

## John Wilkes Booth

- Born on May 10, 1838 in Maryland; the 9th of 10 children.
- He was the lead in some of William Shakespeare's most famous works.
- He was a racist and Southern sympathizer during the Civil War.
- He hated Abraham Lincoln who represented everything Booth was against.
- Booth blamed Lincoln for all the South's ills.
- **BOOTH WANTED REVENGE!!!!**



## ...other interesting facts about Booth

- Started his acting career in 1855 and by 1860 was making \$20,000 a year....
- many called him "the handsomest man in America" and he had an easy charm about him that attracted women....
- In 1859 Booth was an eyewitness to the execution of John Brown and stood near the scaffold with other armed men to guard against any attempt to rescue John Brown before the hanging....
- On November 9, 1863, President Lincoln viewed Booth in the role of Raphael in *The Marble Heart* in Ford's Theatre.

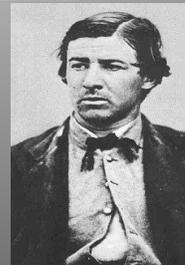
## The Conspirators....



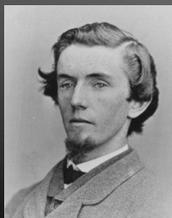
George Atzerodt



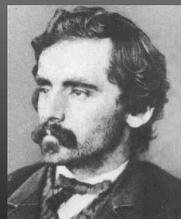
Samuel Arnold



David Herold



John Suratt



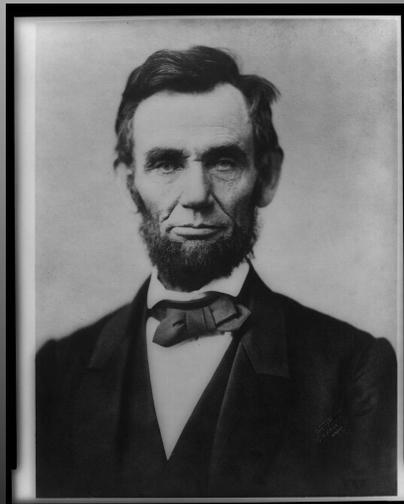
Michael O'Laughlen



Lewis Powell (Paine or Payne)

## Booth's Original Plan

- In late summer of 1864 Booth began developing plans to kidnap Lincoln, take him to Richmond (the Confederate capital), and hold him in return for Confederate prisoners of war.



## What happened?

- Booth began using Mary Surratt's boardinghouse (*pictured left*) to meet with his co-conspirators.
- On March 17, 1865, the group planned to capture Lincoln who was scheduled to attend a play at a hospital located on the outskirts of Washington.
- However, the President changed plans and remained in the capital. Thus, Booth's plot to kidnap Lincoln failed.



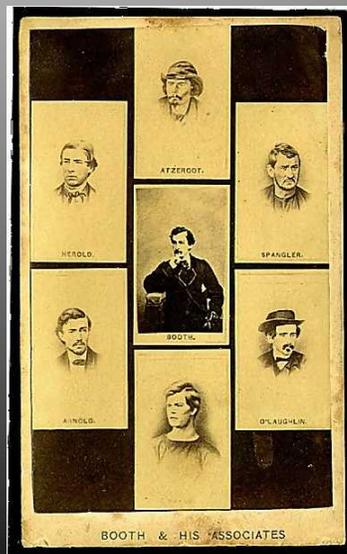
## A Big Change of Plans...

- On April 9, 1865, General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox. (War is over)
- Two days later Lincoln spoke from the White House to a crowd gathered outside. Booth was present as Lincoln suggested in his speech that voting rights be granted to certain blacks.
- Infuriated, Booth's plans now turned in the direction of **assassination**.



## One last meeting....

- Booth held one final meeting with his co-conspirators.
- He said he would kill Lincoln at the theatre (he had since learned that Grant had left town).
- Booth gave the others their orders.
- Booth also arranged to have a fast horse waiting for him.



## What was the overall goal?

- All attacks were to take place simultaneously at approximately 10:15 P.M. that night.
- Booth hoped the resulting chaos and weakness in the government would lead to a comeback for the South.



## Lincoln's Protection....

- **John Parker**, a Washington police officer who had been assigned as Lincoln's bodyguard for the evening, met the President just as he was entering the box.
- Parker, who did not have a very good record as a policeman, took his seat outside the box.
- However, he found that he could not see the stage, so he left his post to find better seating.
- Unbelievably, Parker then left the theater at intermission with Lincoln's footman and coachman. The three went to a saloon next to the theater for a drink.



