younger brother in January 1912, and after six months at the Depot they joined the 2nd Bn in Dover. Subsequently they moved to Tidworth where the battalion was on 4 August 1914, in 7th Bde 3rd Division; ten days later they were in France. There follow brilliant accounts of Mons, Le Cateau and the retreat to the Marne, the turn of the tide and the Battle of the Aisne where his brother was killed. The battalion was involved in desperate fighting in front of Neuve Chapelle in October 1914, losing 181 killed in four days and virtually ceasing to exist, reduced to two officers and 46 men. Brought up to strength it suffered the same fate at First Ypres. This is a superb book, one of the best written by a 'ranker', all the better for being one of the very few to describe those early battles of 1914. As a critic wrote in 1938, 'it is easily the best [war book] written by an Irishman' - arguably still true. A great bonus is the description of life in the ranks in that long long ago just before the Great War.