



Lincoln: The Biography of a Writer

By Kaplan, Fred.

Harper Perennial. 1 Paperback(s), 2008. soft. Book Condition: New. For Abraham Lincoln, whether he was composing love letters, speeches, or legal arguments, words mattered. Here Fred Kaplan also the author of *The Singular* Mark Twain, Gore Vidal, Henry James, Charles Dickens, and Thomas Carlyle, which was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award explores the life of our 16th president through his use of language both as a vehicle to express complex thoughts and as an instrument of persuasion and empowerment. This unique account of Lincoln's life reminds us how vital is the necessity of the careful and honest use of words for successful democracy. "A fine, invaluable book . certain to become essential to our understanding of the 16th president. Kaplan meticulously analyzes how Lincoln's steadily maturing prose style enabled him to come to grips with slavery and, as his own views evolved, to express his deepening opposition to it." *Washington Post* 406.

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