I. Abraham Lincoln and the Republican Triumph, 1858-1860

 A. The Union Under Siege

 B. Lincoln’s Political Career

II. The End of the Second Party System, 1850-1858

 A. Buchanan’s Failed Presidency

 B. The Whigs Disintegrate and New Parties Rise

 C. Buchanan’s Failed Presidency

III. War, Expansion, and Slavery, 1846-1850

 A. 1850: Crisis and Compromise

 B. California Gold and Racial Warfare

 C. A Divisive Victory

 D. The War with Mexico, 1846-1848

IV. Manifest Destiny: South and North

 A. The Fateful Election of 1844

 B. The Plains Indians

 C. The Push to the Pacific