



Abe and Molly: The Lincoln Courtship

By Frederic Hunter

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***Abe and Molly: The Lincoln Courtship* by Frederic Hunter**

Lincoln novel delightfully marries a precarious romance with factual framework

“Frederic Hunter’s ‘Abe and Molly,’ a sensitive novel based on genuine research, offers convincing speculations and plausible answers....” James M. McPherson, Pulitzer prize-winning author of *Battle Cry of Freedom*.

The keenly executed new novel *Abe and Molly: The Lincoln Courtship* is a winning blend of new and known. Author Frederic Hunter opens a window to Lincoln’s life in a story that will entertain both connoisseurs of history and lovers of romantic fiction. At the base of it all lies a tale of two people who were different in class and situation, but bound by the depths of their affection.

When they began courting on the Illinois frontier, well-educated Mary Todd called him Mr. Lincoln; he called her Molly. The sister and brother-in-law who were her guardians called him a bumpkin. They were of aristocratic background. He was a self-taught lawyer/legislator with few social graces and even less money. When Abe and Molly became engaged, her guardians told Lincoln he was unacceptable to them. Lincoln broke the engagement and went into a tailspin of depression. After 18 months apart, they began courting again—secretly. That led to Lincoln being challenged to a duel.

In the tradition of the best historical fiction, *Abe and Molly* sticks to historical facts while creating a romantic tale with scenes of crackling dialogue. The reader is instantly drawn to the universal emotions of characters from our country’s past. The volume includes a special section of historical notes discussing scholars’ varying and sometimes controversial interpretations of the courtship.

Reviewer Kelly Ferjutz awarded the novel a five-star rating. She comments: “I loved this book! It is so steeped in history that one can easily imagine being part of the dinner party in the Edwards’ Springfield home. Or shivering while making the two-week stagecoach/paddleboat trip from Lexington to Springfield in wintertime.”

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Author: Frederic Hunter served as a foreign service officer of the United States Information Service in Belgium, and covered Africa for The Christian Science Monitor before starting a 25-year career as a screenwriter. His writings include *Lincoln and the War Within* and *The Hemingway Play*, both for PBS, as well as *Africa, Africa!*, a collection of fifteen stories.