



The assassination of President Lincoln. On the evening of Good Friday, April 14, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated while attending a performance at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C. The assassin was a talented but mentally unbalanced actor and Southern sympathizer named John Wilkes Booth. Pursued by Union soldiers twelve days later, Booth, escaping from a burning barn, was fatally shot by one of them (some say he shot himself).