

January 15, 2015

Abraham Lincoln

- Lincoln asked both Ulysses S. Grant and Colfax to go to Ford Theater with him and his wife but both of them declined
 - Grant claimed that his wife and him were leaving town and needed to pack
 - Colfax claimed that his wife had to wash her hair
- Lincoln ended up forcing a military aid to bring his fiancé and join the President at the theater with his wife
 - After the assassination both of them ended up in mental institutions
- Lincoln won elections because of military victories
 - Lincoln ran as a National Party Representative and had a Democratic running mate

John Wilkes Booth

- Booth was the leading actor of his time, he was similar to Tom Hanks in fame
- His father was the most famous actor in the country
- His family was well known for being actors
- He wasn't really involved in the Civil War until it ended

Ford's Theater (The Assassination plot)

- Booth plotted with a few others to try to kill Lincoln, the Vice President, and the Secretary of State so that the Secretary of War would be President
- Booth was the only successful one

- o The attempt to kill the Vice President was ruined because the man asked for a room close to the Vice President, registered with his real name and then chickened out, allowing the authorities to quickly track him down
 - He rose suspicions because he asked for room by the Vice President and allowed police to track him down by his real name
- o Powell 6'3" attempted to kill the Secretary of State who was bed ridden after carriage accident
 - He was supposed to bring the Vice President medications, but causes a commotion, and misses his stab mark, before retreating
- The Secretary of War was in charge of assigning qualified people to protect the President
 - o The Secretary of War didn't give the President his regular protection because the regular protection needed a break
 - Instead he assigned a known drunk D.C. policeman who had been suspended from the force before to protect the President
 - That policeman leaves his post to get alcohol from a lady and leads her inside to a seat in the theater
- Booth gained entry to the Presidential booth by claiming to have a message for the President
 - o Booth shot Lincoln behind his left ear
 - o Lincoln lived on for 9 more hours despite being brain dead
 - o Booth broke his leg jumping from the Presidential box because his spur got caught in a U.S. flag hanging from the Presidential booth
 - o Booth rode out of town on a horse that he had placed behind the theater earlier

- o He made it back to the boarding house where he organized all of the assassination attempts but found the police already there arresting Powell and the man who was supposed to kill the VP

Powell

- Powell's family petitioned for years to get his body back and only just got the body 25 years ago. He's now buried in Geneva

Andrew Johnson

- Johnson leads the Nation after Lincoln's death
- Johnson was raised in North Carolina where he was sold to a tailor at 8 years old and given his freedom at 18 with knowledge of the trade; which was common practice during the time.
- Johnson hated wealthy whites and African Americans
- He escaped to Tennessee where he learned to read and write. He eventually became a lawyer
- He was loyal to the North
- Democrats hate him because he went with Lincoln
- Republicans hate him because he's a Democratic Southerner
- He had a mouse in his room that he fed regularly and eventually talked to regularly
 - o That mouse became his advisor and only friend in addition to inspiring the Fievel (American Tale) movies