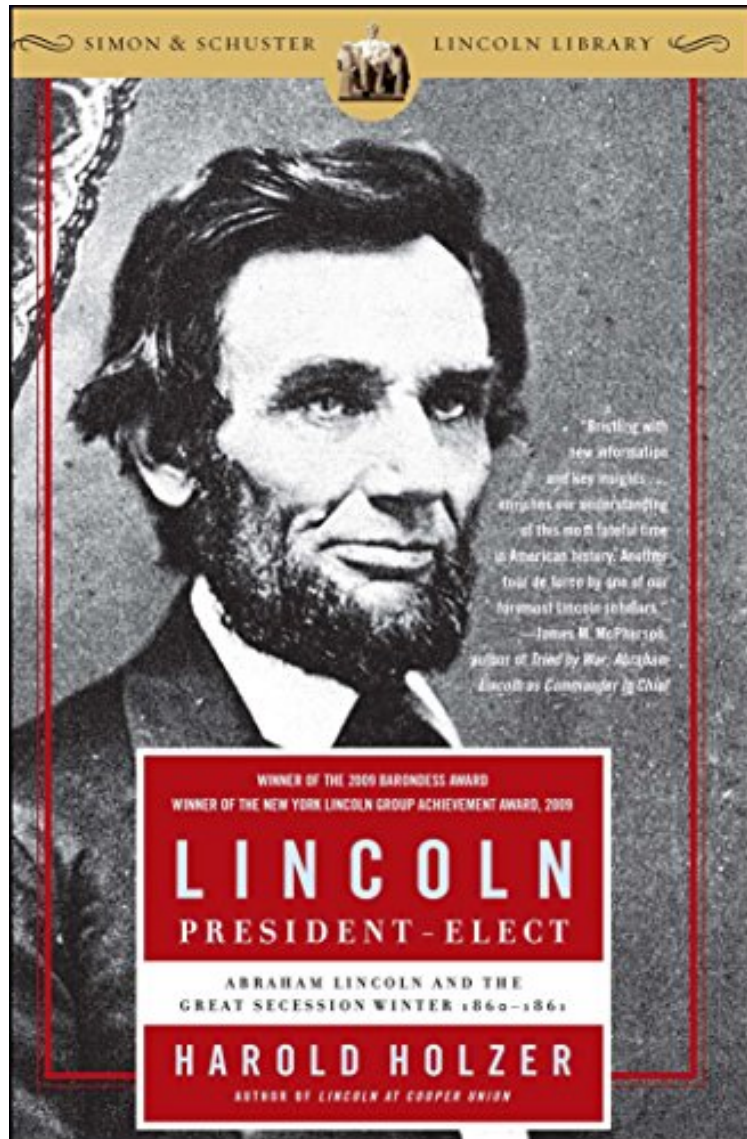


[Read download] Lincoln President-Elect: Abraham Lincoln and the Great Secession Winter 1860-1861 (English Edition)

Lincoln President-Elect: Abraham Lincoln and the Great Secession Winter 1860-1861 (English Edition)

Von Harold Holzer

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Von Harold Holzer : Lincoln President-Elect: Abraham Lincoln and the Great Secession Winter 1860-1861 (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lincoln President-Elect: Abraham Lincoln and the Great Secession Winter 1860-1861 (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Valuable Niche in the Lincoln StoryVon James Gallen"Lincoln President-Elect" is an in-depth study of the period from the 1860 election that vaulted Abraham Lincoln to the presidency and the South on the road to secession to his inauguration four months later. This was a period during which Lincoln prepared himself, and his country, for its first Republican administration while the sides lined up for the coming Civil War. Author Harold Holzer, Cochairman of the U.S. Lincoln Bicentennial Committee, begins the story with the election victory celebrations in Springfield and continues with the early planning meetings, through the long trip to Washington, culminating in the inauguration itself in March. This book makes clear the vast gulf between the practices of Lincoln's day and those of our own day. From his nomination until his departure from Springfield, Lincoln maintained an office in the Governor's office in Springfield. At other times of the day his home served as a public meeting place. While in either place, virtually anyone could walk in and talk with him about anything. Most visitors were in search of a job. With no formal transition plan, Lincoln was left to himself to plan and finance preparations for taking power. This book chronicles unique times. The threat of Southern secession raised the possibility that the Electoral College, despite the majority pledged to Lincoln, might not confirm the Election Day results but rather select a compromise president to cool the bubbling tempest. The specter that assassination or a popular or military uprising might prevent Lincoln from taking power would not vanish until the oath was actually administered. Throughout his period as President-Elect, Lincoln remained a prime driver of events while being largely impotent to influence them. While Lincoln remained in Springfield, Southern states seceded, actions that President Buchanan denied that he had authority to prevent. As the nation fractured Lincoln said little, relying on his prior statements that he would have neither authority nor inclination to interfere with slavery in the states in which it existed. Historians have criticized Lincoln for failing to intervene to prevent succession, either by attempting to reassure the South or to pressure the Buchanan Administration into using force against departing states. In this work, Holzer shows Lincoln to have acted as a skilled politician who balanced pressures to cave in to the South with the principles of the Republican platform on which he had been elected. Efforts by the outgoing President and Congressional leaders of all political hues to settle the secession crisis by placating Southern demands before Lincoln took office are described in detail. Rather than being an uninvolved spectator, Holzer shows Lincoln as an active participant who tried to guide "our friends" to resist any deviation from the Republican program of no expansion of slavery into the territories, but no interference with it in the states in which it was established. In addition to the political gales swirling across the country, this book chronicles the stuff of legend, such as the letter from the girl in Upstate New York who suggested that Lincoln grow whiskers and their meeting, the train trip through Northern states during which he made many appearances and the plots on his life.

