

Market House Museum's Abraham Lincoln and Family Trivia Game

(Answers are found at the bottom of page three.)



1. Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809 in a backwoods cabin. Against tremendous odds, he educated himself, became a lawyer and established a successful practice. Where was he born? A) near Danville, Illinois B) near Hodgenville, Kentucky C) near Springfield, Illinois.



2. Lincoln's birth mother died young. He grew up with his siblings under the care of a loving stepmother and his father, Thomas. What was young Lincoln's favorite pastimes? A) reading and spouting poetry in the woods B) taking walks and communing with nature B) splitting fence rails and helping his father with chores.



3. Lincoln was reported to have had a lovelorn crush on Ann Rutledge, but she died young. Some folks say she was just a very good friend to Lincoln. Either way, he was shattered when she died. What was the cause of her death? A) cholera B) milk sickness C) typhoid fever.



4. Lincoln then met and courted Mary Todd, who also grew up with a stepmother, but one who usually put her own offspring ahead of those of her husband's first marriage. This made Mary unhappy. Her father and their family were very well to do. The Todd's moved in the best social circles. Mary grew up knowing Henry Clay as a neighbor and friend. She attended a private young ladies school to polish her manners and education. What language did she speak fluently, besides English? A) German B) French C) Spanish.



5. The Lincolns were engaged, then a spat called it off. Finally, they got back together, and were married in Springfield, Illinois at the home of her sister, Mrs. Ninian Edwards. The wedding was held in such an impromptu manner that the wedding cake was still warm when it was iced! The weather was stormy; wind and rain lashed at the windows of the gracious home. What was inscribed inside Mary's wedding band? A) I'm forever yours B) Love is Eternal C) Their wedding date.



6. The Lincolns lived in a hotel for the first year or so of their wedded life. Lincoln was riding the circuit with his law practice and was gone quite a bit. Mary conceived almost immediately, and their first child Robert Todd Lincoln was born. Why did Mary draw unkind remarks from her neighbors? A) the baby cried a lot B) she had nightmares and screamed C) She had far too much noisy company in to visit.



7. The Lincolns later rented a one story house from Dr Dresser in Springfield. Once, when Lincoln was off on a trip, Mary had a second floor built on top of the first! Lincoln arrived home, and walked up and down the street, asking the neighbors if they knew where the Lincolns lived as they could not afford anything as fine as the two storied home where the one storied home used to be. What happened then? A) Mary opened an upper window and told him to come on in and stop being foolish B) The neighbor told him he needed to stay home and not be gone so much and those things wouldn't happen while he was gone C) The neighbor, who was the banker, told him it was indeed his house.



8. Lincoln was elected President for the Republican Party and moved to Washington. His wife and sons followed. One son, Edward (Eddie) died before his father was elected. But Tad, Willie, and Robert all were excited and eager to see the Capitol. What happened while they were all en route to the Capitol, that angered Lincoln? A) Tad threw their clothes out of the train window, making them have to stop the train and recover the goods B) Robert lost his father's handwritten Inaugural speech, which had already been sent to the paper and it would be embarrassing to have to try and 'adlib' it in person C) Mary was out of sorts with Abraham because he wouldn't let her buy ten new gowns.



9. The North and South fought in the great Civil War 1861-1865. Lincoln was the Northern president, and Jefferson Davis was the Southern President (of the Confederate States of America.) Before the war, Jefferson had been Secretary of War for the Union! Lincoln was melancholy at the state of affairs; his wife was branded a spy as some of her brothers and stepbrothers fought for the Confederacy. She however, was 100% for the Union. Which sister visited her at the White House during the war, after her Southern General husband Ben Hardin Helm was killed? A) "Little Sister" Emilie C) "Little Sister" Sarah.



10. The Lincolns lost their son William Wallace (Willie) while they were in the White House of typhoid. He was supposed to be the brightest of all the Lincoln children. The Lincolns were heartbroken. Mary almost lost her reason. Lincoln guided her over to the window, after she had cried her eyes out for two weeks, weeping over her lost son. What did he say to her, pointing out a building across the way? A) "Mother, if you don't get hold of yourself, I am afraid we will have to send you to yonder hospital" B) "The building over there is a high class hotel, and you may need to get away from here for a while to regain your peace of mind" C) "Let's go over to the old Soldier's Home, I know the wounded would appreciate our visiting with flowers from the conservatory."



11. Lincoln thought that when the war was over, and the North had won, all the war tunes should be played in celebration. He requested “Dixie” over and over. He always had liked to jest that he loved music, especially Yankee Doodle “and the other one” meaning he could only recognize Yankee Doodle. When he was courting his wife, he went up to her and said, “Miss Todd, I want to dance with you in the worst way.” What was her reply later? A) He did just that in the worst way B) I fell in love with him immediately, he waltzed so divinely B) He was certainly a better story teller than dancer who could have used some lessons, but we persevered.



shutterstock - 355983128

12. Lincoln’s son Tad (Thomas) had a speech impediment and a cleft lip. He was mischievous and was always doing things to drive folks crazy who had to account for Mr. Lincoln’s time or articles of worth in the White House. Once, he hooked up two goats to a small cart and drove them through a meeting his mother was conducting with several important ladies, including wives of generals! He was loveable, though, and Lincoln adored his young son. Why did the family call him “Tad?” A) his head was so big at birth he looked like a tadpole to Lincoln B) it was a shortened form of Thomas C) He was just a tad smaller than his brother Willie at birth.



13. Lincoln took his wife to Ford’s Theatre for an evening out. Laura Keane was playing in *Our American Cousin*. During the play, the guard watching the box to protect Lincoln wandered off to a better seat in the regular theatre, and left Lincoln unguarded. Lincoln cuddled up next to his wife Mary, when they were out of sight of the crowd in the theatre below. What was Mary’s response to Lincoln’s comment, just before an actor, John Wilkes Booth, who felt the South had been misunderstood, took that opportunity to enter the box and shoot Lincoln in the head at close range? A) Father, what will people say if they see us spooning? B) Abraham, I love you dearly C) This play is very funny and I am so glad we were able to come see it.



14. Mary became unhinged at Lincoln’s death. She felt she had lost her stable touchpoint in life, and she was in dire straits as she had bought so many dress materials, household goods, etc. on credit and could not pay them off. She and son Tad wandered about Europe while she sought health spas to help her health and Tad’s bronchial troubles. They came back to America, only to have what happen? A) Tad got pleurisy and died B) Tad met a nice girl and married her, providing grandchildren C) Tad took care of his mother till she died, at her sister Mrs. Edward’s house, a sick woman forgotten by the world.



15. The Lincoln’s oldest son, Robert Todd, married Mary Harlan, daughter of a judge, and became a respectable businessman with the Pullman Railroad Car Company. He guarded his father’s memory devoutly. What did he help design? A) a restored Dresser Home B) the Lincoln Monument in Washington C) the White House.

Answers: 1-B, 2-A, 3-B, 4-B, 5-B, 6-A, 7-A, 8-B, 9-A, 10-A, 11-A, 12-A, 13-A, 14-A, 15-B.