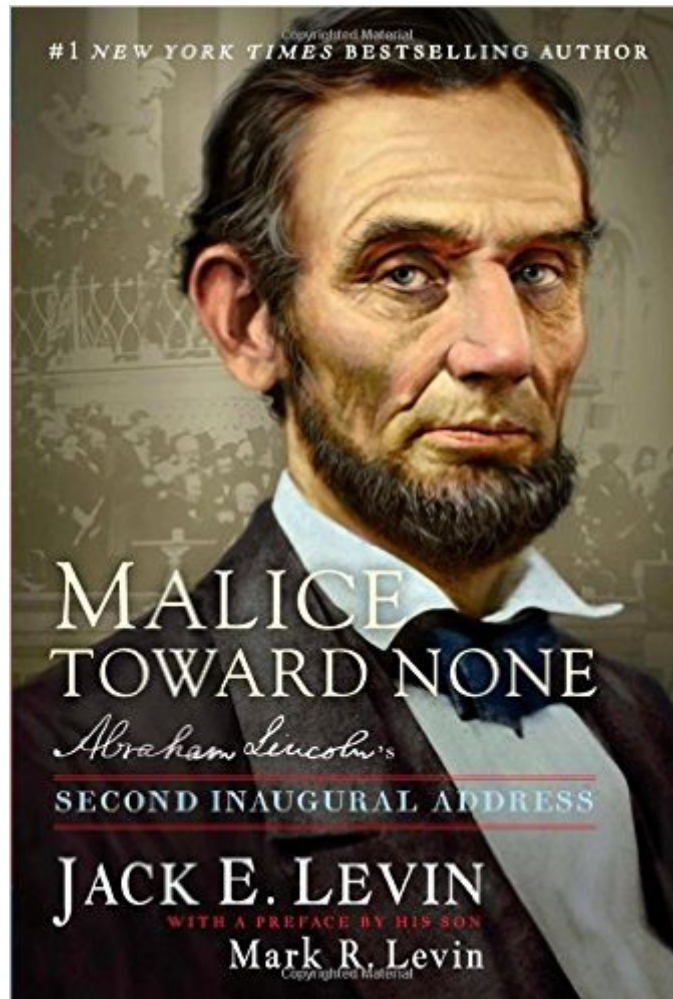


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Malice Toward None: Abraham Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address



Synopsis

Jack E. Levin, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *George Washington: The Crossing*, presents a beautifully designed chronicle—complete with maps, portraits, and other Civil War illustrations—detailing President Abraham Lincoln’s historic Second Inaugural Address. As humble and faithful as the president who delivered it, Lincoln’s landmark Second Inaugural Address still resonates today. The speech was an attempt to unite a fractured people in a time when our nation was at its most divided, nearing the end of the Civil War. As you navigate this beautiful book, you’ll start to understand the significance and poetic power of this speech while you come closer to the man behind it. As an added bonus, Jack Levin’s son, #1 New York Times bestselling author Mark Levin, has written an illuminating preface about the importance of Lincoln’s speech and its lasting impact on history. Filled with historic paintings and illustrations from the period, this book is a dramatic rendering of a momentous American occasion.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I especially enjoyed the illustrations as well as the author's well informed background given to Lincoln's 2nd inaugural address. Mark Levin's Preface to the book was especially touching. And have ordered the hard-covered edition as well because I think it's that good. Lincoln has always been one of my favorite subjects and this illustrative historical book makes a good addition.

What a beautifully written and illustrated book! Thank you, Mr. Levin, for reminding us of what a great president Abraham Lincoln was ... a uniter, not a divider ... a president who sought the healing

of the nation, not revenge. The words of Lincoln's second inaugural address are not as well known as his Gettysburg address, but they should be. They reveal the true Abraham Lincoln, a man of strong faith and character. I would recommend everyone have a copy of this book their personal library.

It's easy to see where Mark Levin, the nationally syndicated radio show host and New York Times Bestselling author gets his love of country. Jack Levin's new book is an absolutely amazing portrayal of one of the greatest speeches ever given by an American leader. He presents an insightful, easy to understand and entertaining picture of Lincoln and his times and how, without knowing it, the war-weary, visionary President, only months from his own death, articulated for every generation of American to come what the soul of our nation is all about. This book, along with Levin's other works, should be mandatory reading in every public school in this country.

I have studied with some of the finest scholars on Lincoln---Chris Flannery and Mac Owens of the MAHG program at Ashland University, and thus have Lincoln's Second Inaugural in several formats. This edition is exemplary and a must have for every American as are the patriot Jack Levin's earlier editions of *The Crossing* and *Lincoln's Gettysburg Address*. The carefully (and I might say, lovingly) chosen photographs and illustrations bring background and give a full display of the context in which this speech was made. Lincoln had long abhorred slavery, seeing it as a betrayal of America's founding principles in the Declaration. He appealed to all Americans to recommit themselves to, and revive the heritage and liberty they cherished and see its natural extension. Southern powerbrokers, however, had been influenced by evolutionary theories on race and some German philosophy to repudiate our founding principles of "all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator" with unalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in favor of a feudalistic and race-based slave system which Alexander Stephens saw as the "cornerstone" of the Southern lifestyle. Lincoln tried, in many speeches, notably speeches on the horrendous Dred Scott ruling and the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, to bring Americans together on their founding principles expressed in the Declaration. Mr. Levin's choice of title, *Malice Toward None*, points to the heart of Lincoln and his Second Inaugural address. Sadly, for all Americans, Lincoln was murdered not long after. Had he lived, North and South might have been truly reconciled sooner and many of the problems of Reconstruction might well have been avoided or at least minimized. Mr. Levin has provided a great service to all Americans in this visual age and hereafter by providing the "pictures of silver" frame for the "apples of gold," of Lincoln's conciliatory Second Inaugural Address. Thank

you Jack, and thank you Mark.

Jack E. Levin has put that artist easel to work to create a beautiful book that I can share with (and eventually pass on to) my eleven year old. I own two of Levin's previous works as well. Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and George Washington, the Crossing. These books are so detailed and beautiful enough to pass on to the next generation. As for this book, Mark Levin (the author's son) writes the preface and then Jack Levin sets the scene in the forward. The inauguration was held on March 4th, 1865 where Frederick Douglass was in attendance. Throughout the book are some poignant (often heartbreaking) images of the Civil War era. There are also numerous color artist depictions of the same timeframe. The full Inaugural Address is typed throughout the book and emphasized with the art and photos. Then, towards the back, there is a full photocopy of Lincoln's handwritten speech as well - Lincoln wrote it out on four full pages. I love collecting Abraham Lincoln books and thank goodness someone with integrity and with the artistic eye of Jack Levin put this treasure together. Jack Levin's love of history shines through! I highly recommend it - share it with your kids and grandchildren.

A gorgeous book that reminds us of a timeless lesson. There is a time for war and a time for peace. Having never read the address before (though a few phrases were familiar) I was struck by its simplicity, sincerity, and wisdom. From the simple reminder of how the country had arrived at that point, to the heartfelt sympathy for the dead soldiers and their families, to the call for peace and charity, President Lincoln masterfully communicates an unapologetic message of reconciliation. Mr. Levin has done a great service to the country by introducing many of us to one of the greatest speeches of all time. He reminds us that no matter how bleak things may seem, our country has seen worse and triumphed. No matter how polarized and hateful our national dialogue may be today, we have not yet come to armed conflict. And even if the worst of the 21st century remains in front of us, our nation will endure, and patriots, like those in every era of our history, will come to her defense.

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