



I Would Still Be Drowned in Tears: Spiritualism in Abraham Lincoln's White House

Michelle L. Hamilton

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In 1862, in the midst of a bloody civil war, President Abraham Lincoln and his wife Mary, suffered unspeakable heartache when their young son died. To combat her grief, First Lady Mary Lincoln became a devotee of Spiritualism making the White House a center for Washington, D.C.'s Spiritualist community. For decades historians have maintained that President Lincoln only attended a few seances in an attempt to protect his mentally unstable wife. This narrative is incorrect, using a host of previously neglected primary sources, historian Michelle L. Hamilton documents the numerous seances President Lincoln attended and the interest he had for the religion. Michelle L. Hamilton's "I Would Still Be Drowned in Tears" sheds new light onto the Lincolns' interest in Spiritualism and proves that Mary Lincoln might not have been the only Spiritualist in the White House. "Perhaps now we can frankly admit, without ridicule or condemnation, the role Spiritualism played in the lives of Abraham and Mary,"--William Weeks, Ph.D., San Diego State University

I Would Still Be Drowned in Tears: Spiritualism in Abraham Lincoln's White House Details

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From Reader Review I Would Still Be Drowned in Tears: Spiritualism in Abraham Lincoln's White House for online ebook

Janet says

Like most people, when I think of spiritualism in the Lincoln White House I think of it as the realm of a hysterical Mary Todd Lincoln. Michelle L. Hamilton's book has enlightened me. Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln were partners. Like any 21st century couple, they shared ideas and philosophy. The Lincolns influenced each other and they were indeed in tune with the times they lived in. Everyone who is interested in the history of the American Civil War and the Lincoln administration in particular should read this book. If not, they are missing an excellent opportunity to better understand those times.

Pamela says

More than history, this book delves in the paranormal sensibilities of Spiritualism and not only that, but how the Lincolns along with most of America at the time, may have embraced this new religion concerning life after death. So, instead of a boring history lesson a reader who enjoys books of the supernatural—whether fiction or nonfiction—might find this a different sort of history lesson.

Read the rest of the review at <http://www.ismellsheep.com/2015/06/bo...>

Cindelu says

I won this book on Goodreads.

I love stories about history and Abe Lincoln specifically however this book didn't tell much. It was actually rather boring by repeating itself over and over again with statements that supposed he had done this or that regarding spiritualism. His wife, Mary kept dragging him to séances or having him meet people that were mediums or spiritualist. The book implies that eventually he agreed with some of her ideas however it gave no concrete evidence that I could see.
