

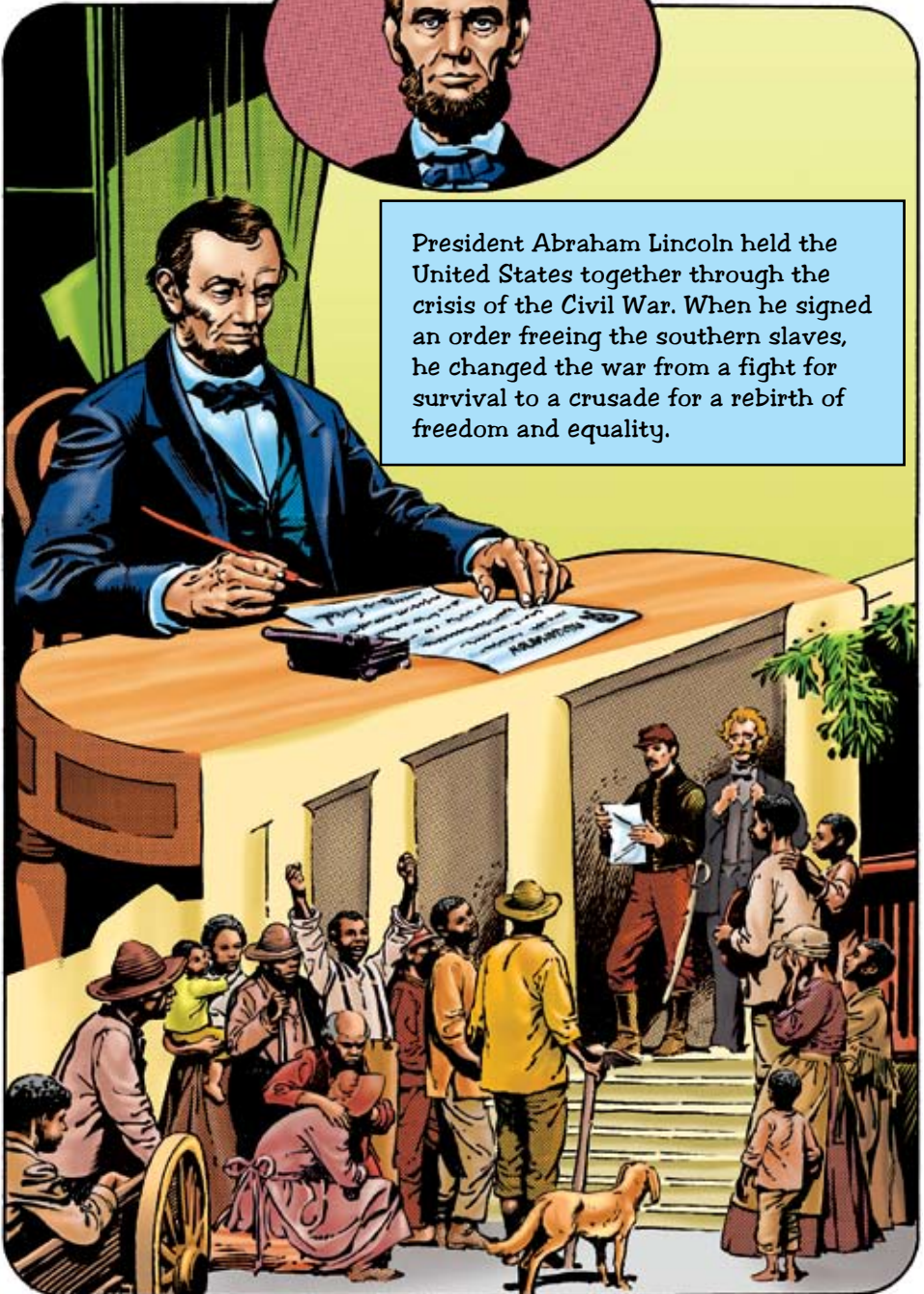
GRAPHIC
BIOGRAPHY

Abraham Lincoln





President Abraham Lincoln held the United States together through the crisis of the Civil War. When he signed an order freeing the southern slaves, he changed the war from a fight for survival to a crusade for a rebirth of freedom and equality.

