

The Essential Abraham Lincoln

Biography • Speeches • Letters

Written and compiled by Garrick Hagon and Peter Whitfield
Read by Peter Marinker and Garrick Hagon

Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865) was one of the most influential presidents of the USA, uniting the country and abolishing slavery after a terrible civil war. On the 200th anniversary of his birth, his life and works are presented here in accessible form. The story of his remarkable rise from a poor farming background to triumph in one of the most challenging presidencies in US history, and sudden tragic death, is told on CD 1. A varied selection of his major speeches is on CD 2, including *The House Divided* and *The Gettysburg Address*. CD 3 contains a revealing collection of letters: forthright, intimate, caring and direct, they demonstrate his natural eloquence and humanity. This portrait shows Lincoln to be a man of principle, with keen intelligence balanced by vision and determination – certainly one of the most outstanding men in American history.

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