KurzbeschreibungOne of our most eminent Lincoln scholars, winner of a Lincoln Prize for his Lincoln at Cooper Union, examines the four months between Lincoln's election and inauguration, when the president-elect made the most important decision of his coming presidency -- there would be no compromise on slavery or secession of the slaveholding states, even at the cost of civil war. Abraham Lincoln first demonstrated his determination and leadership in the Great Secession Winter -- the four months between his election in November 1860 and his inauguration in March 1861 -- when he rejected compromises urged on him by Republicans and Democrats, Northerners and Southerners, that might have preserved the Union a little longer but would have enshrined slavery for generations. Though Lincoln has been criticized by many historians for failing to appreciate the severity of the secession crisis that greeted his victory, Harold Holzer shows that the president-elect waged a shrewd and complex campaign to prevent the expansion of slavery while vainly trying to limit secession to a few Deep South states. During this most dangerous White House transition in American history, the country had two presidents: one powerless (the president-elect, possessing no constitutional authority), the other paralyzed (the incumbent who refused to act). Through limited, brilliantly timed and crafted public statements, determined private letters, tough political pressure, and personal persuasion, Lincoln guaranteed the integrity of the American political process of majority rule, sounded the death knell of slavery, and transformed not only his own image but that of the presidency, even while making inevitable the war that would be necessary to make these achievements permanent. Lincoln President-Elect is the first book to concentrate on Lincoln's public stance and private agony during these months and on the momentous consequences when he first demonstrated his determination and leadership. Holzer recasts Lincoln from an isolated prairie politician yet to establish his greatness, to a skillful shaper of men and opinion and an immovable friend of freedom at a decisive moment when allegiance to the founding credo "all men are created equal" might well have been sacrificed. Pressestimmen"This detailed and gripping narrative of Lincoln's thoughts and actions during the four months between his election and inauguration -- perhaps more important than any four months of his actual presidency -- is another tour de force by one of our foremost Lincoln scholars. Bristling with new information and key insights, it enriches our understanding of this most fateful time in American history." -- James M. McPherson, author of Tried by War: Abraham Lincoln as Commander in Chief"Lincoln President-Elect is Harold Holzer's best and most

controversial book. Many historians, myself included, have depicted Lincoln in the months between his election and inauguration as weak and indecisive. Holzer, carefully studying the record, argues that Lincoln was a strong-minded, highly principled, and shrewd president-elect." -- David Herbert Donald, author of *Lincoln*"This is a stunningly original work that casts completely new light on the most turbulent and critical presidential transition in American history. Holzer's superb narrative skill, along with his abundant use of colorful details, creates an atmosphere of such immediacy that the reader feels transported back to "the Great Secession Winter" as an eye-witness to Lincoln's gifted leadership during this dramatic period. This groundbreaking book will take its place with the most valuable and indispensable works in the Lincoln canon." -- Doris Kearns Goodwin, author of *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*"No one has a finer intuitive understanding of Abraham Lincoln than Harold Holzer. In this fascinating book, he throws a searchlight on a crucial and surprisingly underexamined episode of Lincoln's life to show us the essential elements of Lincoln's political and moral greatness." -- Michael Beschloss, author of *Presidential Courage: Brave Leaders and How They Changed America, 1789-1989*KurzbeschreibungOne of our most eminent Lincoln scholars, winner of a Lincoln Prize for his *Lincoln at Cooper Union*, examines the four months between Lincoln's election and inauguration, when the president-elect made the most important decision of his coming presidency -- there would be no compromise on slavery or secession of the slaveholding states, even at the cost of civil war. Abraham Lincoln first demonstrated his determination and leadership in the Great Secession Winter -- the four months between his election in November 1860 and his inauguration in March 1861 -- when he rejected compromises urged on him by Republicans and Democrats, Northerners and Southerners, that might have preserved the Union a little longer but would have enshrined slavery for generations. Though Lincoln has been criticized by many historians for failing to appreciate the severity of the secession crisis that greeted his victory, Harold Holzer shows that the president-elect waged a shrewd and complex campaign to prevent the expansion of slavery while vainly trying to limit secession to a few Deep South states. During this most dangerous White House transition in American history, the country had two presidents: one powerless (the president-elect, possessing no constitutional authority), the other paralyzed (the incumbent who refused to act). Through limited, brilliantly timed and crafted public statements, determined private letters, tough political pressure, and personal persuasion, Lincoln guaranteed the integrity of the American political process of majority rule, sounded the death knell of slavery, and transformed not only his own image but that of the presidency, even while making inevitable the war that would be necessary to make these achievements permanent. *Lincoln President-Elect* is the first book to concentrate on Lincoln's public stance and private agony during these months and on the momentous consequences when he first demonstrated his determination and leadership. Holzer recasts Lincoln from an isolated prairie politician yet to establish his greatness, to a skillful shaper of men and opinion and an immovable friend of freedom at a decisive moment when allegiance to the founding credo "all men are created equal" might well have been sacrificed.