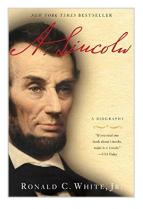
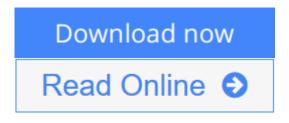
# A. Lincoln: A Biography



By Ronald C. White Jr.



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"If you read one book about Lincoln, make it A. Lincoln."-USA Today

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Most enlightening, the Abraham Lincoln who comes into focus in this stellar narrative is a person of intellectual curiosity, comfortable with ambiguity, unafraid to "think anew and act anew."

A transcendent, sweeping, passionately written biography that greatly expands

our knowledge and understanding of its subject, *A. Lincoln* will engage a whole new generation of Americans. It is poised to shed a profound light on our greatest president just as America commemorates the bicentennial of his birth.

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# **Editorial Review**

#### From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. In this excellent biography, veteran historian White emphasizes that Lincoln was our most likable major president, lacking Washington's aloofness and the deviousness of FDR and Jefferson. Many young men from the frontier overcame the handicaps of poverty and minimal education, but, White says, Lincoln did better than most, becoming floor leader in the Illinois legislature by age 30 and a prosperous lawyer. Contrary to the common view that Lincoln was a dark-horse for the 1860 presidential nomination after a single, undistinguished term in the House of Representatives, White stresses that Lincoln was an experienced politician, popular throughout Illinois, and known to national leaders. Few Republicans thought they had chosen badly. The author makes good use of Lincoln's voluminous private papers and those of his contemporaries to paint a vivid picture of Lincoln's thoughts as he matured and then guided the nation through the four worst years of its existence. White knows his subject cold and writes lucid prose, so readers choosing this as their Lincoln bicentennial reading will not go wrong. Illus., maps, photos. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

#### From Bookmarks Magazine

Having already written two books on Abraham Lincoln, Ronald C. White, Jr., understands better than most the challenges in bringing a fresh perspective to the most scrutinized president in American history. With 16,000 books, and counting, on Lincoln (as well as several dozen more in the period before the bicentennial celebration of his birth), the ground that remains to be covered is disappearing before scholars' eyes. But White, who draws on his own thorough research of the recently available Lincoln Legal Papers and plenty of other new material, stakes his turf. His weighty, yet readable, tome compares favorably to the popular histories of Doris Kearns Goodwin (*Team of Rivals*) and David McCullough (*John Adams, Truman, The Great Bridge*), making *A. Lincoln* a fine and useful addition to the growing canon of Lincolniana.Copyright 2009 Bookmarks Publishing LLC

#### From **Booklist**

A scholar of Lincoln's rhetoric (Lincoln's Greatest Speech, 2002), White offers the full-bodied Lincoln biography, the most recent example of which was David Herbert Donald's highly praised Lincoln (1995). Donald's intent was to craft a definitive portrait of Lincoln's enigmatic personality, while White aims for a chronological narrative of Lincoln's public activity. White adheres to a factual tone rather than trying to figure Lincoln out à la Donald. This is an important need for readers seeking the arc of Lincoln's life (rather than an interpretation of it) and is one that White ably fulfills. Recounting Lincoln's beginnings, White informs readers about the importance of Lincoln's stepmother; the rapidity with which Lincoln, once emancipated from his father, gained political standing in Sangamon County, Illinois, in the 1830s; and the rise of his reputation through descriptions of numerous election campaigns that Lincoln conducted from his power base. Capped by his account of Lincoln's Civil War presidency, White's book provides a solid informational foundation. --Gilbert Taylor

#### **Users Review**

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#### **Dennis Byrd:**

Here thing why that A. Lincoln: A Biography are different and dependable to be yours. First of all reading

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