

## Chapter 1 : Assassination of Abraham Lincoln - Wikipedia

*President Abraham Lincoln's opera glasses, which he used on the night of his assassination at Ford's Theatre, April 14, The presidential party arrived late and settled into their box, which was actually two boxes with a dividing partition removed.*

The stage actor fatally shot Lincoln in the back of the head, triggering a manhunt for the murderer and his conspirators and a long period of national mourning. Read on to learn five surprising anecdotes about the 16th president of the United States and his assassin. During the play, according to Holzer, Booth would direct many of his villainous speeches directly toward the presidential box, prompting a theater companion to tell Lincoln: He lay in wait as Lincoln came out of the Senate chamber to head out to the portico to deliver his second inaugural address. Booth lunged beyond the stanchions with a crazed look in his eyes, according to the person who stopped him. Holzer says that was a moment when Booth may have shot Lincoln at close range. Photographs of the inauguration show Booth lurking in an upper balcony watching Lincoln give one of his most renowned speeches. President Abraham Lincoln is seen in a stereo photo card from the archives of the Library of Congress taken by U. In the speech, Lincoln declared that the time had come to give voting rights to African-Americans, becoming the first president in American history to make such a proposition. On the White House lawn listening to the speech was Booth and one of his co-conspirators. Booth also wanted to kill Ulysses S. Grant on April 14, This is an undated photo of a sketch of Gen. Grant and his wife. The announcement was welcome news to Booth. Accordingly, the Grants declined the invitation, saying they had planned to visit their children in New Jersey. Grant was confident that the latter would have happened. Lincoln had a compressed wound in his head and doctors had to stick their fingers in the wound so that he could breathe again. The wound was certainly fatal, doctors said, but there was very little blood. The man closest to Lincoln when he was mortally wounded, Major Henry Rathbone, would also be attacked by Booth. Rathbone, a military officer who was accompanying the daughter of a senator at the theater, tried to stop the assassin from escaping the presidential box. Instead, Booth slashed Rathbone in the arm with a Bowie knife, opening an artery.

Chapter 2 : The assassination of President Lincoln, 14 April | US news | The Guardian

*By Kaleena Fraga. On April 14th, Abraham Lincoln was shot in the head by John Wilkes Booth. This much is well known. But the plot to kill the president was larger than two men, and it struck Washington with such force that it left more than one casualty.*

Sewardâ€™the president and two of his possible successorsâ€™would throw the U. The Lincolns arrived late for the comedy, but the president was reportedly in a fine mood and laughed heartily during the production. The Lincoln Assassination At first, the crowd interpreted the unfolding drama as part of the production, but a scream from the first lady told them otherwise. Although Booth broke his leg in the fall, he managed to leave the theater and escape from Washington on horseback. He found the president slumped in his chair, paralyzed and struggling to breathe. Several soldiers carried Lincoln to a boardinghouse across the street and placed him on a bed. When the surgeon general arrived at the house, he concluded that Lincoln could not be saved and would probably die during the night. The first lady lay on a bed in an adjoining room with her eldest son Robert at her side, overwhelmed with shock and grief. Finally, Lincoln was pronounced dead at 7: Three days later, his remains were boarded onto a train that conveyed him to Springfield, Illinois , where he had lived before becoming president. Lincoln and his son, Willie, who died in the White House of typhoid fever in , were interred on May 4, , at Oak Ridge Cemetery near Springfield. John Wilkes Booth Flees As the nation mourned, Union soldiers were hot on the trail of John Wilkes Booth, who many in the audience had immediately recognized. After fleeing the capital, he and an accomplice, David Herold, made their way across the Anacostia River and headed toward southern Maryland. They then sought refuge from Thomas A. Jones, a Confederate agent, before securing a boat to row across the Potomac to Virginia. On April 26, Union troops surrounded the Virginia farmhouse where Booth and Herold were hiding out and set fire to it, hoping to flush the fugitives out. Herold surrendered but Booth remained inside. As the blaze intensified, a sergeant shot Booth in the neck, allegedly because the assassin had raised his gun as if to shoot. Carried out of the building alive, Booth lingered for three hours before gazing at his hands and uttering his last words: They included David Herold and Mary Surratt , the first woman put to death by the federal government, whose boardinghouse had served as a meeting place for the would-be kidnappers.

