

# JOURNAL OF CANADIAN FICTION

2050 Mackay St., Montreal 107, Que.

Return Address:

J. R. Sorfleet  
110 Renfield St.  
Guelph, Ontario  
N1E 4A8  
February 8, 1974

Thomas H. Raddall,  
44 Park Street,  
Liverpool,  
Nova Scotia.

Dear Thomas Raddall,

Here is a copy of the issue containing our discussion of last March--finally in print! I'm also enclosing a tearsheet copy of the interview for your files.

It's been almost a year since we met and yet reading the interview brings it all back like yesterday. It was a truly enjoyable experience and I'd again like to thank you and your wife.

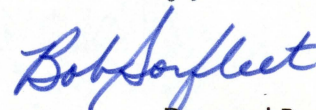
Incidentally, the sub-title "I was always a rebel underneath" should have been in quotation marks; it comes from your comments in the first column on page 52. I apologize for this and any other printing errors you might find; due to our peculiar publishing process we can only control errors to the point where we send material to the printers. (The copy is put in camera-ready type by a Halifax firm and then printed by a Fredericton firm--while we three editors are scattered around the country in Winnipeg, Montreal and Guelph). So once it goes from us to Fredericton to Halifax to Fredericton again, a few errors do creep in which our Halifax proofers do not catch. I am very sorry for the omission of quotation marks; I hope you do not feel it misrepresents the material of the interview itself.

I heard from Don Cameron this morning--he wrote that he'd just received the issue and was much pleased with the interview. Incidentally, a review of his Conversations with Canadians also appears in this issue.

I hope you enjoy this copy of JCF II.4 ; I certainly felt good about seeing the material in print. Best of wishes to you and Mrs. Raddall,

## JOURNAL OF CANADIAN FICTION

Sincerely,



### EDITORS:

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February 22, 1974

Mr. J.R. Sorfleet,  
110 Renfield St.,  
Guelph, Ontario

Dear Mr. Sorfleet:

Thank you for your letter and  
the copy of Journal of Canadian Fiction, which I  
have read with a natural interest.

I don't mind the printing  
errors, which are very few, and I have no objection  
to the lack of quotation marks on the sub-title.

I asked Mr. Moss to make sure  
that my photograph was returned to me, but I have  
not received it. Will you chase it up, please?  
The original plate of this photograph (the best  
ever taken of me -- I'm not photogenic!) has dis-  
appeared, and now I find myself without a single  
copy.

My Wife joins me in best wishes.

Sincerely,



110 Renfield Street  
Guelph, Ontario  
N1E 4A8  
March 15, 1974

Thomas H. Raddall,  
44 Park Street,  
Liverpool, Nova Scotia.

Dear Thomas Raddall:

When I interviewed you last year, one aspect of your work we discussed was your children's fiction: Son of the Hawk and The Rover. Children's literature has always interested me and since then I've become involved in a group that's starting a new quarterly periodical--Canadian Children's Literature--devoted to the criticism and review of books written for Canadian children. My colleagues are Glenys Stow, Mary Rubio and Elizabeth Waterston: professors deeply involved in children's literature at the University of Guelph. We've done a careful study of costs and market receptivity for a Canadian children's literature magazine and are sure we can make it a success.

Each issue will include both authoritative articles on Canadian children's literature from its beginnings to the present and intensive reviews of new works as they appear. There will be interviews with Canadian writers, bibliographies of children's literature, and occasional reprints of excellent but neglected works. Articles by specialists on related youth studies will also be published from time to time. Fiction and non-fiction; prose, poetry, drama: anything written for children--in either English or French--will be the object of our attention.

We intend to create a journal which will participate in the continuing growth of Canadian children's literature while providing an essential commentary on its development as a whole. To help achieve our objectives, we're approaching various people--authors, librarians, educators, publishers--to serve as an advisory Editorial Board and thought you would be an ideal choice. On your part it would involve giving us the benefit of advice when you think it needful and, perhaps, reading the very occasional MS if you wish to do so. You wouldn't have to commit any time or funds to the actual organisation or management of the journal and of course would have no financial responsibilities of any kind to it, but would just be available to us as a professional in the field of writing children's historical fiction--a resource person whom we can call on for expert advice if necessary.

We will begin publication with a Spring issue early in 1975. In the interim, we have a major promotional campaign--flyers to lists of likely subscribers, exchange ads in other magazines, talks to people in the field, etc.--lined up. Before launching the campaign, however, we have to enlist our advisory Editorial Board. The study of Canadian children's literature has been neglected too long; we would be deeply pleased if you will consent to help us repair this oversight.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely,

*Bob Sprocket*



March 21, 1974

Mr. Robert Sorfleet,  
110 Renfield Street,  
Guelph, Ontario  
N1E 4A8

Dear Mr. Sorfleet,

Thank you for your letter of  
March fifteenth.

I don't pretend to be a wiseacre on the subject,  
having written only two books for young people,  
and three or four short stories for anthologies  
for use in Canadian schools.

However you may put my name on the editorial  
board of the proposed quarterly CANADIAN CHIL-  
DREN'S LITERATURE if you like.

As you say, there is certainly a needed role for  
such a quarterly to play in Canada, and I wish  
it well.

With my regards,