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My Paddle to the Sea: Eleven Days on the River of the Carolinas

By John Lane

University of Georgia Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 224 pages. Dimensions: 8.4in. x 5.5in. x 0.7in. Three months after a family vacation in Costa Rica ends in tragedy when two fellow rafters die on the flooded Rio Reventazn, John Lane sets out with friends from his own backyard in upcountry South Carolina to calm his nerves and to paddle to the sea. Like Huck Finn, Lane sees a river journey as a portal to change, but unlike Twains character, Lane isnt escaping. Hes getting intimate with the river that flows right past his home in the Spartanburg suburbs. Lanes threehundred-mile float trip takes him down the Broad River and into Lake Marion before continuing down the Santee River. Along the way Lane recounts local history and spars with streamside literary presences such as Mind of the South author W. J. Cash; Henry Savage, author of the Rivers of America Series volume on the Santee; novelist and Pulitzer Prizewinner Julia Peterkin; early explorer John Lawson; and poet and outdoor writer Archibald Rutledge. Lane ponders the sites of old cotton mills; abandoned locks, canals, and bridges; ghost towns fallen into decay a century before; Indian mounds; American Revolutionary and Civil War battle...



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Reviews

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