Now read the article  
“Who Killed Lincoln?”

And then answers questions 1-3

## The moment of truth....

- Booth entered Ford's lobby at about 10:07 P.M.
- Booth could see the white door he needed to enter to get to Lincoln's State Box.
- Charles Forbes, the President's footman, was seated next to the door and Booth apparently handed him a card.
- Quietly, Booth then opened the door and entered the dark area in back of the box.
- He propped the door shut with the wooden leg of a music stand which he had placed there on one of his earlier visits during the day

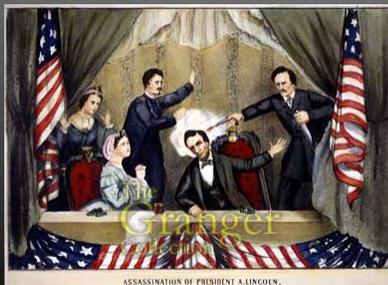
## Lincoln Shot....

- Booth put his derringer behind Lincoln's head near the left ear and pulled the trigger.



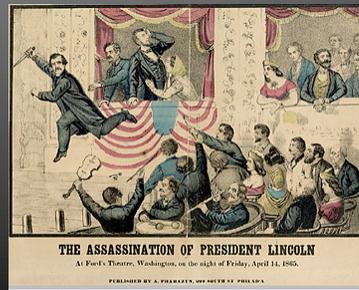
## Major Rathbone

- Rathbone began wrestling with the assassin, and Booth pulled out his knife and stabbed Rathbone in the left arm.



## "Sic Semper Tyrannis"

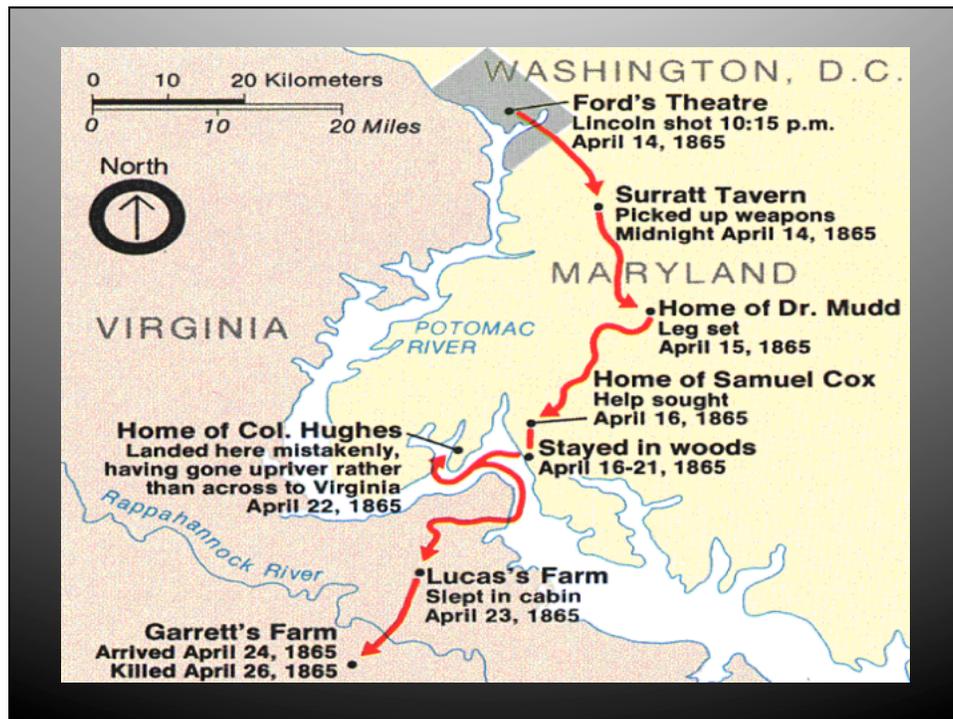
- Booth jumped 11 feet to the stage below.
- When he hit the floor he snapped the fibula bone in his left leg just above the ankle.
- Many in the theatre thought he yelled "Sic Semper Tyrannis" (Latin for "As Always to Tyrants")
- Booth flashed his knife at the audience, and he made his way across the stage in front of more than 1,000 people.
- Everything happened so fast no one had time to stop him.