**Chapter 3 : †Lincoln assassination: The other murder attempt - CBS News**

*On the evening of April 14, , John Wilkes Booth, a famous actor and Confederate sympathizer, assassinated President Abraham Lincoln at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C. The attack came only.*

Health Apr 14, 6: Yet on the morning of April 14, , the President awoke in an uncommonly good mood. Grant, the commanding General of the Union. The Lincolns invited Gen. Grant and his wife to attend the play with them. At a cabinet meeting later that morning, however, Gen. Grant informed President Lincoln that they would not be able to join the first couple and, instead, would be visiting their children in New Jersey. Even more ominous, the ornery Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton, pleaded with the President not to go out that evening for fear of a potential assassination. Stanton was hardly the only presidential advisor against the outing. Lincoln almost begged off, complaining of one of her all too frequent headaches. And even President Lincoln moaned about feeling exhausted as a result of his heavy presidential duties. Nevertheless, he insisted that an evening of comedy was just the tonic he and his wife required. Lincoln, confident that his bodyguards would protect him from any potential harm, shrugged off the warnings and invited Maj. Lithograph of the Assassination of Abraham Lincoln. From left to right: Rathbone is depicted as spotting Booth before he shot Lincoln and trying to stop him as Booth fired his weapon. Parker left his post outside the presidential box during intermission to satisfy an alcoholic craving at the nearby Star Saloon. The intruder, of course, was the actor and Confederate sympathizer John Wilkes Booth. Major Rathbone tried to tackle Booth down but the assassin overpowered him by slashing his arm with a dagger. He somehow managed to limp away and exit through the stage door, thus initiating one of the most intense manhunts in American history. Instead, it is the hours of agony the wounded president endured before finally succumbing early on the morning on April As members of the audience cried out that the president had been murdered and shouted pleas to catch and kill the escaping culprit, the first doctor to attend Lincoln was a year-old Army captain named Charles A. He had just received his medical degree six weeks earlier, on March 1, from the Bellevue Hospital Medical College in New York, widely regarded as one of the best in the nation. Sending out for some brandy and water, Dr. I placed my finger on his right radial pulse but could perceive no movement of the artery. This maneuver may seem shocking to a 21st century observer but in the days before doctors knew anything about microbiology, let alone sterile surgical technique, it was a common practice for examining gunshot wounds. Leale quickly determined that this was a mortal wound. By this time, two other doctors, C. There, he was taken upstairs to rest in the room of a Union soldier named William T. Clark, who was out for the evening. Leale wrote only a few hours after President Lincoln died. In fact, there are seven extant accounts by Leale, five dating from , one from , and another from Each version is similar, albeit each contains some variations and slight differences of terminology and tone. Yet many Lincoln scholars have deemed the Papaioannou document to be the most reliable version because it was written so closely after the actual events. The bed is a replica; the actual deathbed was acquired by the Chicago History Museum in The surgeons attempted to probe the wound by introducing surgical instruments and their unwashed hands into the bullet hole with the hope of extracting the lead ball and dislodged pieces of bone. The inspirations now became very short, and the expirations very prolonged and labored accompanied by a guttural sound. Leale again recorded what he observed: The Surgeon General Joseph K. Barnes now held his finger to the carotid artery, Col. Charles Crane held his head, Dr. Just three days before his death, Abraham Lincoln told bodyguard Ward Hill Lamon that he had a dream about a funeral that took place in the East Room of the White House. I slept no more that night; and although it was only a dream, I have been strangely annoyed by it ever since. Leale went on to a distinguished career as a physician, after an honorable discharge from the U. He married in , fathered six children, successfully practiced medicine and worked on a number of charitable causes in New York City until his retirement in at the age of But his greatest medical adventure occurred a mere few weeks after receiving his medical degree. That was the night and day, years ago, when Dr. Leale took care of the 16th President of the United States, who drew his final breath early on the morning of April 15, , because of the deranged act of a mad assassin. Howard Markel writes a monthly column for the PBS NewsHour, highlighting the anniversary of a

momentous event that continues to shape modern medicine. Painting of the death of President Abraham Lincoln, circa

