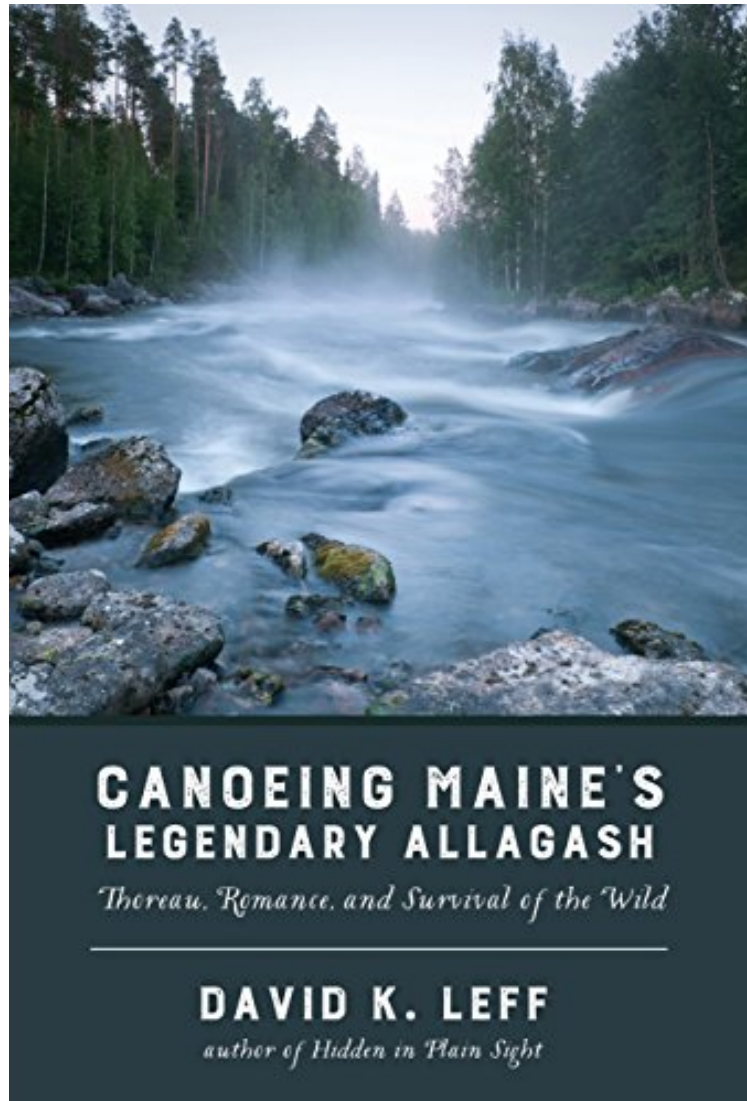


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## Canoeing Maine's Legendary Allagash

*David K. Leff*

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**David K. Leff : Canoeing Maine's Legendary Allagash** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Canoeing Maine's Legendary Allagash:

Meet Henry David Thoreau, U.S. Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, and other intrepid explorers as you travel northern Maine's rugged woods and waters. In a wild country of ledge and trees that stubbornly resists encroaching civilization, find a young couple padding through the trials, triumphs, and sheer mental and physical

exhaustion of wilderness travel severely testing their ability to get along and even complete the trip. Fill your ears with roaring rapids and yodeling loons. Smell pungent spruce and dank swamps. Encounter moose and majestic sunrises cloaked in morning mist. A few pages, and you will find yourself deep in the evergreen forest.

"If you have been on a canoe trip, you know the adventure is the center of a complex venn diagram of relationship, history, and a testing of character and adaptability. David captures this and more in an artful way that will make you dream of hitting the water to commune with nature and your very soul."--Walter Opuszynski, Northern Forest Canoe Trail, Trail Director "Canoeing Maine's Legendary Allagash is a multi-layered story that transcends time, if not place. As we follow two individuals challenged by heavy winds, rapids, tough portages, and slightly bruised egos, we also encounter the stories of travelers and settlers from over the past 150 years. Through David's poetic prose, we experience both natural beauty and the risky business of hard travel in a new relationship."--Corinne H. Smith, author of *Henry David Thoreau for Kids* and *Westward I Go Free: Tracing Thoreau's Last Journey*"Readers will hang onto the back of David Leff's roiling canoe in this story. He steers through the early fractures of a relationship amid the beauties and terror of a wilder Allagash, and skillfully adds in details of the explorers and exploiters who floated before him. Refreshingly honest. A very strong narrative voice!"--Christine Woodside, Editor-in-Chief, *Appalachia*

About the Author David K. Leff is an essayist, Pushcart Prize nominated poet and former deputy commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. His work focuses on the surprisingly intimate relationship of people to their built and natural environments. He is the author of five nonfiction books, three collections of poetry, and a novel in verse. David's writing has appeared in the *Hartford Courant*, *The Wayfarer*, *Appalachia*, *Yankee*, *Connecticut Woodlands*, *Connecticut Coastal*, *Canoe Kayak*, *The Encyclopedia of New England* and elsewhere. See his work at [davidkleff.com](http://davidkleff.com) David has been a contest judge for the Connecticut Poetry Society and given poetry readings at venues throughout Connecticut and beyond. He has taught nature poetry writing at the famed *Sunken Garden Poetry Festival*, the *Mark Twain House* in Hartford and elsewhere. David has lectured on environmental and historical topics, the craft of writing, and other subjects on college campuses, at conferences, for annual meetings and at other events. David is a trustee of *Great Mountain Forest* in Norfolk, Connecticut and on the *Collections Steering Committee* of the Connecticut Historical Society. He has served on the boards of the *Riverwood Poetry Series*, *Connecticut Forest and Park Association*, the *Connecticut Maple Syrup Producers Association* and *Audubon Connecticut*. David is the town meeting moderator and town historian in his hometown of Canton, Connecticut where he also served 26 years as a volunteer firefighter and in other civic activities.