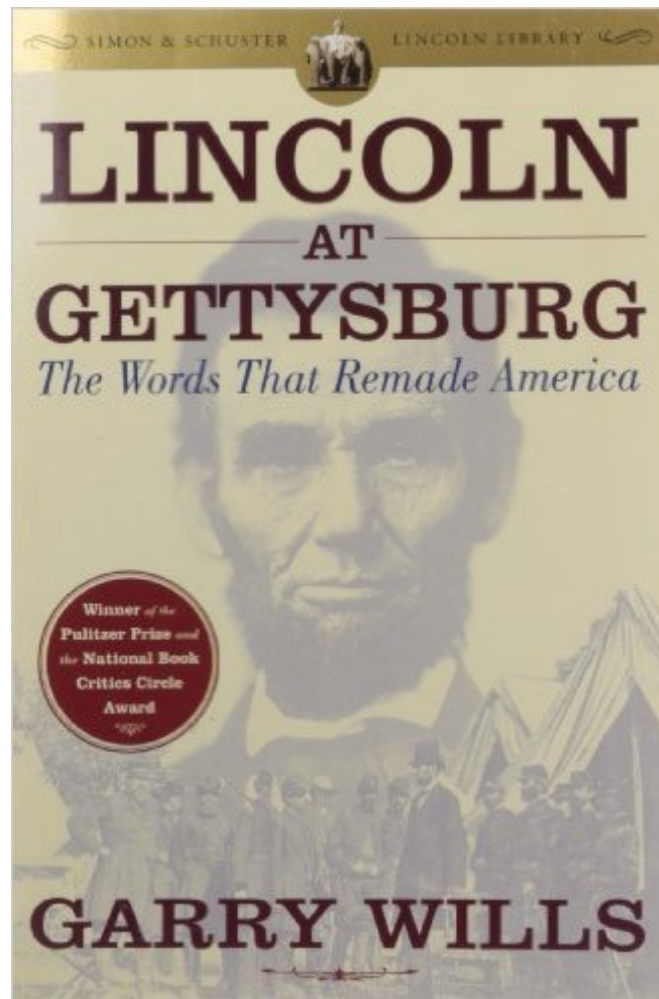


The book was found

Lincoln At Gettysburg: The Words That Remade America (Simon & Schuster Lincoln Library)



Synopsis

In a masterly work, Garry Wills shows how Lincoln reached back to the Declaration of Independence to write the greatest speech in the nation's history. The power of words has rarely been given a more compelling demonstration than in the Gettysburg Address. Lincoln was asked to memorialize the gruesome battle. Instead he gave the whole nation a new birth of freedom in the space of a mere 272 words. His entire life and previous training and his deep political experience went into this, his revolutionary masterpiece. By examining both the address and Lincoln in their historical moment and cultural frame, Wills breathes new life into words we thought we knew, and reveals much about a president so mythologized but often misunderstood. Wills shows how Lincoln came to change the world and to effect an intellectual revolution, how his words had to and did complete the work of the guns, and how Lincoln wove a spell that has not yet been broken.

Book Information

Series: Simon & Schuster Lincoln Library

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster; Reissue edition (November 14, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0743299639

ISBN-13: 978-0743299633

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.8 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars See all reviews (159 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #123,153 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 in Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Campaigns & Battlefields > Gettysburg #131 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > United States > Civil War #397 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > United States > US Presidents

Customer Reviews

In his book, *Lincoln at Gettysburg*, Garry Wills sets about debunking the myths, legends, and rumors concerning Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address." Wills seeks to show that because of the Gettysburg Address "... the Civil War is what Lincoln wanted it to mean." (pg. 38) Wills helps the reader understand what events, speeches, and speakers had impacted Lincoln in the past, which ultimately influenced Lincoln's selection of words for the speech itself. Wills notes that the speech had influences from such diverse sources as Daniel Webster, Thomas Jefferson, as well as Greek

figures such as Pericles. The book also describes the rural cemetery movement that was beginning to rise at the time of the speech, which was influential in the design of the Gettysburg Cemetery. The book also answers many of the critics of Lincoln, who argue the speech and the Emancipation Proclamation were weak, and illustrate Lincoln's propensity of clever evasions and key silences concerning key issues. Willis also notes how the style of the address was the forerunner of a new way of communicating, a way fit for the machine age. One of the first topics Willis addresses is the myth that the man who spoke before Lincoln, Edward Everett, imposed the audience with a two-hour long speech that bored the listeners. Willis notes long speeches were common, and expected for the day. He gives reference to the Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858, which illustrate that Lincoln himself was capable and comfortable speaking at length before groups of people. Willis also emphasizes that Everett was the invited speaker for the dedication, and Lincoln had been asked simply to give some remarks. Willis also demystifies the story that Lincoln wrote the address on a napkin, or while sitting on the stand during Everett's speech.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Lincoln at Gettysburg: The Words that Remade America (Simon & Schuster Lincoln Library) Classic Paul Simon: The Simon and Garfunkel Years (A Collection of All the Music from Four Landmark Simon and Garfunkel Albums, Arranged for Piano Vocal with Guitar Frames and Full Lyrics) Open Wide!: A Visit to the Dentist (Rugrats (Simon & Schuster Library)) The Summer of 1787: The Men Who Invented the Constitution (The Simon & Schuster America Collection) How It Works: Big Rigs (How It Works (Simon & Schuster)) Simon & Schuster Thesaurus for Children: The Ultimate Student Thesaurus Simon & Schuster's Guide to Rocks & Minerals Simon & Schuster's Guide to Gems and Precious Stones Simon & Schuster's Guide to Cacti and Succulents: An Easy-to-Use Field Guide With More Than 350 Full-Color Photographs and Illustrations The Shadow of Your Smile Publisher: Simon & Schuster Audio; Unabridged edition I'll Walk Alone: A Novel [Abridged, Audiobook] Publisher: Simon & Schuster Audio; Abridged edition I'll Walk Alone Publisher: Simon & Schuster Audio; Unabridged edition The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway: Volume I (Short Stories (Simon & Schuster Audio)) Simon & Schuster's Pimsleur Conversational Italian Simon & Schuster Young Readers' Illustrated Thesaurus Adele & Simon (Adele & Simon) Just a Few Words, Mr. Lincoln: The Story of the Gettysburg Address (Penguin Young Readers, Level 4) The Maps of Gettysburg: An Atlas of the Gettysburg Campaign, June 3 - July 13, 1863 Sickles at Gettysburg: The Controversial Civil War General Who Committed Murder, Abandoned Little Round Top, and Declared Himself the Hero of Gettysburg Abe's Honest Words: The Life of Abraham Lincoln (Big Words)