**Chapter 4 : Last Surviving Witness of Lincoln's Assassination Recounted the Event in a s Game Show**

*The Assassination of President Lincoln April 14, Shortly after 10 p.m. on April 14, , actor John Wilkes Booth entered the presidential box at Ford's Theatre in Washington D.C., and fatally shot President Abraham Lincoln.*

Scene at the Deathbed of Mr. This evening at about 9: Harris and Major Rathburn, was shot by an assassin, who suddenly entered the box and approached behind the President. The assassin then leaped upon the stage brandishing a large dagger or knife, and made his escape in the rear of the theatre. The wound is mortal. The President has been insensible ever since it was inflicted, and is now dying. About the same hour an assassin, whether the same or not, entered Mr. The assassin immediately rushed to the bed and inflicted two or three stabs on the throat and two in the face. It is hoped the wounds may not be mortal. My apprehension is that they will prove fatal. The nurse alarmed Mr. The recovery of Frederick Seward is doubtful. It is not probable that the President will live through the night. At a Cabinet meeting, at which General Grant was present, the subject of the state of the country and the prospect of a speedy peace were discussed. The President was very cheerful and hopeful, and spoke very kindly of General Lee and other of the confederacy, and of the establishment of government in Virginia. All the members of the Cabinet except Seward, are now in attendance upon the President. I have seen Mr. Seward, but he and Frederick were both unconscious. The bowie knife and pistol have been applied to President Lincoln and Secretary Seward. Seward was badly cut about the neck, while in his bed-at his residence. Result not yet known. There is intense excitement here. The wildest excitement prevailed in all parts of the city. Men, women and children, old and young, rushed to and fro and the rumors were magnified until we had nearly every member of the Cabinet killed. Some time elapsed before authentic data could be ascertained in regard to the affair. The President and Mrs. At the close of the third act a person entered the box occupied by the President, and shot Mr. Lincoln in the head. The shot entered the back of his head, and came out above the temple. The assassin then jumped for the box upon the stage and ran across to the other side, exhibiting a dagger in his hand, flourishing it a tragical manner, shouting the same words repeated by the desperado at Mr. Lincoln fell forward from this seat, and Mrs. The moment the astonished audience could realize what had happened, the President was taken and carried to Mr. Medical aid was immediately sent for, and the wound was at first said to be fatal. The President is still alive, but in precarious condition. As the assassin ran across the stage, Colonel J. Stewart, of the city, who was occupying one of the front seats in the orchestra, on the [? Lincoln, sprang to the stage and followed him; but he was obstructed in his passage across the stage by the flight of the actors, and reached the back door about three seconds after the assassin had passed out. Colonel Stewart got to the street just in time to see him mount his horse and ride away. The operation showed that the whole thing was a preconcerted plan. The person who fired the pistol was a man about thirty years of age, about five feet nine, spare built, fair skin, dark hair apparently bushy, with a large mustache. Wilkes Booth the actor and secessionist. Whoever he was, it is plainly evident that he thoroughly understood the theatre and all the approaches and modes of escape to the stage. A person not familiar with the theatre could not have possibly made his escape [? The alarm was [? He was refused admssion by the servant when [the desperado? He was still refused except upon the written orders of the Physician. This he pretended to show, and pushed by the servant and rushed up to Mr. He was met at the door by Fred Seward, who notified him that he was master of house and would take charge of the [ It was supposed at first that Mr. Seward was killed instantly, but it was found afterwards that the wound was not mortal. The desperado managed to escape from the house, and was prepared for escape by having a horse at the door. He immediately mounted the horse, and sung out the motto of the State of Virginia, "Sic Semper Tyrannis! Surgean General Barnes was immediatley sent for, and he examined Mr. Seward and pronounced him safe. His wounds were not fatal. Washington, April A. A guard has been placed across Tenth street and F and E streets, and only official persons and particular friends of the President are allowed to pass. The popular heart is deeply stirred, and the deepest indignation against leading rebels is freely expressed. The scene at the house where the President lies in extremis is very affecting. Even Secretary Stanton is affected to tears. When the news spread throught the city that the President had been shot, the people, with pale faces and compressed

