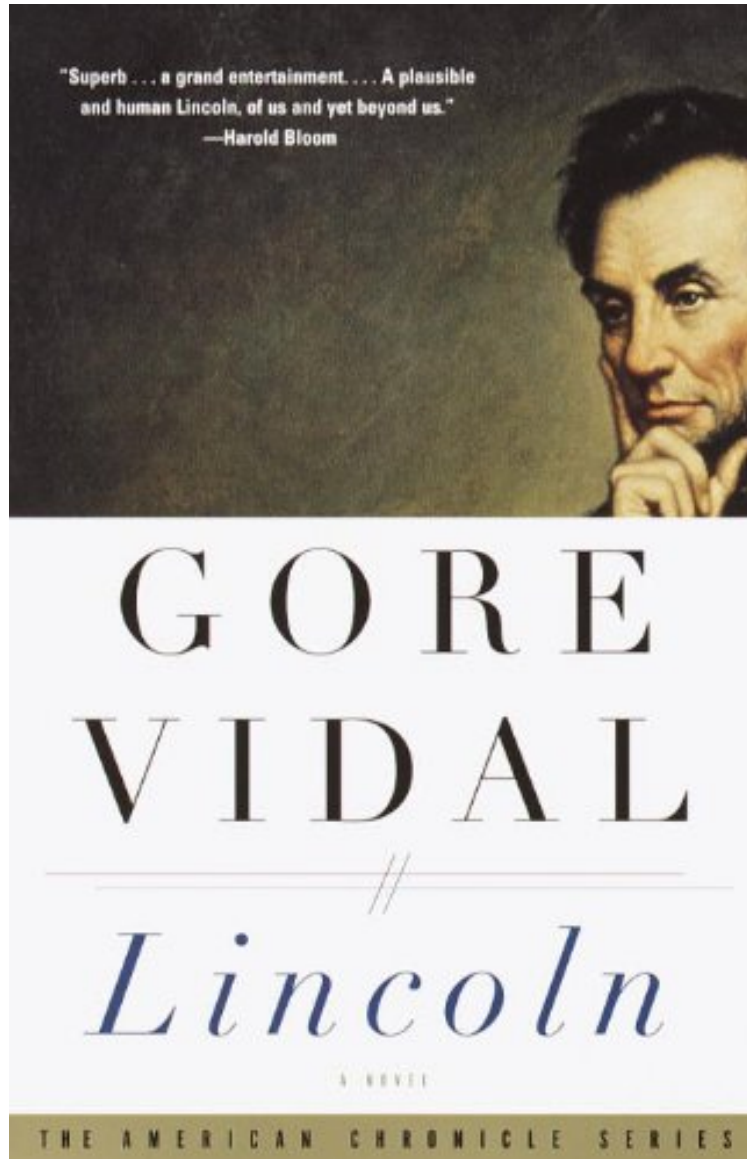


[Download pdf] Lincoln: A Novel (Vintage International)

Lincoln: A Novel (Vintage International)

Von Gore Vidal

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Von Gore Vidal : Lincoln: A Novel (Vintage International) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lincoln: A Novel (Vintage International):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Quite close to brillianceVon Ein KundeI have mixed emotions regarding Gore Vidal's Lincoln. Though it is, in fact, a great book, I simply don't feel it is quite as good as Burr. Does that mean I should knock it down a star to compensate? I felt I must, otherwise how could I differentiate the fact that I felt Burr to be the better book?Lincoln is a near-perfect

