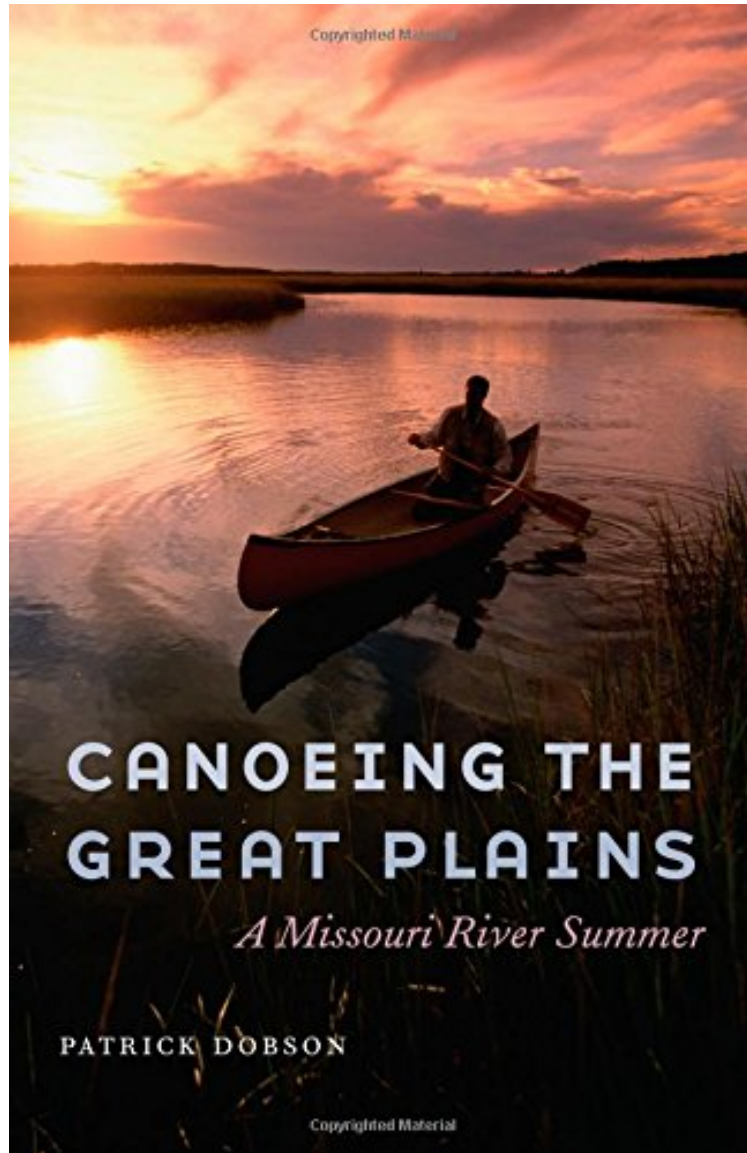


(Pdf free) Canoeing the Great Plains: A Missouri River Summer

## Canoeing the Great Plains: A Missouri River Summer

*Patrick Dobson*

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**Patrick Dobson : Canoeing the Great Plains: A Missouri River Summer** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Canoeing the Great Plains: A Missouri River Summer:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Account of 1995 Experience of Riding a Canoe Down the Missouri RiverBy ClifThis is the author's account of his 1995 experience of riding a canoe down the Missouri River from Helena, Montana to Kansas City, Missouri. This book is a sequel to his previous book, Seldom Seen: A Journey into the Great Plains , in which we walks (mostly) from Kansas City to Helena.First I need to point out that he actually

didn't cover the complete distance in his canoe. The Missouri River has a number of large dams holding large lakes. The author decided to catch a ride around most of the reservoirs. Thanks to his gift of gab he was able to get a free ride of a couple hundred miles for both himself and his canoe. The average velocity of the river flow is about three feet per second, so moving on the flowing water of the river requires considerably less paddling effort than what would be required crossing a reservoir. The total trip is about 1400 miles so he still spent plenty of time on the river. This provided him an abundance of time to ruminate about his life and, in this opinion, what a mess of things he had made. So he made his journey down the river into something of a self directed therapy session. Of course he camped at night, and encountered other people, including police, on a regular basis. He encountered another canoeist on the river in Nebraska and thus was able to travel the final couple hundred miles with some companionship. It's good to read a book that reminds the reader of how adventure can be found on the river. For most of us land lubbers the river is only a barrier where most of the roads and streets stop and in order to get to the other side requires finding a highway or main thoroughfare with a bridge. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Satisfy your inner Huck Finn By Gary J. I read Patrick Dobson's first book, "Seldom Seen" a few years back. The idea of heading west on I-70 with nothing but a backpack has always appealed to me. In "Seldom Seen," Mr. Dobson captured my imagination with his vivid depictions of the characters he met along the way. Now, here he is again, capturing my inner Huck Finn with "Canoeing." This book shows his maturity as a writer. Mr. Dobson displays his skill depicting interactions with people and the passing scenery. If you have ever driven across a large river bridge and wondered what it would be like to head down that river in a canoe, read this book. He takes "Canoeing" a step further and tells the reader about his spiritual journey from a dissolute past to mature man. If you liked Cheryl Strayed's *Wild*, you will find the male counter-part in *Canoeing the Great Plains*. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Personal thoughts By RCI enjoyed this book quite a bit. This was not a spontaneous trip. He ordered a canoe and he ordered gear. Then I had to endure his whining about being away from his kid for a couple months which was not the first time he left for extended times. Also, we need to know he was raised Catholic and developed addictions. The parts about canoeing and the trip were great. The personal stuff was not to my liking. I live on the Missouri. He came by here.

Tired of an unfulfilling life in Kansas City, Missouri, Patrick Dobson left his job and set off on foot across the Great Plains. After two and a half months, 1,450 miles, and numerous encounters with the people of the heartland, Dobson arrived in Helena, Montana. He then set a canoe on the Missouri and asked the river to carry him safely back to Kansas City, hoping this enigmatic watercourse would help reconnect him with his life.

"[*Canoeing the Great Plains* is] an absorbing travelogue and a candid, introspective story of one man's search to find himself." *Missouri Historical*