lips, crowded every place where there was the slightest chance of obtaining information in regard to the affair. After the President was shot, Lieutenant Rathbun, caught the assassin by the arm, who immediately struck him with a knife, and jumped from the box, as before stated. The popular affection for Mr. Lincoln has been shown by this diabolical assassination, which will bring eternal infamy, not only [ As soon as intelligence could be got to the War Department, the electric telegraph and the Signal corps were put in requisition to endeavor to prevent the escape of the assassins, and all the troops around Washington are under arms. Popular report points to a somewhat celebrated actor of known secession proclivities as the assassin; but it would be unjust to name him until some further evidence of his guilt is obtained. It is rumored that the person alluded to is in custody. The latest advices from Secretary Seward reveals more desperate work there than at first supposed. It was Clarence A. Seward, instead of Wm. Fred Seward was also badly cut, as were also three nurses, who were in attendance upon the Secretary, showing that a desperate struggle took place there. The wounds of the whole party were dressed. The President is perfectly senseless, and there is not the slightest hope of his surviving. Physicians believe that he will die before morning. All of his Cabinet, except Secretary Seward are with him. Speaker Colfax, Senator Farwell, of Maine, and many other gentlemen, are also at the house awaiting the termination. He was surrounded by his Cabinet ministers, all of whom were bathed in tears, not even excepting Mr. Stanson, who when informed by Surgeon General Barnes, that the President would not live until morning, exclaimed "Oh, no, General, no-no," and with an impulse natural as it was unaffected, immediately sat down on a chair near his bedside and wept like a child. He was sobbing like a woman, with his head bowed down almost on the pillow of the bed on which the President was lying. The President is still alive, but there is no improvement in his condition. Additional Details of the Assassination Washington, April It was announced in the papers that General Grant would also be presented; but the gentleman took the late train of cars for New Jersey. The Theatre was densely crowded, and all seemed delighted with the scene before them. The screams of Mrs. Lincoln first disclosed the fact to the audience that the President had been shot, when all present rose to their feet, rushing towards the stage, many exclaiming "Hang him! He was removed to a private home opposite to the theatre and a surgeon sent for to attend to his condition. On an examination of the private box blood was discovered on the back of the cushioned rocking chair on which the President had been sitting, also on the partition and on the floor. A common single barreled pocket pistol was found on the carpet. A military guard was placed in front of the private residence to which the President had been conveyed. An immense crowd was in front of it, all deeply anxious to learn the condition of the President. It had been previously announced that the wound was mortal, but all hoped otherwise. The shock to the community was terrible. The President was in a state of syncope, totally insensible, and breathing slowly. The blood oozed from the wound at the back of his head. The Surgeons exhausted every possible effort of medical skill; but all hope was gone. The parting of his family with the dying President is too sad for description. Speaker Colfax was at the White House at time and the President stated to him that he was going, Mrs. Lincoln had not been well, because the papers had announced that General Grant and they were to be present and as General Grant had gone North, he did not wish the audience to be disappointed. He went with apparent reluctance and urged Mr.