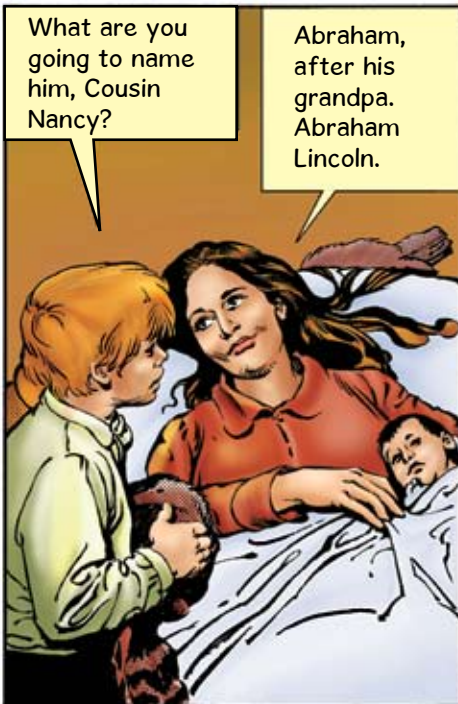




It was February 12, 1809, in Kentucky.

It's all right, Dennis. Come in!

Come and see your new baby cousin!



What are you going to name him, Cousin Nancy?

Abraham, after his grandpa. Abraham Lincoln.



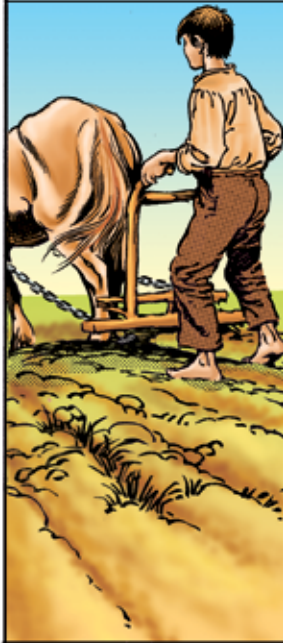
Gosh! He's so little!

Don't worry, Dennis, someday he'll be a big man.

Abe did grow. In a few years he was planting corn ...



... and guiding a plow horse ...



... and gathering wood.



Sometimes he and his sister went to school.

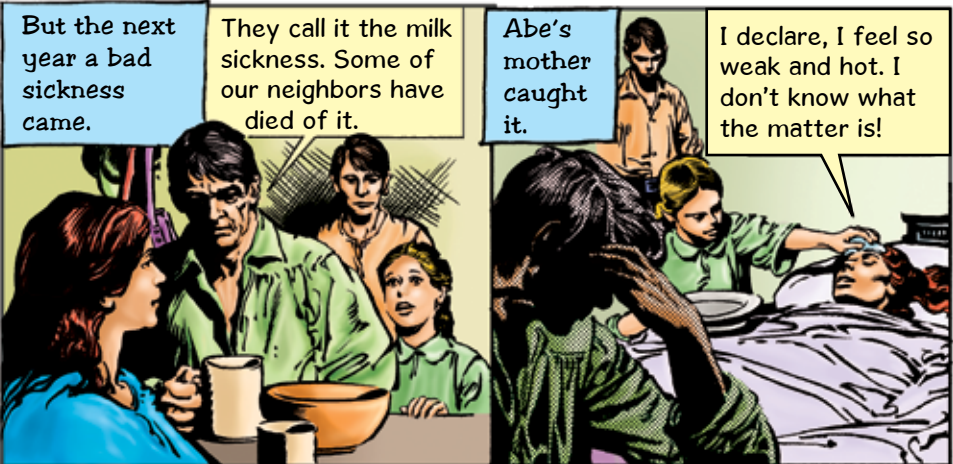


We're lucky there's a school. Lots of people never learn readin' and writin'.

You're smart! You're learning it quick!

The only book the Lincoln's owned was the Bible. He read every word.





