

# Up a Creek, with a Paddle

## Tales of Canoeing and Life

**James W. Loewen**

*Up a Creek, With a Paddle* is an intimate and often humorous memoir by the author of *Lies My Teacher Told Me*, James W. Loewen, who holds the distinction of being the best-selling living sociologist today. Rivers are good metaphors for life, and paddling for living. In this little book, Loewen skillfully makes these connections without sermonizing, resulting in nuggets of wisdom about how to live, how to act meaningfully, and perhaps how to die. Loewen also returns to his life's work and gently addresses the origins of racism and inequality, the theory of history, and the ties between the two. But mostly, as in his life, he finds rueful humor in every canoeing debacle—and he has had many!

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**James W. Loewen** is the best-selling author of *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your High School History Textbook Got Wrong*; *Lies Across America: What Our Historic Sites Get Wrong*; and *Sundown Towns: A Hidden Dimension of American Racism*. He holds the distinction of being the best-selling living sociologist today.

### ACCOLADES

"A memoir like no other. I laughed at his delightful stories of canoeing fiascos that repeatedly answered his question, "What could possibly go wrong?" In quieter intervals, I learned from his reflections on history, ethics, and race relations. About death he is funny but unflinching. His spirit will live on, though, in the ways that history is told. This book's energy can sustain and inspire those who follow."

—Peggy McIntosh, author of *White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack*

"He is the high school history teacher we all should have had."

—Carol Kammen, author of *On Doing Local History*

"Loewen is a one-man historical truth squad."

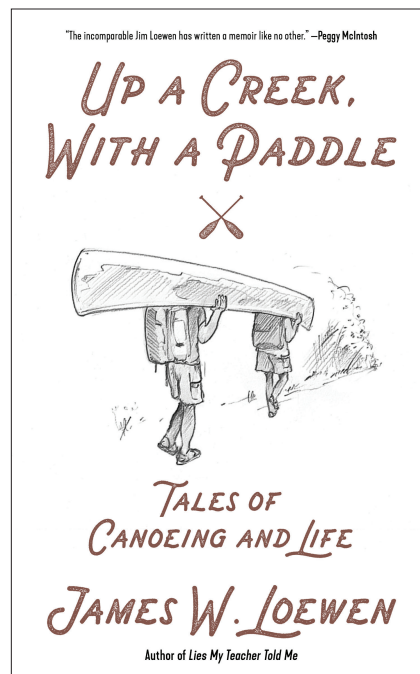
—*The Nation*

"Loewen himself is forever young at heart: energetic, curious, skeptical, irreverent, and yet deeply idealistic."

—James Goodman, professor of history at Rutgers University, Newark, and Pulitzer Prize finalist

"I'm willing to declare myself a fan of James W. Loewen. It may be difficult to uncover historical truth in some cases, but I applaud Loewen for prioritizing it and showing the importance of historical truth for all of us."

—Shomeret: The Masked Reviewer



### SUBJECT CATEGORY

Memoir / History

### PRICE

\$15.95

### ISBN

978-1-62963-827-0

### PAGE COUNT

160

### SIZE

5x8

### FORMAT

Paperback

### PUBLICATION DATE

09/20

### DISTRIBUTED BY

Independent Publishers Group  
(312) 337-0747  
www.ipgbook.com

### DISTRIBUTED IN THE UK/EUROPE BY

Turnaround Publisher Services Ltd  
t: 020 8829 3000  
orders@turnaround-uk.com

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P.O. Box 23912 • Oakland, CA 94623  
www.pmpress.org  
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