**Chapter 5 : Remembering Lincoln: Assassination Primary Sources | Remembering Lincoln**

*Washington, 14 April President Lincoln and wife, with other friends, this evening visited Ford's theatre, for the purpose of witnessing the performance of the "American Cousin".*

In a letter to his mother, he wrote of his desire to avenge the South. That is the last speech he will ever give. I kept on until I arrived at the East Room , which I entered. There I met with a sickening surprise. Before me was a catafalque , on which rested a corpse wrapped in funeral vestments. Around it were stationed soldiers who were acting as guards; and there was a throng of people, gazing mournfully upon the corpse, whose face was covered, others weeping pitifully. First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln felt such talk could bring bad luck. He wrote his mother that all was well, but that he was "in haste". In his diary, he wrote that "Our cause being almost lost, something decisive and great must be done". He also asked her to tell her tenant Louis J. Weichmann to ready the guns and ammunition that Booth had previously stored at the tavern. Herold to guide Powell who was unfamiliar with Washington to the Seward house and then to a rendezvous with Booth in Maryland. Crook , advised him not to go, but Lincoln said he had promised his wife. The play was interrupted and the orchestra played " Hail to the Chief " as the full house of some 1, rose in applause. It is unclear whether he returned to the theater, but he was certainly not at his post when Booth entered the box. He was still walking very slow and was near the box door when he stopped, took a card from his pocket, wrote something on it, and gave it to the usher who took it to the box. In a minute the door was opened and he walked in. Once through this door, which swung inward, Booth barricaded it by wedging a stick between it and the wall. There is evidence that, earlier in the day, Booth had bored a peephole in this second door, though this is not certain. Lincoln was laughing at this line when he was shot. As he began crossing the stage, many in the audience thought he was part of the play. Booth held his bloody knife over his head, and yelled something to the audience. While it is traditionally held that Booth shouted the Virginia state motto, Sic semper tyrannis! There is similar uncertainty about what Booth shouted, next, in English: Stewart climbed over the orchestra pit and footlights, and pursued Booth across the stage. Booth ran across the stage and exited through a side door, en route stabbing orchestra leader William Withers, Jr. As he leapt into the saddle Booth pushed Joseph Burroughs [d] the man holding the horse away, striking Burroughs with the handle of his knife. Rathbone, inside the door, soon noticed and removed the wooden brace with which Booth had jammed it shut. Meanwhile, another physician, Charles Sabin Taft , was lifted from the stage into the box. Leale, Taft, and another doctor, Albert King , decided that while Lincoln must be moved, a carriage ride to the White House was too dangerous. It rained as soldiers carried Lincoln into the street, [56] where a man urged them toward the house of tailor William Petersen. Surgeon General Joseph K. All agreed Lincoln could not survive. Barnes probed the wound, locating the bullet and some bone fragments. Stanton insisted that the sobbing Mary Lincoln leave the sick room, then for the rest of the night essentially ran the United States government from the house, including directing the hunt for Booth and his confederates. Later one of his eyes became swollen and the right side of his face discolored. On April 5 Seward had been thrown from his carriage, suffering a concussion, a broken jaw, and a broken arm. On the night of the assassination he was confined to bed at his home in Lafayette Park. Powell carried an Whitney revolver a large, heavy and popular gun during the Civil War and a Bowie knife. Seward , to whom he repeated the medicine story; Frederick, suspicious, said his father was asleep. Powell turned as if to start downstairs, but suddenly turned again and drew his revolver. As Augustus went for a pistol, Powell ran downstairs toward the door, [74]: Screams from the house had frightened Herold, who ran off, leaving Powell to find his own way in an unfamiliar city. He eventually became drunk and wandered off through the streets, tossing his knife away at some point. He made his way to the Pennsylvania House Hotel by 2 a. Are you at home? Grant called Lincoln "incontestably the greatest man I ever knew. Lincoln would come to such a horrible end, after having served his country which such wisdom and glory under so critical circumstances. Although it was forbidden for civilians to cross the bridge after 9 p. Mudd , a local doctor, who splinted the leg Booth had broken in jumping from the presidential box, and later made a pair of crutches for Booth. Garrett, a tobacco farmer, in King George County, Virginia. Booth told

Garrett he was a wounded Confederate soldier. Reward broadside with photographs of John H. Herold surrendered, but Booth cried out, "I will not be taken alive! Lincoln", [89] severing his spinal cord. A soldier poured water into his mouth, which he spat out, unable to swallow. Booth told the soldier, "Tell my mother I die for my country. He told detectives waiting there that he was a ditch-digger hired by Mary Surratt , but she denied knowing him. From there, he moved furtively through Europe until joining the Pontifical Zouaves in the Papal States.