Sally tried to take her mother's place.



We're out of candles, and I don't know how to make them. We're out of soap, and I don't know how to make soap, so everything's dirty ...

A young girl with long blonde hair, wearing a green dress, stands holding a broom. She is talking to a young boy with dark hair, wearing a light-colored shirt, who is looking at her. They are in a workshop with wooden benches and tools.



Oh, Abe!

You're doing your best ... you're only a little girl! The worst thing is just missing our mother!

A close-up of the young boy, Abe, hugging the young girl, Sally. He has his eyes closed and a sad expression. Sally is leaning her head against his chest.

One day Tom Lincoln rode away.

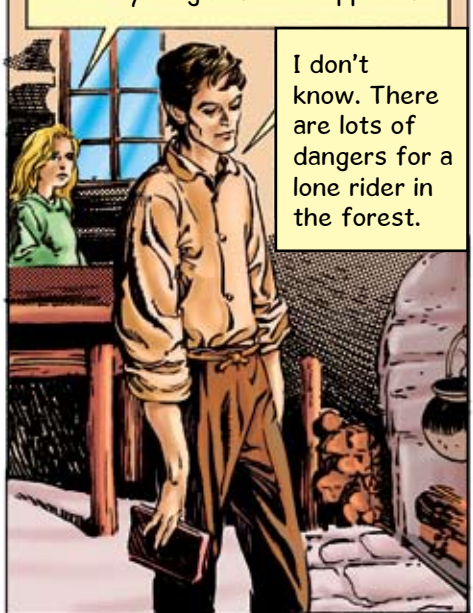


Did Pa say where he was going?

Not a word.

A young boy, Abe, wearing a blue shirt and brown boots, carries a stack of logs. He is talking to a young girl, Sally, who is wearing a pink shawl and a green dress. They are in a forest with trees and a path. In the background, a man on a horse is riding away.

Pa's been gone for days! Do you think anything bad has happened?



I don't know. There are lots of dangers for a lone rider in the forest.

A young boy, Abe, wearing a light-colored shirt and brown pants, stands in a kitchen. He is holding a book or a small box. In the background, a young girl, Sally, is sitting at a table. There is a window and a stove in the kitchen.

But Abe was her special favorite.

I'm glad you like to read, son. I wish I knew how.

Oh, yes! I want to know so much, and everything I want to know is in books!

 A woman with dark hair, wearing a blue dress and a matching bonnet, is seated and looking towards a young boy. The boy is sitting on a wooden bench or ledge, holding an open book and looking at it intently. The background shows an outdoor setting with a wooden structure and some foliage.

But there were not many books around.

My best friend's a man who can give me a book I ain't read.

 A close-up shot of the young boy from the previous panel. He is looking down at an open book he is holding in his hands. The background is a bright, hazy yellow and green, suggesting an outdoor setting.

He would walk miles to borrow one ...

Thank you, Mr. Pitcher! I'll take the best care of it.

Glad to help anybody who'll walk thirty miles to read a book!

 A man in a dark suit and glasses is standing on a wooden walkway, talking to the young boy. They are in front of a wooden building with a sign that reads "MR. PITCHER LAWYER". The scene is outdoors with a fence and trees in the background.

... and get up early or stay up late to have time to read it.

I'll cuff you good if you don't get up and go to work! A boy your age wasting time on such foolishness!

 A man wearing a brown hat and a red shirt stands with his hands on his hips, looking down at a young boy. The boy is lying on the ground, propped up on one arm, reading a book. A stack of books is on the ground next to him. The background shows a wooden structure and trees.

And then ...

That new neighbor's opening a school next winter. I want the children to go.

The younger ones maybe but not Abe! I can hire him out to split fence rails.



Until a boy was 21 years old his wages belonged to his father.

But he's the one who wants it most. And he'll make the most of it!

He can already read and write and figure! Anything more is foolishness! And we need the money!



All in all, Abe never went to school more than a year altogether.

But he would walk 15 miles to the county courthouse.

What are you doing here, Abe?

