

Canoeman Joe

Robin W. Radcliffe, author & Consie Powell, illustrator

Joe Seliga's story encompasses a legacy of stewardship for wood-canvas canoes and wild places — a beautifully illustrated book with a story/biography that features Joe's philosophy of caring and respect. A children's picture book for all ages.

About the book:

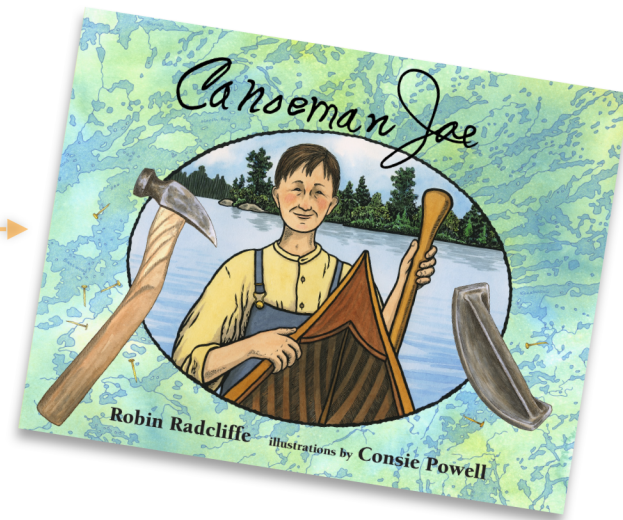
In the early 20th Century mining town of Ely, Minnesota, Joe Seliga taught himself how to build wood and canvas canoes. What began as a life full of curiosity and adventure grew into a passion for the land and its people. Joe held a deep appreciation of wild places, cherished his close-knit family, and found joy in using his hands to create a thing of beauty and utility. Along the way, he forged a tradition of respect and integrity for the wooden canoe: *if you take care of it, it will take care of you*. And Joe knew that the same could be said of the earth, a good friend and a lot of other things. This biographical picture book celebrates Joe's life with canoes as well as the independent spirit that instilled a tradition of self-reliance in a whole generation of campers across the lake country of northern Minnesota.

MARKETING:

July 2019 Anniversary – YMCA Camp Widjiwagan, Ely, Minnesota with 60 Seliga canoes in use. *Lake Superior Magazine* (readership 500,000) plans feature when book comes out.

THEMES:

Respect, preserve and protect nature; Wisdom in taking care of something (Giving value); Everyday heroes; Second chances (Resilience, opportunities, grit); Small-town life (values,)



JUVENILE/PICTURE BOOK/BIO

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Interest Age: 8 - 12 years

Reading Age: 8 - 12 years

US School Age: Third Grade-Eighth Grade

Author Robin W. Radcliffe, Professor at Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine, Director Cornell Conservation Medicine Program, also leads international research to conserve the endangered rhinoceroses of the world. Robin's first children's book, *The Hornless Rhinoceros* (Living Fossil Foundation, 2015), made the short-list for the 2016 Green Earth book award. Though his work takes him around the world, Robin's heart remains in the Great Lakes where he can be found paddling his blue Joe Seliga canoe (#390).

Illustrator Consie Powell, her husband, and their Newfoundland dogs all live and work in a bright and cozy off-grid house in the far-north woods of Minnesota. Visit her website at www.ConsiePowell.com.



Giving voice to writers and artists who will make the world a better place

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