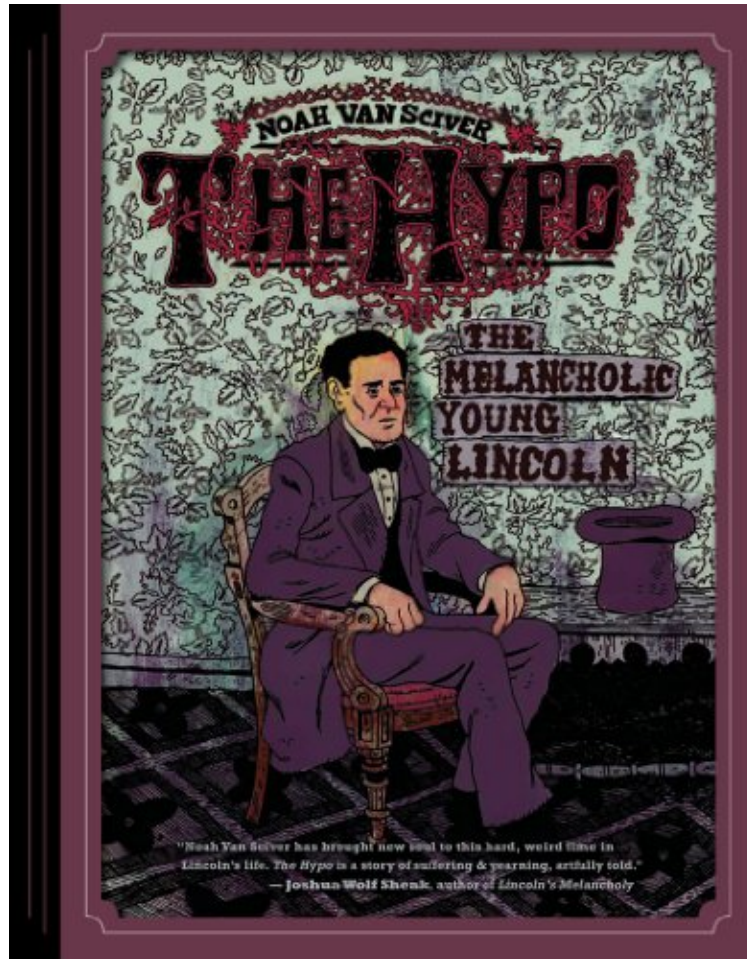


(Read now) The Hypo: The Melancholic Young Lincoln

The Hypo: The Melancholic Young Lincoln

Noah Van Sciver

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Noah Van Sciver : The Hypo: The Melancholic Young Lincoln before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hypo: The Melancholic Young Lincoln:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Moving and Interesting By Jacob I though this book was great. Von Sciver's black and white ink drawings that appear so simple at first seem to swell with emotion as the book goes on, conveying a profound pathos and humanity. The story is told with excellent restraint and attention to detail. I did not anticipate being emotionally affected by a graphic novel, but I was, and I even found myself relating to young Lincoln's struggle to realize his own potential in the face of crippling self-doubt. I highly recommend this read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Hypo: The Melancholic Young Lincoln by Noah Van Sciver By B. J. Neary I really had no idea Lincoln suffered from depression and this graphic novel did an excellent job with the character of Lincoln, the people he lived with and his relationship with Mary Todd. She was also depressed but it was manifested in the form of migraines. I wanted this for the high school library but thought better when one of the first chapters deals with Lincoln being set up with a prostitute. The author was impressive in his rendering of Lincoln, his

southern personality and respect for others, and delving into the depths of despair Lincoln sunk to; alarming many who came to his aid. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy askPerfect!

This graphic novel is based on Lincoln's battle with depression. The debut graphic novel from Noah Van Sciver follows the twentysomething Abraham Lincoln as he loses everything, long before becoming our most beloved president. Lincoln is a rising Whig in the state legislature as he arrives in Springfield, IL to practice law. With all of his possessions under his arms in two saddlebags, he is quickly given a place to stay by a womanizing young bachelor who becomes his friend and close confidant. Lincoln builds a life and begins friendships with the town's top lawyers and politicians. He attends elegant dances and meets an independent-minded young woman from a high-society Kentucky family, and after a brisk courtship, becomes engaged. But, as time passes and uncertainty creeps in, young Lincoln is forced to battle a dark cloud of depression brought on by a chain of defeats and failures culminating into a nervous breakdown that threatens his life and sanity. This cloud of dark depression Lincoln calls *The Hypo*. Dense crosshatching and an attention to detail help bring together this completely original telling of a man driven by an irrepressible desire to pull himself up by his bootstraps, overcome all obstacles, and become the person he strives to be. All the while, unknowingly laying the foundation of character he would use as one of America's greatest presidents. Yes

From Booklist Lincoln's forlorn early years as a struggling lawyer and neophyte politician are sympathetically depicted in this graphic novel. Arriving in Springfield in 1837, the 28-year-old Lincoln starts a law practice, meets the town's lawyers and political figures, and becomes engaged to Mary Todd against her wealthy family's wishes. But following a series of setbacks his legal practice collapses, his debts accumulate, his roommate and closest friend leaves town, and he breaks the engagement. The melancholia, insecurity, and loneliness that had long plagued Lincoln spiral into a life-threatening nervous breakdown. Lincoln's struggles to overcome the crippling depression he calls *the hypo* and set his life and his career back on track are no less heroic than the political courage he would display as president during the Civil War. Van Sciver's heavily crosshatched drawing style, a bit reminiscent of early Crumb with a touch of Chester Brown, is well suited for the material, conveying a slight awkwardness that mirrors Lincoln's personal discomfort and a rough-hewn, old-fashioned quality reflecting the story's era. --Gordon Flagg
About the Author Noah Van Sciver was born on July 7, 1984, and currently resides in Denver, CO. His work has appeared in *Mad* magazine, *Sunstone*, *The Comics Journal*, *Mome*, and numerous comics anthologies.