I learn a lot listenin' to the lawyers argue their cases.



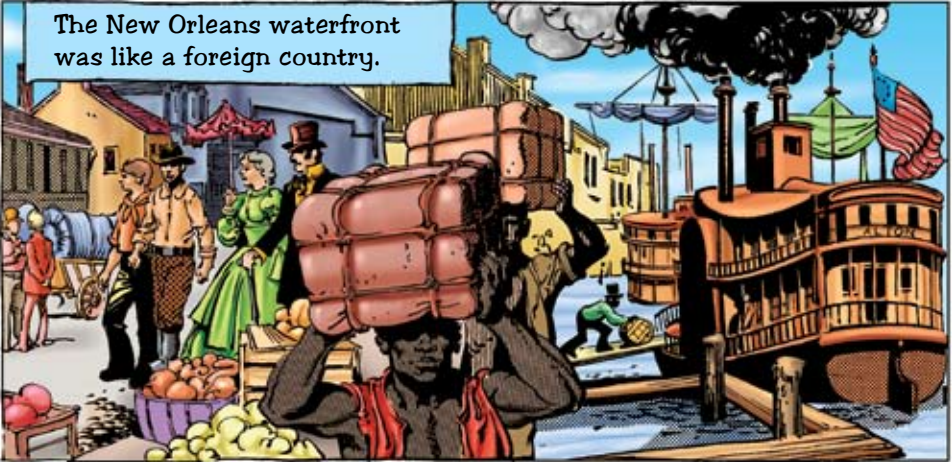
And most nights he went to the crossroads store.

The Louisville paper came today, Abe. The fellows are waitin' to hear you read out the news.

Nothing I'd like better.



The New Orleans waterfront was like a foreign country.



They saw great churches ...



So different from the log meeting house at home!

... beautiful homes ...

How's that for a nice little cabin?



... and a slave auction.

What am I bid? Do I hear five hundred dollars?

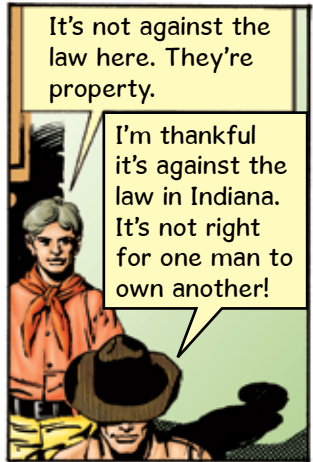




Let's go!
I can't stand this!



People oughtn't to be sold like animals!



It's not against the law here. They're property.

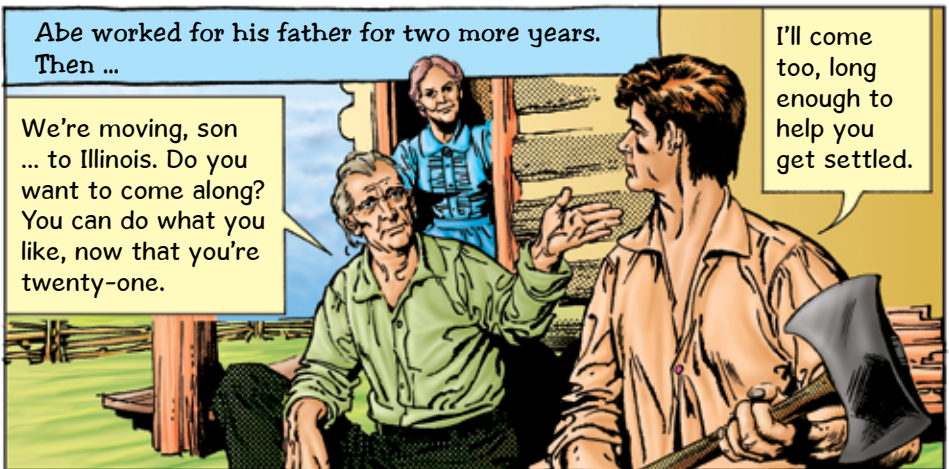
I'm thankful it's against the law in Indiana. It's not right for one man to own another!