**Chapter 6 : April 14, John Wilkes Booth and the Assassination of Abraham Lincoln**

*The Lincoln assassination, April 14, ;: Investigation of a President's murder uncovers a web of conspiracy (A Focus book) [Theodore Roscoe] on racedaydvl.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. Describes Lincoln's assassination, traces the disclosure of the murder conspiracy, and discusses the many clues that were never pursued which still.*

Henry Ford purchased the chair in for the Museum, where it remains one of the most revered objects associated with the "man who saved the Union. However, the comfortable rocking chair began to be used by ushers during their "down" time and the fabric became soiled by their hair oil. This stain is still visible on the back. Sometime in , Harry Ford had the chair moved to his apartment across the alley from the Theatre in a belated attempt to keep it clean. At some point, Mr. Ford began to supply the president and his party with comfortable seating furniture. Apparently, the president preferred this rocking chair, perhaps, due to his height. After the assassination, the Theatre and its contents was seized by the Federal government. After its seizure, the chair remained in the private office of the Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton. In , the chair was transferred to the Department of the Interior and then sent to the Smithsonian Institution and placed in storage. For all practical purposes, the chair vanished from the public for half a century. Documentation at the Smithsonian indicates that it was catalogued into the collection in . An unrelated Civil War event brought the red rocker back into the public eye. In the last year of the War, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, was captured and his personal belongings were seized by the government. In , the Davis heirs challenged the validity of this action. President Woodrow Wilson returned the items by executive order. As his widow and heir, she applied for return of her chair in November of that year. The precedent of the Davis disposition was recalled and by order of the War Department where it had originally been accessioned as a deposit the chair was ordered returned to its rightful owner, Blanche Ford. In the spring of the Curator of History at the Smithsonian delivered the rocker to her son. The purchaser was Israel Sack, the dean of antique American furniture dealers, and an agent of Henry Ford. Sack had observed that Ford delighted in furniture that had association with American historical figures. Sack, in turn, offered the chair to Mr. Ford, who purchased it and carefully documented its arrival in Greenfield Village in early . There, the chair resided in the Logan County, Illinois Court House where Lincoln practiced law as a circuit rider in the s. Ford had moved the Court House to Greenfield Village in the chair became the centerpiece of his Lincoln collection. By the early s, conservators recognized that the fragile silk upholstery was degrading, even though the chair was always displayed in an exhibit case, requiring action. In preparation for conservation, eleven fabric samples were analyzed to determine the composition of both the fabric and the stains on the upholstery. The results aided conservators and curators in determining which stains should be preserved and which could be removed to minimize damage to the upholstery. Microscopic analysis determined that calcium sulfate commonly known as plaster of Paris was present in many of the samples, including a large area on the base of the chair back and seat. This stain is consistent with documentation that suggests the chair was stored in a basement after the assassination and prior to its purchase by Mr. A preliminary test for blood using the reagent Benzidine yielded positive results in two areas--the front of the seat and near the upper portion of the back. More extensive testing would be required to provide additional information regarding its origin. In , following testing, museum conservators carefully cleaned the delicate silk fabric and removed some plaster stains using a tiny spatula. The upholstery was then covered with a thin polyester fabric attached with adhesive and tiny stitches in order to hold the fragile fragments of the fabric together. After treatment the newly conserved chair returned to exhibit in the Museum. In , the chair became a key artifact in a major exhibit on American freedom titled "With Liberty and Justice for All," where it may be seen today. They are drawn to it not simply because of its role at the center of a tragedy, but as symbol of a beloved president. There is a unique sense of awe and reverence that the chair provides. As such, this rocking chair personifies the sacrifice made by Abraham Lincoln in fashioning a more perfect Union.