## Booth flees on horse....

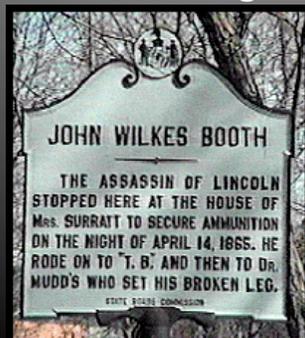
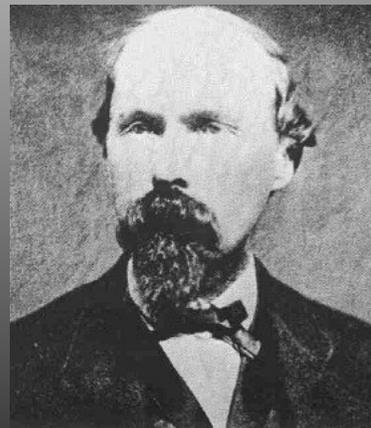
- Booth went out the back door, climbed on his horse, and escaped from the city using the Navy Yard Bridge.
- Booth met up with Herod and they headed for Lloyd's tavern that was leased from Mary Suratt in Surrattsville.





## Dr. Mudd

- About 4:00 A.M. Booth and Herold arrived at Dr. Mudd's home where Mudd set and splinted Booth's broken leg.



## Lincoln dies....

- Dr. Robert King Stone, the Lincoln's family doctor, arrived around 11:00 P.M., but there was little that anyone could do.
- The many doctors present knew that the president would not recover.
- Lincoln never again regained consciousness.
- He died at 7:22 A.M. on April 15, 1865.



## Wanted Men!!!

- The morning of Lincoln's death, over two thousand soldiers rode out of Washington, D.C., in pursuit of the assassin.
- Eleven days later, April 26, 1865, a group of soldiers and detectives tracked Booth down on Garrett farm near Port Royal, Virginia.
- Orders were to bring them in **ALIVE!!**

WAR Department, Washington, April 20, 1865,

**\$100,000 REWARD!**

**THE MURDERER**

Of our late beloved President, Abraham Lincoln,  
**IS STILL AT LARGE.**

**\$50,000 REWARD**

Will be paid for the apprehension of JOHN W. HUNTER, one of Booth's accomplices.

**\$25,000 REWARD**

Will be paid for the apprehension of David C. Harold, member of Booth's accomplices.

**\$25,000 REWARD**

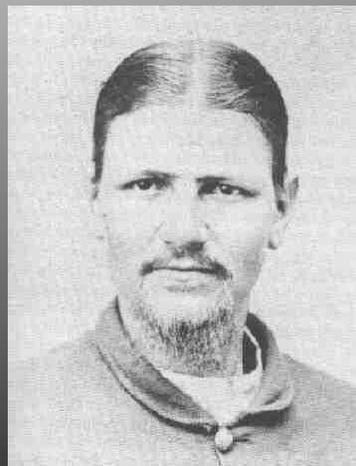
Will be paid for any information that shall render in the arrest of either of the above-named criminals, or their accomplices.

All persons furnishing information... will be treated as accomplices... and shall be subject to trial before a Military Commission... Let the public be warned that the public good is the best for the nation and the best for the country.

**EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.**

## Booth killed....

- The lieutenant in charge at Garrett farm decided to ignite the barn that Booth was hold up in, hoping to force him out.
- As the barn went up in flames, Booth stepped towards the door.
- Sergeant Boston Corbett then shot at Booth, hitting him in the back of the head. Booth died just over two hours later.



## Trial of Conspirators....

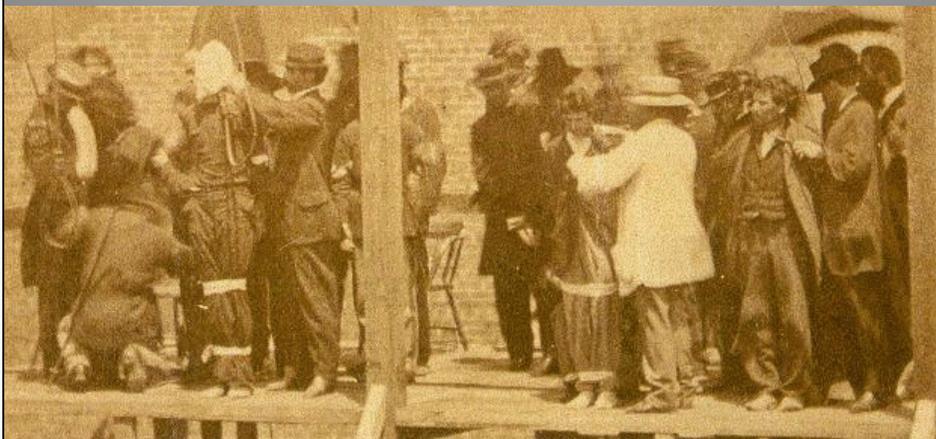
- The government charged 8 people with conspiracy.
- On May 1, 1865, President Andrew Johnson ordered the formation of a military commission to try the accused persons.
- The actual trial began on May 10th and lasted until June 30th.



