

Spokane Authors & Self-Publishers

Member Web-Page



J. B. Rivard

Almost everyone is familiar with the illustrations in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. However, the number of illustrated novels published--for adult readers--declined steadily from the beginning to the middle of the 20th century, although not for lack of popularity. *Illusions of Magic* dares a return to the edgy, swirling arts of the illustrated story, with pen and ink illustrations by the novel's author, Joseph B. "J. B." Rivard, supplementing this exciting story.

As a young child, Rivard began drawing by copying newspaper comics. In his teens, he drew illustrations for his high school's award-winning yearbook. He attended the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts and his artworks have appeared in more than fifty juried exhibitions, earning many prizes and awards. He's an artist-member of the Salmagundi Club of New York City.

Rivard's writing draws on wide experience--he served in the U.S. Navy, graduated from the University of Florida, worked as a newspaper reporter, a magazine writer, and on the engineering staff of a U.S. National Laboratory where he wrote and co-authored many technical papers listed on Google Scholar.

His broad background supports a wide array of significant publications, from short stories to song lyrics, from essays to novels. Most recently (with Anya Carlson), he's completed the screenplay adaptation of his novel, *Illusions of Magic*, and their book, *Illusions of Magic: The Movie*. He calls Spokane, Washington home.

Visit the author's web-site at: www.illusionsofmagic.com

*Continue below for information about J. B.'s books.
(Includes Amazon™/Kindle™ ASIN codes)*

Illusions of Magic:

Love and Intrigue in 1933 Chicago B01EGSC8N8 0996836306



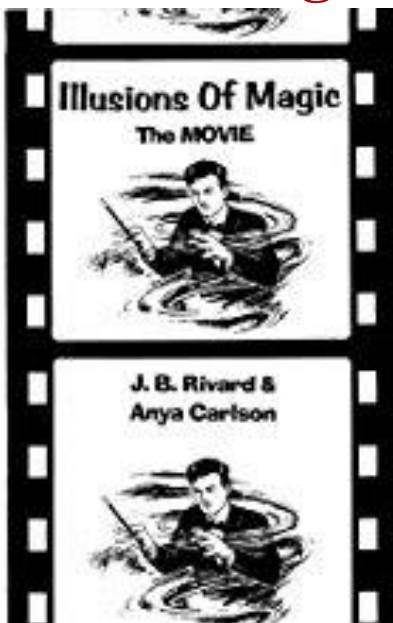
A magician short of bookings

A banker with a secret

A woman missing for 20 years

In *Illusions of Magic*, a rich and devious banker engages magician Nick Zetner to retrieve compromising photos. Along the way, Nick regains a love he thought he'd forever lost. As Chicago reels from the fatal wounding of its mayor by a bullet meant for Franklin D. Roosevelt, love and duty clash, the quest risks Nick's magic . . . then turns deadly.

Illusions of Magic: The Movie B0751RL53G 0996836330



Illusions of Magic: The Movie merges the fictional adventures and love affair of a magician with true life drama--the shooting of Chicago Mayor Anton Cermak. From the gritty streets to the smoky back rooms where 1933 Chicago's future is to be decided, this rocket read unveils the magician's perilous quest and the excitement of his recovered love during Mayor Cermak's final nineteen days.

Using the "mind's eye," aural keys, and an easy-to-follow format, the text encourages a cinematic experience of the story taken from Rivard and Carlson's screenplay adaptation of the acclaimed novel.

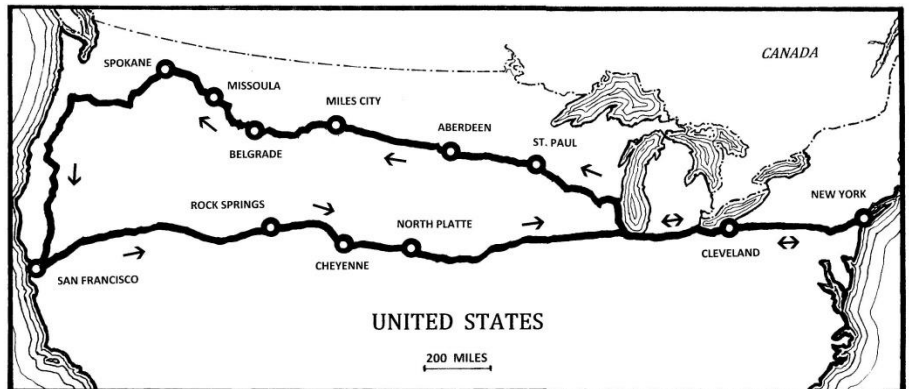
Low on Gas - High on Sky (Just Released)