**Chapter 7 : April 14th, On the Sidelines of Lincoln's Assassination – History First**

*Shortly after p.m. on April 14, , actor John Wilkes Booth entered the presidential box at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., and fatally shot President Abraham Lincoln. As Lincoln slumped forward in his seat, Booth leapt onto the stage and escaped out the back door.*

This much is well known. But the plot to kill the president was larger than two men, and it struck Washington with such force that it left more than one casualty. Along with Lincoln, the conspirators of the assassination sought to kill both the secretary of state, Seward, and the vice president. The president and his secretary of state, once political rivals, enjoyed a close relationship and partnership. Indeed, when Lincoln visited Seward after his carriage accident, he lay down in bed beside him, and recounted his recent journey to Richmond until Seward fell asleep. Powell claimed he had been sent by a doctor with medicine for Seward and that he must deliver it in person. It misfired, but Powell used it to clobber Fred, leaving him unconscious. Powell fled, stabbing a young State Department messenger on his way out of the house. Seward had been saved in part by the carriage accident that almost took his life. If he had been alive he would have been the first to call on me. A name largely forgotten by history, Surratt was the first woman ever to be executed by the U. Surratt grew up in a family that owned slaves and during the war she and her husband used their home as a safe house for Confederate soldiers. Her son Isaac fought for the Confederacy. Heavily in debt after the death of her husband, Surratt moved to Washington D. Her son John came too, and befriended a frequent visitor to the boarding house, John Wilkes Booth. On the night of the assassination the police came to the boarding house looking for both Booth and John Surratt, whom they suspected had participated in the failed assassination of William Henry Seward. Neither were there, but as the police were questioning Surratt, Lewis Powell showed up. Both Powell and Surratt were taken into custody—her son, John, fled and escaped to Canada. Surratt, that vile woman, she has ruined me! Powell also insisted that she had nothing to do with the conspiracy. Despite this, she was tried and convicted. On July 7th, she was hanged. Clara was a friend of Mary Todd Lincoln, and the two often went to the theater together. The Lincolns had originally invited Ulysses S. He barely survived, and later insisted that he was injured trying to intervene in an attack by someone else. He stayed there until the day in died in , refusing ever again to speak either of the assassination or of the murder of his wife. Atzerodt had rented a room in the same hotel, the Kirkwood House, where the vice president was staying lacking foresight, Atzerodt made the reservation in his own name. Anxious about his assignment, Atzerodt tried to steel his resolve by drinking. He was armed with gun and a knife and the vice president, alone and unguarded, would have been an easy target. Instead he got drunk, and wandered around Washington D. He was arrested on April 20th, about a week after the assassination. Investigators had found a gun and a knife in his room at the Kirkwood House, and evidence linking him to John Wilkes Booth. Atzerodt confessed to everything—including the role the others had played. Despite his cooperation, he was hanged with the rest of them. Andrew Johnson became president.

**Chapter 8 : Ford's Theatre - Wikipedia**

*The Lincoln Assassination (April 14, 1. August - Pres. Abraham Lincoln is riding the 3 miles from the White House to the Old Soldier's Home: A) To visit.*

