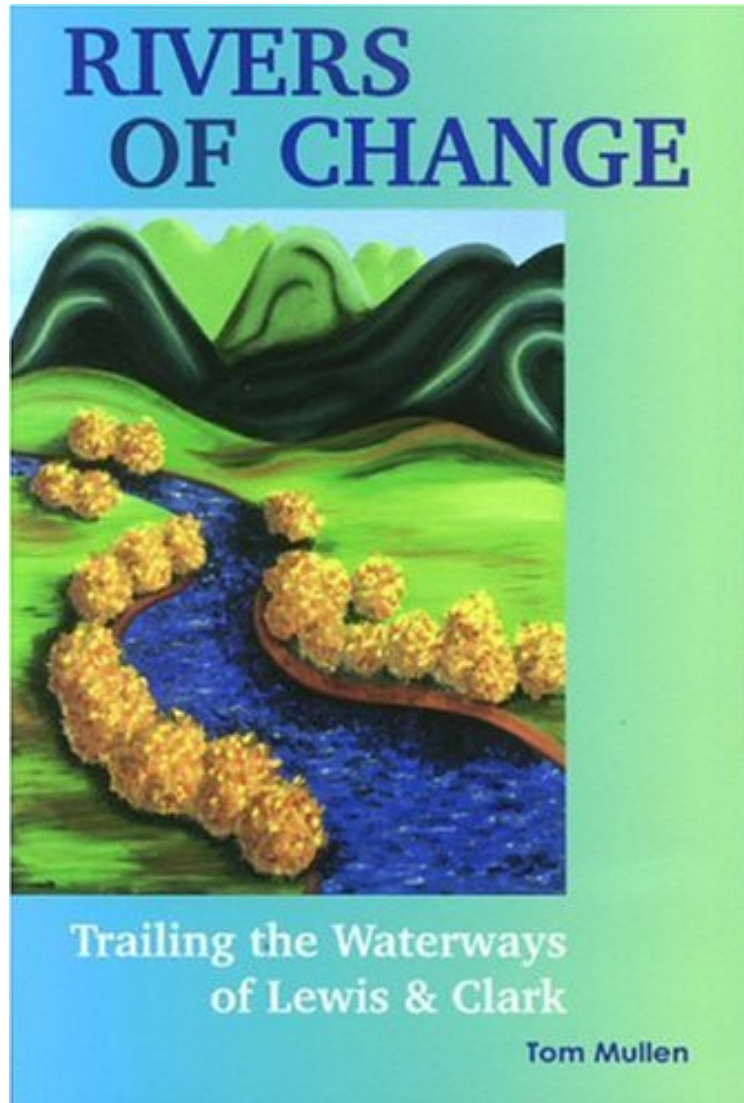


(Ebook pdf) Rivers of Change: Trailing the Waterways of Lewis and Clark

## Rivers of Change: Trailing the Waterways of Lewis and Clark

*Tom Mullen*

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**Tom Mullen : Rivers of Change: Trailing the Waterways of Lewis and Clark** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rivers of Change: Trailing the Waterways of Lewis and Clark:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent non-fiction readBy Barbara J. Kral HastyI bought this book after I met the author. He tells a wonderful story about the flood of 93 and how things changed throughout the Midwest. This book is a fast read and is composed of short chapters - perfect for reading a bit before bedtime. Tom paints the picture with his words and offers a unique perspective on the changes we've seen in the nation's waterways