The trip down river had taken a month. After the goods were sold, they returned home in a week by steamboat.

There's Rockport, Abe! We're almost home!

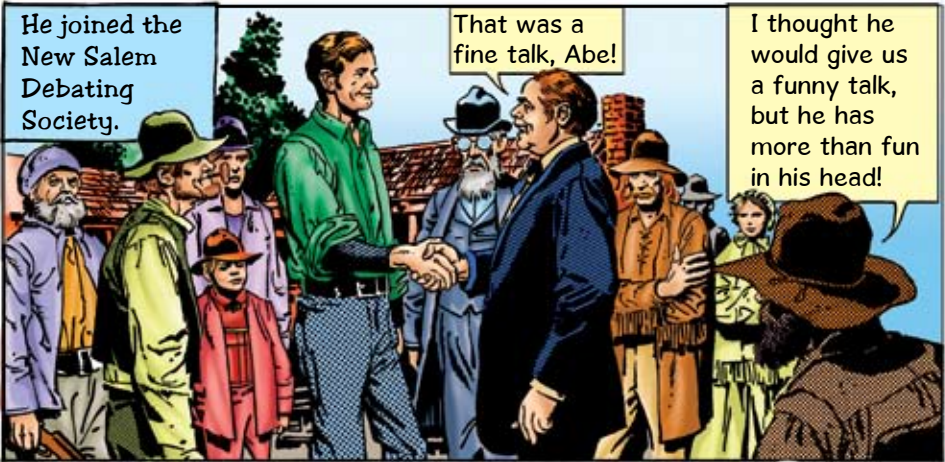
It was good of your Pa to let me make this trip. I'll never forget it!



Abe worked for his father for two more years. Then ...

We're moving, son ... to Illinois. Do you want to come along? You can do what you like, now that you're twenty-one.

I'll come too, long enough to help you get settled.



He joined the New Salem Debating Society.

That was a fine talk, Abe!

I thought he would give us a funny talk, but he has more than fun in his head!



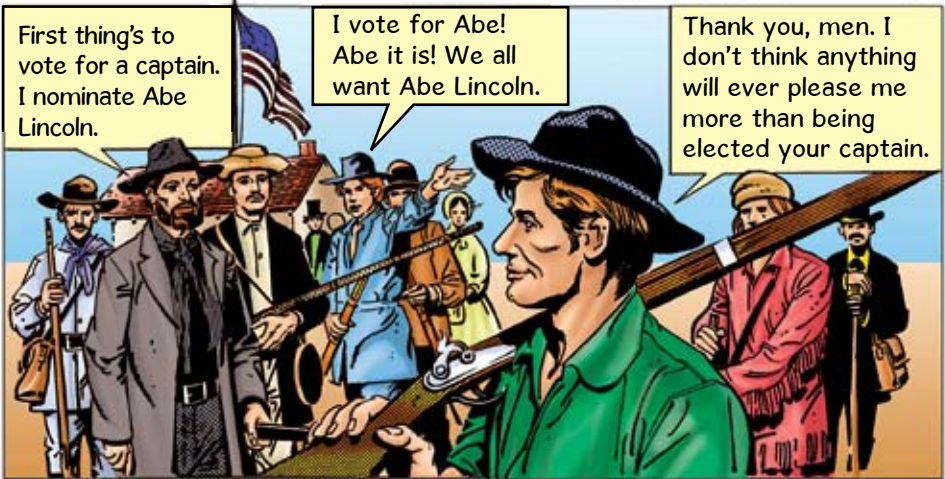
Later ...

Abe, you should go into politics!

Sure! You have good ideas about what the government should do.

Why not run for state representative?

Abe decided to run. It was March 1832. But a war broke out with the Blackhawk Indians. Abe and other New Salem men joined the militia.



First thing's to vote for a captain. I nominate Abe Lincoln.

I vote for Abe! Abe it is! We all want Abe Lincoln.

Thank you, men. I don't think anything will ever please me more than being elected your captain.