The assassination occurred only days after the surrender at Appomattox Court House of Gen. Grant , which had signaled the effective end of the American Civil War. Abraham Lincoln, February 5, , photograph by Alexander Gardner. Library of Congress, Washington, D. He grew up in the border state of Maryland but was particularly popular as an actor in Richmond , Virginia, and considered himself a Southerner. Moreover, he passionately advocated the slave system. Having promised his mother that he would not fight for the Confederacy , Booth remained in the North during the Civil War, and his hatred of abolitionists and Lincoln deepened. In March he and a group of conspirators in Washington, D. Gathering his fellow conspirators, Booth outlined a plan to assassinate not just President Lincoln but also Vice Pres. Booth tasked Lewis Powell, a tall and powerful former Confederate soldier, with the attack on Seward, to be aided by David Herold. George Atzerodt, a German immigrant who had acted as a boatman for Confederate spies, was to kill Johnson. Booth himself was to assassinate Lincoln. All three attacks were to occur at the same time about In the event, Atzerodt failed to carry out his assignment and never approached Johnson. Seward survived the attack, but his face was permanently disfigured. He shot Lincoln in the back of the head once with a. What Booth said while committing the attack and when he said it are a matter of some dispute. In any case, Booth rode off into the night and out of Washington, meeting up in Maryland with Herold, who had fled the scene of the Seward attack without Powell. Abraham LincolnDerringer used to assassinate U. Lincoln was attended to immediately by several doctors who were in the audience. It was felt that the president should not be moved far, so he was taken across the street to the house of William Petersen, who rented extra rooms to lodgers. In one of those rooms Lincoln was laid diagonally across a bed, for which he was otherwise too tall. Doctors had little hope that the unconscious Lincoln would recover, and throughout the night various cabinet members, officials, and physicians kept vigil in the small room. When Lincoln was pronounced dead at 7: A period of national mourning ensued. Historians have noted that Lincolnâ€”whom many even in the North deeply dislikedâ€”became much more revered in death than in life as the myth surrounding him grew. Millions of people lined the train route to pay their respects. Samuel Mudd, who would later be convicted of conspiracy , though his descendants waged a protracted battle to prove his innocence. While hiding, Booth kept a diary in which he recorded his incredulity at the almost universal condemnation of his actions. He had expected to heralded as a hero. Having undertaken further efforts to escape, Booth and Herold were tracked down by federal troops on April 26 at a farm in Virginia, near the Rappahannock River. There Herold surrendered before the barn in which he and Booth were hiding was set aflame. Refusing to surrender, Booth was shot, either by a soldier or by himself, and died shortly thereafter. Rumours persisted that it was not Booth but another man thought to be him who was killed, but there is no acceptable evidence to support that notion. Herold, Powell, Atzerodt, and Mary Surratt , who ran a boarding house in Washington frequented by members of the Confederate underground, were found guilty and hanged. Another conspirator, John Surratt , Jr.

Chapter 9 : April , The tragic final hours of Abraham Lincoln | PBS NewsHour

*President Abraham Lincoln's assassination is one of the saddest events in American history. Yet on the morning of April 14, , the President awoke in an uncommonly good mood.*

Email Overshadowed by the mortal attack on President Abraham Lincoln on April 14, , was another assassination attempt by the same band of conspirators. But not for lack of trying. In May he left home, at age 17, to become a soldier. He fought in the Battle of Fredericksburg, and was wounded and captured at Gettysburg. Lincoln conspirator Lewis Powell, during his military tribunal. Library of Congress In January , under circumstances still debated by historians, Powell deserted and made his way to Alexandria, Va. In Maryland he took up with a group led by Booth, who was corralling conspirators in a plot to kidnap President Lincoln and ferry him across the Potomac into Confederate territory. The plot never materialized, and after being detained for beating a black maid, Powell made his way to Washington. Seward was convalescing from a carriage accident nine days previous. Powell tried to shoot him, but when his gun misfired he struck Frederick with it, fracturing his skull. Secretary of State William Seward Library of Congress Powell set upon Seward with a dagger, striking him in the neck and the breast. Fleeing the bloody scene, Powell then dashed downstairs, and as he made his escape he stabbed a State Department messenger, Emerick Hansell, in the back. Powell mounted his horse and rode off. Fortunately for Secretary Seward, the splint he wore around his broken jaw protected his arteries from the knife blade. He recovered from his wounds, as did the other six people who were stabbed. Frederick also recovered from his head injury, though he was in a coma for two months. Because his fellow-conspirator David Herold had fled the scene in a panic, Powell was alone and lost in the streets of Washington. He was eventually captured, wearing blood-stained clothing, upon his arrival at the home of Mary Surratt, who was being questioned for her role in the conspiracy. Booth was cornered in a barn in Virginia and killed, while the other conspirators were tried. Powell reportedly attempted to kill himself by banging his head against his cell wall. Three others were sentenced to life in prison, and an eighth was sentenced to six years. The hooded bodies of the four executed conspirators.