

Abraham Lincoln
16th President
1860 - 1865

#1. *"A horrid looking wretch he is, sooty and scoundrelly in aspects, a cross between the nutmeg dealer, the horse-swapper and the nightman."*

Charleston Mercury 1860

#2. When Lincoln won the Republican presidential nomination in 1860 he seemed to have come from nowhere--a backwoods lawyer who had served one undistinguished term in the House of Representatives and lost two consecutive contests for the U.S. Senate. Contemporaries attributed his surprising nomination to chance, to his moderate position on slavery, and to the fact that he hailed from the battleground state of Illinois. But Lincoln's triumph, particularly when viewed against the efforts of his rivals, owed much to a remarkable, unsuspected political acuity and an emotional strength forged in the crucible of hardship and defeat. That Lincoln, after winning the presidency, made the unprecedented decision to incorporate his eminent rivals into his political family, the cabinet, was evidence of an uncanny self-confidence and an indication of what would prove to others a most unexpected greatness.

#3. ". . . we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation . . . shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth."

Gettysburg Address. 1863

#4. "A man watches his pear-tree day after day, impatient for the ripening of the fruit. Let him attempt to force the process, and he may spoil both fruit and tree. But let him patiently wait, and the ripe peat at length falls into his lap!"

Abraham Lincoln

#5 "Although he cared little for simple facts, rules, and methods, it was on the underlying principle of truth and justice that Lincoln's will was firm as steel and tenacious as iron."

William Herndon, Lincoln's law partner

#6. "Whenever I hear any one arguing for slavery I feel a strong impulse to see it tried on him personally."

Abraham Lincoln

**#7. With his death, Abraham Lincoln had come to seem the embodiment of his own words -
•With malice toward none, with charity for all.•**

Doris Kearns Goodwin, Historian

#8. Lincoln possessed an uncanny understanding of his shifting moods, a profound self-awareness that enabled him to find constructive ways to alleviate sadness and

#9. If I were two-faced, would I be wearing this one?

Abraham Lincoln

