



The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln

Mark E. Neely Jr., R. Gerald McMurtry

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln

Mark E. Neely Jr., R. Gerald McMurtry

The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln Mark E. Neely Jr., R. Gerald McMurtry

In 1875 Robert Todd Lincoln caused his mother, Mary Todd Lincoln, to be committed to an insane asylum. Based on newly discovered manuscript materials, this book seeks to explain how and why.

In these documents—marked by Robert Todd Lincoln as the "MTL Insanity File"—exists the only definitive record of the tragic story of Mary Todd Lincoln's insanity trial. The book that results from these letters and documents addresses several areas of controversy in the life of the widow of Abraham Lincoln: the extent of her illness, the fairness of her trial, and the motives of those who had her committed for treatment. Related issues include the status of women under the law as well as the legal and medical treatment of insanity.

Speculating on the reasons for her mental condition, the authors note that Mrs. Lincoln suffered an extraordinary amount of tragedy in a relatively few years. Three of her four sons died very young, and Abraham Lincoln was assassinated. After the death of her son Willie she maintained a darkly rigorous mourning for nearly three years, prompting the president to warn her that excessive woe might force him to send her to "that large white house on the hill yonder," the government hospital for the insane.

Mrs. Lincoln also suffered anxiety about money, charting an exceptionally erratic financial course. She had spent lavishly during her husband's presidency and at his death found herself deeply in debt. She had purchased trunkfuls of drapes to hang over phantom windows. 84 pairs of kid gloves in less than a month, and \$3,200 worth of jewelry in the three months preceding Lincoln's assassination. She followed the same erratic course for the rest of her life, creating in herself a tremendous anxiety. She occasionally feared that people were trying to kill her, and in 1873 she told her doctor that an Indian spirit was removing wires from her eyes and bones from her cheeks.

Her son assembled an army of lawyers and medical experts who would swear in court that Mrs. Lincoln was insane. The jury found her insane and in need of treatment in an asylum. Whether the verdict was correct or not, the trial made Mary Lincoln desperate. Within hours of the verdict she would attempt suicide. In a few months she would contemplate murder. Since then every aspect of the trial has been criticized—from the defense attorney to the laws in force at the time. Neely and McMurtry deal with the trial, the commitment of Mary Todd Lincoln, her release, and her second trial. An appendix features letters and fragments by Mrs. Lincoln from the "Insanity File." The book is illustrated by 25 photographs.

 [Download The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln Mark E. Neely Jr., R. Gerald McMurtry

From reader reviews:

Stacey Ryan:

Hey guys, do you want to find a new book to study? Maybe the book with the name *The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln* suitable to you? The actual book was written by a popular writer in this era. Typically the book titled *The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln* is the one of several books that everyone reads now. This particular book has inspired many people in the world. When you read this e-book you will enter the new dimension that you have never known before. The author explained their thoughts in a simple way, thus all of us can easily recognize the core of this book. This book will give you a large amount of information about this world now. So you can see the representation of the world in this particular book.

Beth Murray:

Reading a publication can be one of a lot of activities that everyone in the world enjoys. Do you like reading books thus? There are a lot of reasons why people enjoy. First, reading a reserve will give you a lot of new facts. When you read an e-book you will get new information simply because a book is one of various ways to share the information or their idea. Second, reading a book will make you actually more imaginative. When you examine a book especially a fictional book the author will bring you to definitely imagine the story how the character types do anything. Third, you are able to share your knowledge to some others. When you read this *The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln*, it is possible to tell your family, friends in addition to soon about your reserve. Your knowledge can inspire the others, make them reading a guide.

Larry Artz:

As a student exactly feel bored in order to reading. If their teacher requested them to go to the library or make a summary for some e-book, they are complained. Just minor students that have reading's internal or real interest. They just do what the trainer wants, like asked to go to the library. They go to presently there but nothing reading really. Any students feel that looking at is not important, boring as well as can't see colorful images on there. Yeah, it is being complicated. A book is very important for you personally. As we know that on this era, many ways to get whatever we really wish for. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. So, this *The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln* can make you sense more interested to read.

Olivia Dickert:

Reading a guide makes you to get more knowledge from this. You can take knowledge and information coming from a book. A book is composed or printed or illustrated from each source which filled with update of news. Within this modern era like today, many ways to get information are available for anyone. From media social just like newspaper, magazines, science reserve, encyclopedia, reference book, fresh and comic. You can add your knowledge by that book. Do you want to spend your spare time to open your book? Or just

searching for the The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln when you desired it?

**Download and Read Online The Insanity File: The Case of Mary
Todd Lincoln Mark E. Neely Jr., R. Gerald McMurtry
#MKHX154Y2CN**

Read The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln by Mark E. Neely Jr., R. Gerald McMurtry for online ebook

The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln by Mark E. Neely Jr., R. Gerald McMurtry Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln by Mark E. Neely Jr., R. Gerald McMurtry books to read online.

Online The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln by Mark E. Neely Jr., R. Gerald McMurtry ebook PDF download

The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln by Mark E. Neely Jr., R. Gerald McMurtry Doc

The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln by Mark E. Neely Jr., R. Gerald McMurtry Mobipocket

The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln by Mark E. Neely Jr., R. Gerald McMurtry EPub