historical account of the heretofore little-known goings-on in the Lincoln White House. It illuminates quite brilliantly both the parties that occupied the White House during this period and those who would usurp it. On the other hand, it does little to shed light on the parties that actually fought the Civil War. Having only a very general knowledge of that war, I found it difficult to keep track of the importance of a certain battle or situation being mentioned, and I frequently found myself realizing that I was on the losing end of an inside joke. For all that, however, I came away from the book enlightened regarding Lincoln the man and those that were closest to him, which was the primary intention of the book. Historical fiction holds the possibility of both entertaining and enlightening perhaps more than any other form of literature, and no one does it better than Gore Vidal. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. This book is thin and unfocused. Von Ein Kunde After reading the reviews on this page, I was looking forward to reading this book. However, after getting about four hundred pages into it, I was completely dissatisfied and frustrated. The book spends way too much time exploring what I perceive to be completely irrelevant storylines (i.e., the courtship of Kate Chase, daughter of the Secretary of the Treasury), yet deals with such events as the debacle at Fredericksburg with literally one passing line. Maybe I'm missing something, but this book seems to be more written toward being a made-for-TV miniseries than great historical fiction. I believe the only reason I gave this book even two stars is because I have an interest in the subject matter. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Lincoln a worthwhile read Von flabbergaster I heard Gore Vidal give a talk / interview on NPR one Saturday afternoon when I was driving around Berkeley... I stopped and parked to listen. Thoughtful, witty, knowledgeable man. He said his historical fiction is based closely on truth and that it's an attempt to bring the real history of the nation to the reader... at a level which isn't at all touched upon in history class. I think that he came through with his promise. Lincoln shows the complex politics at play. Overall, this book is definitely recommended. What it misses, I think, is a fair sense of the abolitionist movement. Yes, Lincoln was cagey, and probably did care more about keeping the Union together than he did about freeing the slaves. But there are characters who are staunch abolitionists, but instead of letting the reader get a feel for the passion in the movement, the movement is given no eloquent voice. Indeed, Secretary of Treasury Chase is supposedly a staunch abolitionist, but we never see any side of this... we are only told. The side we see is a power-grubbing fool. Surely there was more than that, surely Vidal could do a little bit better to bring us the flavor of the times, to learn who was doing the acting. I feel like he did this for events within the White House, but why couldn't there be just a little more depth about the war and about abolition?

Kurzbeschreibung Lincoln is the cornerstone of Gore Vidal's fictional American chronicle, which includes Burr, 1876, Washington, D.C., Empire, and Hollywood. It opens early on a frozen winter morning in 1861, when President-elect Abraham Lincoln slips into Washington, flanked by two bodyguards. The future president is in disguise, for there is talk of a plot to murder him. During the next four years there will be numerous plots to murder this man who has sworn to unite a disintegrating nation. Isolated in a ramshackle White House in the center of a proslavery city, Lincoln presides over a fragmenting government as Lee's armies beat at the gates. In this profoundly moving novel, a work of epic proportions and intense human sympathy, Lincoln is observed by his loved ones and his rivals. The cast of characters is almost Dickensian: politicians, generals, White House aides, newspapermen, Northern and Southern conspirators, amiably evil bankers, and a wife slowly going mad. Vidal's portrait of the president is at once intimate and monumental, stark and complex, drawn with the wit, grace, and authority of one of the great historical novelists. With a new Introduction by the author. From the Hardcover edition. de Lincoln is a masterwork of historical fiction, in which Gore Vidal combines a comprehensive knowledge of Civil War America with 20th-century literary technique, probing the minds and motives of the men surrounding Abraham Lincoln, including personal secretary John Hay and scheming cabinet members William Seward and Salmon P. Chase, as well as his wife, Mary Todd. It is a book monumental in scope that never loses sight of the intimate and personal in its depiction of the power struggles that accompanied Lincoln's efforts to preserve the Union at all costs--efforts in which the eradication of slavery was far from the president's main objective. As usual, there's plenty of room for Vidal's wickedly humorous deflation of American icons, including a comic interlude in a Washington bordello in which Lincoln's former law partner informs Hay that Lincoln had contracted syphilis as a young man and had, just before marrying Mary Todd, suffered what can only be described as a nervous breakdown. (Protestors should note that Vidal is only passing along what that former partner had written in his own biography of Lincoln.) Don't be intimidated by the size of Lincoln; if you like historical fiction, you should read this book at the first opportunity. --Ron Hogan.com Lincoln is a masterwork of historical fiction, in which Gore Vidal combines a comprehensive knowledge of Civil War America with 20th-century literary technique, probing the minds and motives of the men surrounding Abraham Lincoln, including personal secretary John Hay and scheming cabinet members William Seward and Salmon P. Chase, as well as his wife, Mary Todd. It is a book monumental in scope that never loses sight of the intimate and personal in its depiction of the power struggles that accompanied Lincoln's efforts to preserve the Union at all costs--efforts in which the eradication of slavery was far from the president's main objective. As usual, there's plenty of room for Vidal's wickedly humorous deflation of

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