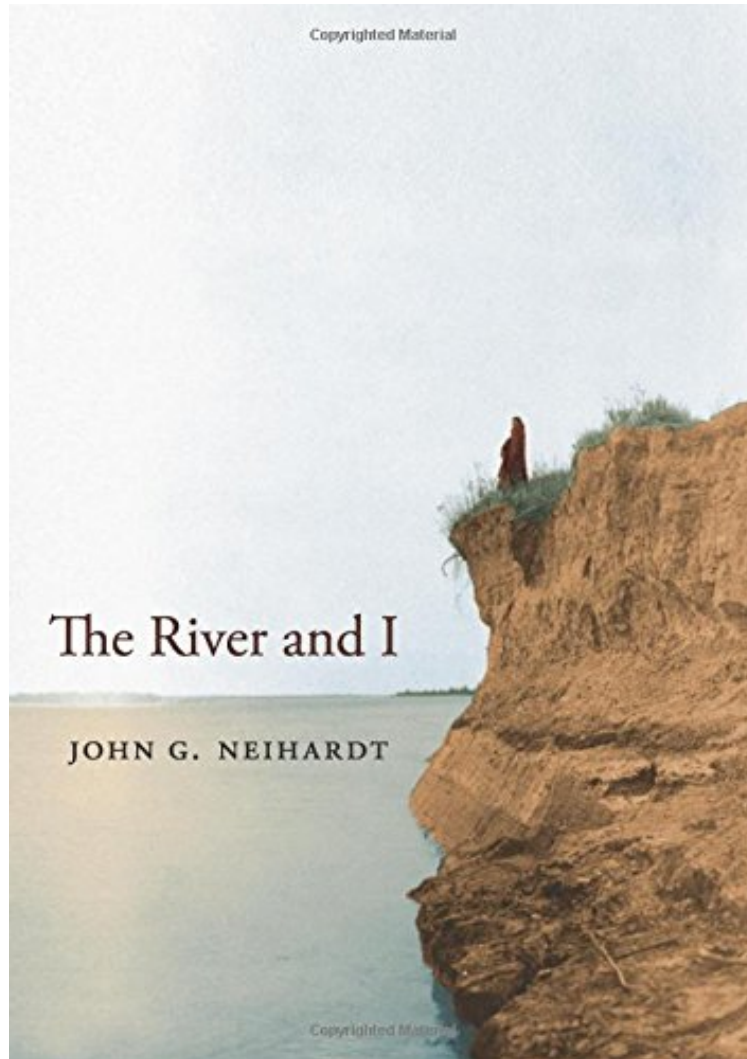


(Download ebook) The River and I

The River and I

John G. Neihardt

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John G. Neihardt : The River and I before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The River and I:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Elevated Style Will Put Off Some ReadersBy Mark DouglasJohn G. Neihardt was a remarkable scholar who seemed familiar with every classic ever written in English, Greek, or Latin. He apparently knew every word in the dictionary. One time I told him I was amazed by his vocabulary, and he said, Words are the tools I use in my profession. A blacksmith knows all his tools, and so does a carpenter. Its not surprising that I would know my tools too.The River and I is written in typical Neihardt fashion with the perfect word always at hand to describe any situation. It includes many literary references that most people today will not recognize. Neihardt

also spends a great many passages in philosophizing about life and the human condition. Many of today's readers, with only a moderate education, will be put off by Neihardt's elevated mode of recounting his boat trip down the upper Missouri River in 1908. *The River and I* is must reading for any Neihardt fan or scholar. I have read his great work *A Cycle of the West* at least five times, and in *The River and I* I found many words, phrases, ideas, and references that turn up in that later writing. *The River and I* gives the researcher a better understanding of the man John G. Neihardt. The audio book is narrated by John G. Neihardt's grandson Robin Neihardt. Robin speaks with something of the same timbre as his grandfather, but lacks some of the latter's energy. I appreciate Robin's willingness to undertake this project, and he does a workman-like job. I believe he would do an even better job with some training by a voice coach. I would also recommend that he study a book before reading it aloud and look up words with which he is unfamiliar. It is disquieting and ruins the flow of the narrative that Robin mispronounces so many words. The most jarring is his continued mispronunciation of *gunwale*. Some other words he gets wrong, to name just a few, are: etc., ragout, debauches, Glasgow, mleall fairly common words which should give a narrator no trouble. The great shortcoming of the audio book is the absence of illustrations. The original volume contains fifty full-page photographs, which are crucial to the full enjoyment and understanding of the narrative. *The River and I* is not a page-turner and will not keep you on the edge of your seat, but it tells a vivid and sometimes humorous tale of the struggles of the young men who fought their way down the upper Missouri River shortly after the turn of the 20th century. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. His best writing comes from the descriptions of how he could ...By JMSWhat Mark Twain is to the Mississippi River, Neihardt is to the Missouri River. This is a first-person narration of Neihardt's quest to travel the Missouri River from Montana to Sioux City, South Dakota. His best writing comes from the descriptions of how he could dissolve and become one with nature, and how his soul feels rested though he is testing his physical form upon the river's currents. He predicts this pristine, beautiful river will someday be pockmarked with advertisements for cigarettes, gum, and traveling sideshows. But for now, he is at peace and complete in his quest. A good read for those who enjoy a simpler time! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Yet another book you back into and are glad you did! By Boz Dijango I loved the LANGUAGE of the book. Parts of it are lyric. It also made me want to travel down the Missouri myself, before reality intruded.

Autobiographical journey down the Missouri River in 1908.

"An exhilarating adventure story . . . also a significant description of life in the region [of the Missouri River] as it was . . . years ago, enlivened by humor, social criticism, and philosophic speculation." *Western American Literature*