

THIS IS LINCOLN: PROUD PAST

A visual representation of Lincoln University's
legacy

By

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Based on the memoirs of former first lieutenant in
the 62nd Infantry, Richard Baxter Foster

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NARRATOR
(in a saudade tone)
My dearest Lucy...

FADE TO:

EXT. FORREST — EARLY MORNING

Brief glimpses of military boots marching along an open trail.

NARRATOR
I am officer of the day and will
take time that I can spare from my
duties to write to you.

CUT TO:

EXT. FORREST — AFTERNOON

A montage of wide shots revealing that these military boots belong to a group of young African-

American soldiers. Based on the designs of their outfits; these are civil war corporals currently on an expedition. Two soldiers taking a moment to rest from their travels, sit on a wooden cinder and begin to talk to each other. One of the soldiers pulls out a letter with distinct writing and begins to read to his comrade.

NARRATOR

I am teaching a school of
sergeants and corporals of the
company about one hour each day.
And I take great pleasure in that.

In the distance, a sergeant is seen conversing with his cadre.

NARRATOR

I never saw a body of men, so
anxious to learn as our regiment
now are.

As the regiment listens attentively to orders being given, the screen begins to overlay brief shots of sentences from the letter the Narrator is writing to his wife.

NARRATOR

It is with that, I feel I have
been called upon a new purpose.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT: COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAWN

Slow panning shots of beautiful architecture of a college campus are shown as the sun begins to rise.

NARRATOR

An ideal limitless in its
potential.

The camera then focuses on a banner with the name, "Lincoln University" featured prominently in the foreground of the previous architecture panning shots.

NARRATOR

Daring in its conception.

CUT TO:

INT: GYMNASIUM, COURT-SIDE - NIGHT

A group of collegiate male basketball players are seen huddled in a group. All physically drained and out of breath, the team captain removes his mouth guard and raises his hand within the huddle. His teammates follow his lead. With sweat beating down his face; his exhausted expression comes alive with passion as he gives a call to action. His teammates now motivated, they all join in his rallying cry before they disband and walk back into the center of the basketball court.

NARRATOR

Forged from courage.

CUT TO:

INT: CROWDED AUDITORIUM - DAY

A sea of joyful faces can be viewed in a dimly lit auditorium. In the mist of celebratory balloons faded in the distance, a mother with tears in her eyes watches as her son walks across the stage. He is met with an extended hand by the university president. The president congratulates the student and shakes his hand. Before the student begins to walk away he is interrupted by the university president and is soon embraced with a hug. A look of accomplishment falls over the student, while a look of pride radiates from the presidents eyes and smile.

NARRATOR

From service...

CUT TO:

INT: NATATORIUM - DAY

Mid-close up shot of an ROTC cadet pulling himself out of water. Weary, the cadet begins to crawl on the pool deck. Taking in heavy breathes, the cadet collapses to regain composure. In the distance other cadets completing their water survival training can be seen.

NARRATOR

(solemnly)

From sacrifice.

CUT TO:

INT: CLASSROOM - DAY

A diverse ethnic group of students are seen working on a group assignment within a biology laboratory classroom. Additional shots of the Narrator's letter are flashed across the screen.

NARRATOR

(confidently)

I can do well in Missouri.

CUT TO:

EXT: COLLEGE CAMPUS, MEMORIAL PLAZA - DAY

Recently graduated ROTC cadets are lined up single file with rifles drawn into the air. An American flag is flown at full mast as faculty, staff, students and the local community gather around for what seems to be a Veteran's Day celebration.

NARRATOR

I think I can see the day not far off, that we will live together in comfortable circumstances and look back on our hard long struggles.

CUT TO:

EXT: CEMETERY - DAY

Slow tracking shot of a young man holding a bouquet of roses within his hand. With a look of retrospection on his face, he stops in front of a grave. As the young man bends down to lay his roses, the grave becomes identifiable with the name "Logan Bennet; 65th Regiment, Colored Troops" being shown on the tombstone head.

NARRATOR

As freed slaves already look back on their former state of bondage.

CUT TO:

INT: LECTURE HALL - DAY

An African American professor begins addressing a classroom of Caucasian and African American students. "Article I: Congress"; the topic of the lecture can be seen slightly on the chalk board in front of the class. As the professor begins to elaborate on the subject, the students in attendance begin to take notes tentatively.

NARRATOR

Dear love how gladly will I share
these sufferings with you.

CUT TO:

INT: LIBRARY - DAY

A young woman is seen reading a textbook as daylight bursts through the windows, illuminating the hollow library. As the camera moves in closer on the student we are able to see the textbook is a historical recollection of the "62nd and 65th United States Colored Infantry Soldiers".

NARRATOR

As I share the cause... and the
will.

CUT TO:

EXT. FORREST - NIGHT

A group of African American soldiers huddled around a camp fire begin to laugh and engage in deep conversation as an orchestral rendition of John Legend's "Glory" begins to play.

CUT TO:

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAWN

A montage of slow panning shots highlight bronze monuments of the 62nd and 65th United States Colored Infantry Soldiers. As the rendition of John Legend's "Glory" comes to a climax; one final glimpse is shown of the monument over looking the campus of Lincoln University. The sun begins to rise over the same institution it's founding fathers believed in.

FADE TO BLACK