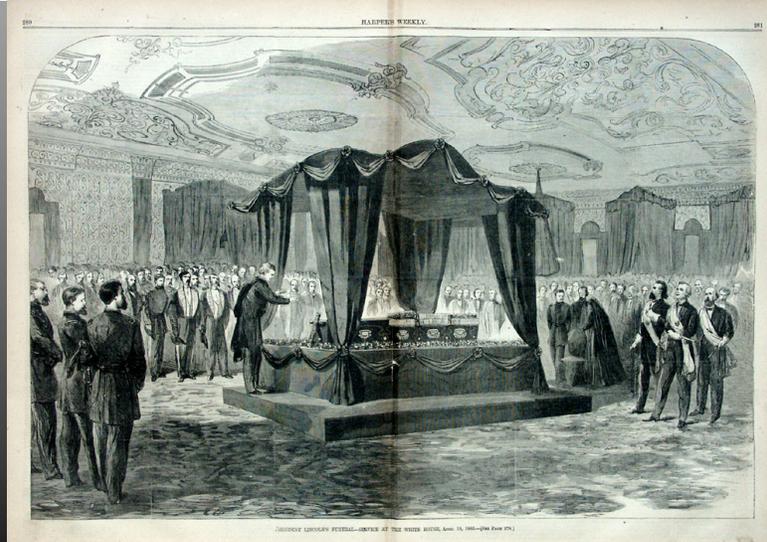
## Mary Surratt's Story

And answer question 4

**Before sentence carried out**



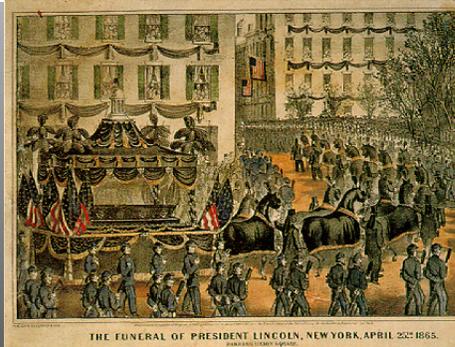
# Lincoln's Funeral Procession



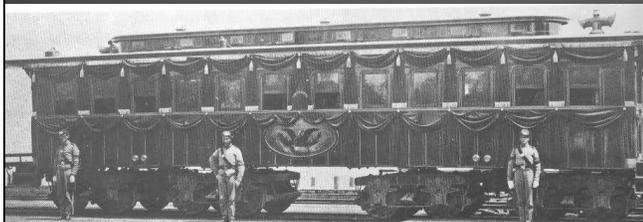
Lincoln lying in state in the White House

# The Funeral Procession

- Abraham Lincoln's funeral train left Washington on April 21, 1865.
- It would essentially retrace the 1,654 mile route Mr. Lincoln had traveled as President-elect in 1861



THE FUNERAL OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN, NEW YORK, APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup> 1865.



Abraham Lincoln was elected to Congress in 1846.  
John F. Kennedy was elected to Congress in 1946.  
Abraham Lincoln was elected President in 1860.  
John F. Kennedy was elected President in 1960.  
The names Lincoln and Kennedy each contain seven letters.  
Both were particularly concerned with civil rights.  
Both wives lost children while living in the White House.  
Both Presidents were shot on a Friday.  
Both Presidents were shot in the head.  
Lincoln's secretary was named Kennedy.  
Kennedy's secretary was named Lincoln.  
Both were assassinated by Southerners.  
Both were succeeded by Southerners.  
Both successors were named Johnson.  
Andrew Johnson, who succeeded Lincoln, was born in 1808.  
Lyndon Johnson, who succeeded Kennedy, was born in 1908.  
John Wilkes Booth, who assassinated Lincoln, was born in 1839.  
Lee Harvey Oswald, who assassinated Kennedy, was born in 1939.  
Both assassins were known by their three names.  
Both names are comprised of fifteen letters.  
Lincoln was shot at the theater named Ford  
Kennedy was shot in a car called "Lincoln" — made by Ford!  
Booth ran from the theater and was caught in a warehouse.  
Oswald ran from a warehouse and was caught in a theater.  
Booth and Oswald were assassinated before their trials.