



0. DEATH OF PRESIDENT GARFIELD - Story Preface

1. CHARLES GUITEAU: ERSTWHILE LAWYER

2. PLOT TO KILL PRESIDENT GARFIELD

3. ASSASSINATION of PRESIDENT GARFIELD

4. WHERE IS THE BULLET?

5. DEATH OF PRESIDENT GARFIELD

6. MURDER TRIAL of CHARLES GUITEAU

7. GUITEAU: WAS HE INSANE?

8. GUITEAU'S SENTENCE: DEATH

9. EXECUTION BY HANGING

President Garfield was not expected to die from his assassination-attempt wounds. This illustration, which appeared in *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* on 23 July 1881, makes the point: "The attempted assassination of the President - a morning greeting by the President's wife and daughter / from a sketch by a staff artist." [Illustration online](#) via the Library of Congress.

Days before his 1880 election, James Garfield gave a speech in his home state of Ohio. He urged young men, anxious to demonstrate their independence, to vote for him - even if their fathers and grandfathers planned to do the same. Using a phrase, which after his death seemed strangely ironic, the former Civil War Major General said:

Your life is full and buoyant with hope now, and when you pitch your tent, I beg you to pitch it among the living and not among the dead.

People remembered those words after Garfield (who only months before had watched his inaugural parade) was himself "among the dead." He had died "so soon," it was said, but not in vain:

*Garfield, the Nation's chosen chief,
Alas, now dead! How deep our grief!
Rising self-made to highest state;
Falling so soon, by cruel fate.
If but thy death may emphasize
Each noble plan thou didst devise, --
Let sad Columbia mourn thee slain, --
Dying, thou hast not died in vain.*

By the time those words were penned, Charles Guiteau had met his own fate.

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