Long before the days of jets, noted Spokane pilot Nick Mamer and co-pilot Art Walker set an awe-inspiring record. They flew from Spokane, Washington to San Francisco, to New York, and from New York back to Spokane—*without landing*. This is the true story of the 1929 flight—during which their airplane was again and again refueled in the air with ropes and hose—by other daring airmen flying wood-and-fabric biplanes.

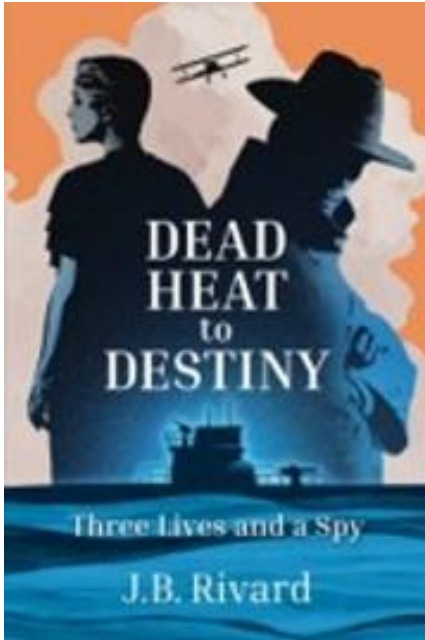
For 6,200 miles, these two aviators in their single-engine biplane battled nearly empty gas tanks, hazardous mountain ranges, electrical storms, thirst, hunger, fatigue and sleep-deprivation to set the nonstop, transcontinental round trip record. This is a true aerial adventure that triumphs over seemingly impossible odds.

In preparing the book, I was fortunate to secure access to thousands of clippings, documents and photos preserved by the Mamer family. This, the first full-length book on Mamer, provides the inside story of the remarkable flight as well as a short biography of the man who led it.



Dead Heat to Destiny: Three Lives and a Spy

0996836365 B0BL5P29YP



Three young citizens of Belgium, Germany and the U.S. are catapulted into the European maelstrom of the First World War. On the Isthmus of Panama, a defeated rebel becomes a spy for Imperial Germany. This novel compellingly follows four people across three continents in an intensely emotional yet stunningly realistic tale of belief, duty, love, and courage.

It's the early 20th century. Belgian beauty Adrienne Boch pursues her dream, a career in the booming world of fashion. Cousin Gregor Steiner attends the officer academy of the Imperial German Navy. Will Marra, an American studying in Paris, meets and falls in love with Adrienne.

World War One begins. German troops invade Belgium, causing Adrienne's family to flee to Paris. Gregor, haunted by the sight of hundreds of sailors dying in the sinking of a German warship, is selected to captain a U-boat.

Adrienne establishes a boutique fashion house in Paris as the German Army advances toward the French capitol. Will returns to the U.S.A. and joins the U.S. Army to learn to fly.

Anticipating its entry into the European conflict, the U.S. arms the Panama Canal. In Central America, Germany secretly recruits a spy.

Adrienne, fearing for Gregor and warming to Will, corresponds with both. Unexpectedly, she receives an offer to lead the fashion department of a luxury store of San Francisco.

Global tension escalates. Will, Adrienne, Gregor, and the spy must fight for their beliefs. In the riveting conclusion—with life and love in the balance—these four lives converge in an unanticipated, epic clash.

Sacrifice off Samar



J. B. Rivard's article about this World War II Pacific Theater naval action appeared in the December 2023 issue of Sea Classics Magazine.



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