[PDF] Lincoln

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Description:

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 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* --This text refers to

an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Review An astonishing achievement, the greatest historical novel of our time Allan Massie, THE SCOTSMAN Reasoned, judicious, straightforward and utterly convincing ... an astonishing achievement NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW Magnificent Gabriel Garcia Marquez --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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