over the course of many years. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Observations with a ConnectionBy Dan BTom's journey is a reflection of his ability to connect with people on a personal level. His "come along with me" writing style is what allows you to not only observe and learn, but understand. Many people along the trail welcomed him into their homes and places of work. This is what makes the book so interesting and fun to read. He artfully weaves their lives into the story and when you reflect back on the stories being told you see a beautiful fabric that is truly America. I learned a lot, mostly how much you miss seeing around you when you only focus on getting to the destination1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Rivers of Change makes way to XanaduBy marilyn fontenotThis was published as a column on March 18 in the Atchison Daily Globe, Atchison, Kansas, by Marilyn Fontenot.Marilyn Fontenot is an award winning journalist and investigative reporter for the Globe.-----I'll never forget the day I met Tom Mullen. It was on Memorial Day a couple of years ago when I was assigned to the Missouri River in Atchison, Kansas, to take pictures. It was a beautiful day, the sun was shining, the trees were green and the view from the river from Veteran's Memorial Park was breathtaking. When I stood by the monument, under that great American flag, watching the Mighty Mo move on down the banks under one of the last remaining truss bridges in the world, I knew I was swirled around historical surroundings and I liked it. Very proud veterans, who still consider themselves soldiers, came to the river for their annual Memorial Day service not far from the Amelia Earhart Bridge.After I was done, I took a few more minutes to absorb the atmosphere, while thinking of Kubla Khan, the Alph and that "the sacred river," when I noticed someone else in my Xanadue.And he just sat there watching the river.He didn't seem to notice me and it looked like he was studying something - paying close attention to something.So, I walked up to this stranger and stuck out my hand."Hi, I'm Marilyn Fontenot, isn't it a beautiful day?" I said."It sure is," he said. "I'm Tom Mullen. Glad to meet you."He told me he and his truck, Six Pack, were "just passing through," and they had come by way of St. Louis, Mo. He was on his way to Oregon and was working on a book. He was in Atchison to find Dan Bowen, the wildlife biologist at Benedictine College. I was intrigued and asked him plenty of questions and he so graciously answered.He had places to go, people to meet and things to see, he said.We spent a lot of time together while he was in Atchison. I introduced him to people in town and he found the ones he was looking for.We met at Mueller's Locker for mozzarella sticks and shrimp for lunch and Purcell's Landing for beer and burgers for supper - all along the Missouri River."Tom, you know the hardest thing for a writer to do is write," I told him when he got discouraged."I know, I know," he used to say.The time flew by and soon he said adios and I said happy trails.I hadn't heard from him in months then a couple of weeks ago in April I got a package in the mail."Rivers of Change: Trailing the Waterways of Lewis and Clark," by Tom Mullen, was slipped inside complete with my name in the acknowledgements.It didn't take me long to read the entire book. It's one of those books you start and can't stop until it's finished.What a trip that was.He took me with him to exotic places where I met a slew of colorful strangers. He canoed untamed and scenic river stretches, bicycled beside river barges, scuba dived and explored the makings of dam power plants, all the while he kept meeting strangers.Tom found Jim Nower, a farmer in Weston, Mo., who said "I'm 81 now. My family's been on this farm since Great Grandfather Nower got here in 1856."In Doniphan he was looking for a monument, which was placed there by Benedictine Monks along the river when they settled in Doniphan in the middle 1800s.Then he went looking for Wolf River Bob in White Cloud and found him."A man with a tousled Kris Kringle beard and a pony tail stood. He almost saluted when he heard his name," Tom wrote"Yessir, `at's me," he said. "Wolf River Bob."Tom and Six Pack kept goingThey followed that ole' river all the way to Astoria and the Pacific Ocean through tamed Crow country where he talks to Joe Medicine Crow then to Fort Peck Lake in Montana, "When the Land Belonged to God."He and Six Pack finally made their destination.It wasn't long before he convinced a publishing company to publish his book where his "Rivers of Change" takes us to a Xanadu, with its own twists and turns of prose and lyric with a visual that puts us on the page.I'm glad I met Tom Mullen that day in May. I'm glad I took the time to make a stranger feel welcome in a strange place. I'm glad he had the courage to keep going.I'm glad I was intrigued.

If he was reincarnated today, Captain Meriwether Lewis could retrace the journey that his Lewis Clark expedition made two centuries ago. Within hours he would shake his head in confusion and surprise. What became of the Missouri, Yellowstone, and Columbia rivers he traveled along? The answers come alive when told by those who live along these waterways. Following Lewis and Clark's route, author Tom Mullen spent five months exploring the Missouri, Yellowstone, and Columbia rivers. This book tells of his surprising discoveries in a landscape peppered by colorful characters, barge pilots, engineers, and biologists, and their determination to improve American rivers. This travelogue is a refreshing blend of quirky history, intriguing stories, and candid conversation from off the beaten trail.

About the AuthorT. Mullen was born on the Virgin Island of Saint Thomas before moving to the suburbs of Chicago. From there he moved to live in the Wicklow Hills of Ireland.For fifteen years he lived outside the United States while managing water resource and environmental projects in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America. These years provided groundwork for writing both fiction and non-fiction books. He has written magazine articles related to

environmental issues as well as a dozen books included in six different series.