

(Read now) Land of Lincoln: Adventures in Abe's America

## Land of Lincoln: Adventures in Abe's America

Andrew Ferguson

ebooks | Download PDF | \*ePub | DOC | audiobook

Copyrighted Material

"A vivid, beautifully written book . . . What Andrew Ferguson offers in *Land of Lincoln* is the geography of enthusiasm itself."—*The Wall Street Journal*

# LAND OF LINCOLN

*Adventures in Abe's America*



ANDREW FERGUSON

Copyrighted Material

DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#1466929 in Books Grove Press 2008-04-11 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.25 x .69 x 5.47l, .57 #File Name: 080214361X304 pages | File size: 39.Mb

**Andrew Ferguson : Land of Lincoln: Adventures in Abe's America** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Land of Lincoln: Adventures in Abe's America:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Laughable, Lighthearted Lincoln Logs  
By Franklin the Mouse  
If Lincoln could have transported himself to present-day America, I wonder what he'd think of all the fuss? No one knows but Andrew Ferguson's book surely shows that plenty of scholars, publicists, Lincoln buffs and haters are more than willing to give it a shot. The conservative author can't help but inject snarky, funny remarks about practically every facet of the people who inhabit the Lincoln universe. From his amusing family trip through Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky in an attempt to retrace Lincoln's life; to interviewing memorabilia collectors, impersonators... excuse me... "reenactors"; visiting a bevy of memorials and enduring a business workshop that uses the 16th President as the template to empower middle managers in corporate America; you'll never find a dull moment between these pages. I didn't realize the extent that Lincoln permeated our country's commercial and cultural identity. This was very much an eye-opener. The book is an educational, fun read much in the vein of a Bill Bryson (A Walk in the Woods) work. Mr. Ferguson has written a great, entertaining book.  
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Andrew Ferguson does a masterful job of showing how the ...  
By David J Kaufman  
Andrew Ferguson does a masterful job of showing how the legacy of Pres. Lincoln continues in the present day in diverse ways. The highlight of this book, at least for me, is the story of the Holocaust survivor's visit to Springfield. It's hard to read that story and not tear up.  
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Land of Lincoln: A great book by Andrew Ferguson  
By Shirley A. Raymond  
I am a Lincoln fan as my husband was a Lincoln Presenter. I thought everyone loved Lincoln and the first chapter of this book about did me in. It really made me wonder if I wanted to read the book. After I got through that, it was a great story of a family about reliving the vacation the father had taken as a child. He thought his children, oops, I'm giving away too much of the story. You'll love this book and will enjoy the places they visit. It's a good read!

Abraham Lincoln was our greatest president and perhaps the most influential American who ever lived. But what is his place in our country today? In *Land of Lincoln*, Andrew Ferguson packs his bags and embarks on a journey to the heart of contemporary Lincoln Nation, where he encounters a world as funny as it is poignant, and a population as devoted as it is colorful. In small-town Indiana, Ferguson drops in on the national conference of Lincoln presenters, 175 grown men who make their living (sort of) by impersonating their hero. He meets the premier collectors of Lincoln memorabilia, prized items of which include Lincolns chamber pot, locks of his hair, and pages from a boyhood schoolbook. He takes his wife and children on a trip across the long-defunct Lincoln Heritage Trail, a driving tour of landmarks from Lincolns life. This book is an entertaining, unexpected, and big-hearted celebration of Lincolns enduring influence on our country--and the people who help keep his spirit alive.

From Publishers Weekly  
The question that animates this original, insightful, disarmingly funny book is: how do Americans commemorate Lincoln, and what do our memories of him reveal about our visions of the good life? To discover the answer, Ferguson, an editor at the Weekly Standard and a Lincoln buff, made a long field trip, poking into many of the places where Americans have chosen to remember or to forget Honest Abe. He eavesdrops on the Lincoln Reconsidered conference, where a group of "Abephobes" aim to retrieve Lincoln's memory from the distortions of "liberal historians." He considers the "Disney aesthetic" of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Ill., and attends a convention of Lincoln "presenters" (otherwise known as impersonators). Ferguson is occasionally and unnecessarily snide, and a deeper examination of the changing place of Lincoln in mainstream historical scholarship would have added a great deal to the book. Still, Ferguson's conclusions are stirring. He finds Lincoln's meaning best articulated by Robert Moton, an educator whose parents were slaves. With great simplicity, Moton explained Lincoln's greatness: "...in a time of doubt and distrust... he spoke the word that gave freedom to a race and vindicated the honor of a Nation conceived in liberty..." (June) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.  
From Bookmarks Magazine  
Abraham Lincoln has been the subject, by one count, of nearly 14,000 books. Chances are that none is funnier than Andrew Ferguson's *Land of Lincoln*. Ferguson is at his best when writing the sort of good-natured, insightful observation that drives Sarah Vowell's *Assassination Vacation*, Tony Horwitz's *Confederates in the Attic*, or any of Bill Bryson's books. At times, the humor devolves into cynicism and the argument loses focus; those passages work less well. In his attempt at separating the truth of Lincoln's legacy from the fiction (or the history from the kitsch), though, Ferguson discovers a great deal about how-and how well-we honor our heroes.  
Copyright 2004 Phillips Nelson Media, Inc.  
From Booklist  
With his curiosity piqued by a 2003 protest against the installation of an Abraham Lincoln statue in Richmond, Virginia, journalist Ferguson decided to undertake a tour of vernacular attitudes toward the historical Lincoln. His travels and interviews with Lincoln buffs and Lincoln haters tend toward the insouciant but are grounded by sharp insights into how Lincoln is regarded by the populace rather than by scholars. Starting from his childhood career as a buff in the early 1960s, nurtured by his visits to Illinois' Lincoln sites, Ferguson revisits them to see what has changed from his heroic Lincoln of memory. A lot, the museum curators tell Ferguson, since the public needs to know about Lincoln's imperfections. Apparently much of the public hasn't gotten the deconstructionist message, as Ferguson merrily visits buffs, such as obsessive collectors of Lincolnalia and a convention of Abe and Mary Lincoln impersonators. Ultimately dragooning his protesting kids into a road trip to Lincoln's boyhood haunts, Ferguson and his discovery of

the infinitely malleable Abe--yesterday's Emancipator, today's business consultant--deliver wry, ever-humorous perspectives. Gilbert Taylor Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved